



# West Highland Yachting Week

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# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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### Police charge two with fire-raising

FOLLOWING police investigations into the fire at the Harbour Bowl in Oban's Shore Street, two teenage boys, aged 13 and 14, have been charged with wilful fire-raising.

Oban Police say they are also following a positive line of enquiry with regards to a third suspect.

The former ten-pin bowling premises caught fire on Sunday, July 15.

### Loch Lomond road night closures

THE MAIN road route from Oban to Glasgow will be closed for four nights from Monday, July 30.

The A82 from Crianlarich to Tarbet will close between 10pm and 6am for four consecutive nights with traffic being allowed through every two hours.

Access will be maintained for local traffic and there will be a 15 minute opportunity to pass through at midnight, 2am and 4am. There will also be a signed diversion in place via the A83.

The closure is to allow ground investigations on the carriageway as part of Transport Scotland's improvement scheme on the A82.

### Mull man charged with passing counterfeit cash

A19-YEAR-old Mull man has been charged following the discovery of counterfeit £20 notes being circulated on the island.

Between July 14 and 15 the teenager is alleged to have presented the fake notes at three business premises in Tobermory.

### New Bishop of Glasgow appointed

BISHOP Philip Tartaglia of Paisley has been appointed Archbishop of Glasgow by Pope Benedict XVI.

Archbishop-elect Tartaglia, who has served as Bishop of Paisley since 2005, will replace Archbishop Conti when he steps down in the coming weeks.

The Archbishop-elect said: 'I know I can only be a good bishop with help from above, so I ask everyone to pray for me.'



Oban Pipe Band joined 300 pipers from different nations for the traditional march through the Spanish town of Ortigueira.

### Oban pipers take Ortigueira festival by storm

PLAYING in front of a crowd of 10,000 people in the hot weather and stunning setting of north-west Spain was in stark contrast to Oban Pipe Band's usual performances.

More used to a wet games field in the Scottish west Highlands, the band was one of three Scottish acts to perform at this year's Festival Internacional do Mundo Celta in Ortigueira between July 12 - 15, and played the main stage on the Saturday night to the huge crowd.

Lochaber-based Blazin' Fiddles headlined the Friday night of the Celtic festival, while the Rua Macmillan band, which also played on Saturday, featured Oban's Tia Files on guitar.

#### 'Great experience'

'We have never played at anything like it,' said Oban pipe major Euan Dewar. 'As a pipe band, playing in front of 10,000 festival-goers was the strangest thing I have ever seen but it was a great experience.'

'We had a 45-minute slot and after we finished we were walking off the stage to the crowd chanting 'Oban!' over and over again. It was surreal.'

Oban Pipe Band's place in the festival line-up only happened after organisers asked Three band Skerryvore to recommend a pipe band and, as Oban had just been named world champions in grade 3A, Skerryvore piper Martin Gillespie put them forward.

As well as performing on

stage, the pipe band took part in various parades and marches through the streets of Ortigueira, playing alongside local pipe bands and a Bagad band from France.

Euan said: 'It was great fun to play with those bands, who were well aware of the Scottish pipes thanks to [South Uist piper] Fred Morrison, who plays out here a lot.'

'We hope we will be able to come back, because it was a really big thing for the band.'

### Championship golf course for Jura

THE SMALL Hebridean island of Jura could soon boast a world-class 18-hole championship golf course as part of a major investment in Ardfin Estate.

#### Finest in Scotland

Greg Coffey, the Australian hedge fund manager who owns the estate, has drawn up the ambitious plans in a bid to make Ardfin one of the finest estates in Scotland.

The plan also aims to encourage more shooting trips and to renovate the dilapidated farm steading and other properties in need of attention on the 14,000-acre estate.

The development of Ardfin, which incorporates the main settlement of Craighouse, has been described by estate man-

ager Willie MacDonald as the most significant since the island distillery opened in 1963.

Two employees have been added to the payroll in the past three weeks, as the general improvements to the estate begin. And, should the golf course plan go ahead, as many as nine people could be employed full time by the estate.

#### Employment

Mr MacDonald, who has worked on the estate for 34 years and is also chairman of the island community council, said: 'I have seen the estate go through different phases but this type of investment goes way beyond anything I've ever seen. It is more than just the golf course, it will have a big

impact on Jura from the point of view of employment.

'It is incredible that someone could contemplate this type of investment in the island.'

#### Positive reaction

Asked what budget had been set aside for the project, Mr MacDonald replied: 'There is no budget. How could you budget for it?'

The golf course plan has had a positive reaction from the vast majority of islanders, who had been concerned about the environmental impact it would have.

The course would be built on the site of Ardfin Farm, which is no longer in agricultural use, but there are no new buildings outlined in the golf course plan.

The estate is in consultation with environmental groups, including Scottish Natural Heritage, and has this week begun a three-month consultation period before submitting a planning application.

Jura Community Council treasurer Alex Dunnachie said: 'I think this estate owner could be one of the best things to happen to the island, if he is left alone to do what he wants to do.'

'It is his land and he is spending money on it and that will improve infrastructure and employment on Jura.'

'We were shown the plans at the service point and I didn't hear one negative comment about it.'

## 'Spygate' cost cash-strapped council £30,000

### Councillors question appointment of investigator outwith tender process

JOHN Clayton, the man hired by Argyll and Bute Council to investigate claims of press office 'spying', was paid nearly £30,000 for 14 days of work.

The Oban Times obtained figures under the Freedom of Information Act that the former Audit Scotland chief earned £29,121.88 over the course of his investigation, which was completed mid-May.

It is understood he billed for 14 days of work, taking his daily fee to more than £2,080.

With communications manager, Jo Smith, suspended on full pay for six months, the minimum cost of the investigation is £50,000. The total cost of investigation, however, will have to take account of the fallout that saw press officers Janet West and Dinah MacKay resigning and short-term replacements brought in.

Meanwhile, The Oban Times has obtained information indicating Mr Clayton's report clears the press office of spying.

It is understood Ms Smith will attend a disciplinary hearing at Kilmory next month, facing a

*"It's a lot of money for nothing at the end of the day."*

**Councillor Alistair MacDougall**

lesser charge of bringing the council into disrepute for using the word 'spy' in a presentation.

Councillors are now calling for an internal investigation into how Mr Clayton came to sign a contract with the authority, with question marks raised over chief executive, Sally Loudon's role in his appointment.

John McAlpine, of the Argyll First group of councillors, said: 'My major concern with this is that in most circumstances we have to go through the tender process to appoint someone.'

'What gave Sally Loudon - if it was her - the right to just appoint someone of her own choice? Someone she had obviously known beforehand in a previous

employment? 'If it was not her, then who was it and who authorised it?'

'Even then, was this the best person to go to? We have our own HR department - could they have done it as a fraction of the cost?'

Independent Oban South and Isles councillor Alistair MacDougall said: 'I don't know who authorised this in the first place. That's something I will be digging into. It's a lot of money for nothing at the end of the day.'

'I would have said this should have been an internal investigation with councillor involvement - that would also have got to the bottom of it.'

Mr MacDougall questioned the wisdom of spending so much money on the investigation when there was reduced spend in the community on care packages and similar services.

The leader and deputy leader of both the administration and opposition were unavailable for comment. Argyll and Bute Council was contacted for comment but did not respond at the time of going to press.

### Argylls sent 'mixed message' as they are called to guard Olympics

JUST one week after being informed of their downgrading to company status, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders has been sent an SOS by the UK Government after the botched security arrangement for the Olympic Games.

#### Redeployment

The battalion of Scottish troops has been told it is to be drafted in to provide extra security for the Olympics.

Some soldiers from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders - the 5th Battalion The Royal

Regiment of Scotland - have already taken up their new duties.

The redeployment came just a week after the unit was told it was effectively being disbanded because of defence cuts and would be given ceremonial duties.

Former Argyll and Sutherland Highlander Alex Sloss, from Oban, said the move was a slap in the face for the regiment.

He added: 'The government is sending out a mixed message to these troops. If they are good

enough to guard the Olympics, they are good enough to continue as a regiment.'

'The Argylls can do the security work but they are a fighting regiment.'

Extra defence personnel have been drafted in after the private contractor, G4S, failed to recruit and train enough staff to secure Olympic venues.

The additional military deployment will take the total number of servicemen and women involved in the Olympic Games to 17,000.



### Cèilidh air Chuairt

Slighan Ura - New Routes  
27 Iuchar - 11 Lùnasdal 2012 | 27 July - 11 August 2012

Supporting the Tannahill Weavers in concert

Fri July 27	Strachur Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Sat July 28	Creagan Inn	9.30pm
Sun July 29	Balloch Folk Festival	2pm
Mon July 30	Crianlarich Village Hall	7.30pm
Tue July 31	Argyllshire Gathering, Oban	7.30pm
Thu Aug 2	Whiting Bay Hall, Arran	7.30pm
Fri Aug 3	Gigha Village Hall, Gigha	7.30pm
Sat Aug 4	Easdale Island Hall	8pm
Sun Aug 5	Ardkinglass House	7.30pm
Mon Aug 6	Kilmartin	7.30pm
Tue Aug 7	George Hotel, Inveraray	8.30pm
Wed Aug 8	Cullipool Village Hall, Luig	7.30pm
Sat Aug 11	Tiree, An Talla	7.30pm

### TMF has best year yet

TIREE Music Festival (TMF) has enjoyed its most successful year yet, with a sellout crowd of 1,250 gathering at An Talla for an exhilarating weekend of live music.

Triple-platinum selling band Toploader headlined a stellar line-up featuring acts such as Red Hot Chili Peppers, Skerryvore, Fest the West, Skippinsh and the Vatersay Boys.

This year also saw the introduction of the new TMF Community Village, with 500 festival-goers camping at the site to enjoy the authentic, festival experience.

While hefty gusts of on-shore wind on the Sunday dislodged a few tents and caused some disruption to events, it was minor, with the Sunday of the weekend-long extravaganza of live music finish-

ing with aplomb.

One of the festival organisers, Stewart MacLennan, said: 'It was absolutely brilliant, another great success.'

'To be honest, it was quite overwhelming given the sheer step up in scale.'

'With the community village, three stages this year and entertainment for the kids, it was a proper festival.'

After the big clear up on Monday, plans for next year's festival were already underway. Meanwhile, the festival could be in line for its first accolade after last year's event was nominated for the Best Small Festival at the Scottish Events Awards 2012.

The winner is announced in September.

### Glasgow High Court hears Tobermory Bay crash boat driver had been drinking

A MAN accused of killing a friend in a boating accident had been drinking lager before the fatal incident, the High Court in Glasgow has heard.

Jason Robinson was on a diving and fishing trip to Scotland in May 2009 with a number of others including Garry Henaghan. Mr Henaghan died after a rigid inflatable boat Robinson was said to be driving ran aground on Calve Island, Tobermory Bay.

On Tuesday a jury was told Robinson, who faces a charge of culpable homicide, had been at a bar with the group before the accident, but that the 42-year-old was not drunk.

Robinson, a roofing contractor

from Cramlington, Northumberland, had travelled with his brother Wayne, Mr Henaghan and John Binney.

On the day of the crash, the group visited a bar in Tobermory.

Giving evidence, Wayne Robinson admitted having around four pints of lager at the pub and said he had seen his brother drink more than one pint of lager.

The men later headed back towards their base in Lochaline with Robinson at the controls of the boat when they collided with Calve Island.

Robinson denies the charge. The trial, before Judge Rita Rae QC, continues.

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**Lorn Lines**



OBAN has a new Salvation Army officer after Karin Bruinewoud was put in post last week. The 27-year-old from Newcastle has been at training college in London and is looking forward to her first role as an officer, which will last three months.

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ONLY two weeks remain before Oban and Lorn Lions Club held its second annual raft race – and this time it's a generation game. Held on Saturday, August 11, this year's competition features a new prize for the most generations of a family on a single raft, from grandies and granddads to children, grandchildren or even great grandchildren. The fun community event is open to any club, group, school or individuals who want to team up to create their own raft for the race. Entrants can dress up, raise money per charity – with a minimum of two per craft – and have lots of laughs in the process.

For entry forms and conditions, either drop into Webster's at Stafford Street, or contact Lions Brian on 570754 or Alistair on 564249 and 0779 689 1676.

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Lochnell Primary School pupils at Benderloch were delighted when Kyle Dodds, Olympic torch bearer, paid a surprise visit to their end of year service. He is pictured here with Primary 7 pupils and prize winners.

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Send your news from Oban and Lorn to Euan Paterson at *The Oban Times*

epaterson@obantimes.co.uk Telephone 01631 568000

**Blue badge parking arrangements to change**

THOUSANDS of people in Argyll who hold a disabled parking permit are being alerted to changes in the assessment process.

From September 1 the UK government is introducing significant changes to the process for assessing eligibility for a blue badge.

The new rules will affect customers who are not automati-

cally entitled to a blue badge through qualifying benefits.

Up to 56 per cent of applicants, those who are applying under discretionary criteria such as 'unable or virtually unable to walk', will be affected.

At the moment GPs provide medical assessment under discretionary criteria but under the new rules independent mobility assessments (IMAs)

will be introduced.

Over half of the 4,300 blue badge holders in Argyll will be referred by Argyll and Bute Council to NHS occupational therapists trained in assessing mobility needs.

Initial applications should still be made to Argyll and Bute Council, either in person at a customer service point, by post or online.

The new process may take up to two months if the NHS requires a face to face assessment before making a decision so the council is accepting renewal applications up to eight weeks before the expiry date of the existing blue badge.

The council will also accept applications, to be submitted before September 1, under the existing GP assessment system

for badges expiring before 1 October.

Argyll and Bute Council is writing to all customers whose blue badges expire before October 1 so that they are aware of the new arrangements.

There is also information on the council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/bluebadges](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/bluebadges) and within customer service points.

**'Brave' tickets go on sale**

TICKETS for the opening night of the Oban Phoenix Cinema, when Disney-Pixar's latest animated adventure *Brave* will premiere, go on sale this weekend.

Film-goers will be able to queue up at the cinema only from 10am-4pm this Saturday and Sunday for tickets to all screenings of the film, from the opening on August 3 to August 16 inclusive.

Only cash or cheque will be accepted during this weekend's sales.

Meanwhile, some £130 of raffle tickets for Ernie Upton's painting, Reefed Sails off Duart, Mull, were sold by cinema staff at Tesco on Saturday, with the draw due to be held at the social enterprise's bring and buy sale at the Corran Halls on on September 22.

The painting has a gallery price of £1,800, and is on display at ALBA, Albany Street, Oban.

Volunteers, meanwhile, are still being sought to help run the cinema when it opens next month. A volunteer meet and training day will be held at the cinema this Thursday from 6pm, and anyone still wishing to volunteer who has yet to register their interest is invited to attend.

**Winners**

Winners of the cinema competition each winning two tickets to a special pre-opening night screening of *Mama Mia* this Friday, are: Sandra Clark, Oban; E M Campbell, Oban; Fiona Macinnes, Tobermory; Anita Marshall, Oban; W Raymond Shaw, Oban; Mhairi Still, Oban; Mrs J McNaughton, Lochearnhead; Liz Parkes, North Connel; H A White, Fort William; John Muir, Ardrishaig; Paul Daye, Ardrishaig; Sheena Billimore, Benderloch; Anne Gibb, Oban; Fiona Woodword, Oban; Sylvia Thomson, Oban; Vera Shaw, Taynuilt; Jenny Sapiano, Oban; Helen Geddes, Oban.

**New hydro scheme opens in Glenfalloch**

Allt Fionn project will meet the electricity demands of more than 1,700 households

A NEW £6.1million hydro electric scheme in Glenfalloch, near Crainlarich was officially switched on last Thursday by Energy and Climate Change Minister Greg Barker.

The two megawatt (MW) £6.1m Allt Fionn Hydroelectric Scheme, situated within the boundary of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park will produce an estimated annual output to meet the electricity demands of over 1,700 households, more than one quarter of all households in the national park.

The scheme, the first of four run-of-river hydro projects scheduled for the area, has been developed by Osspower Limited and built on land leased from Glenfalloch Estate after close consultation with the estate, the National Park Authority, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and the local community.

Linda McKay, convener of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority said: 'The Allt Fionn Scheme is a model for the sort of renewable energy project we want to see in the national park.'

Osspower was established in 2006 to develop the four run-of-river hydro schemes at Glenfalloch. The four schemes will have a total capacity of 6.1MW, with the developer having to upgrade the existing transmission line from Sloy Power Station and extend it four kilometres to connect the schemes at a cost of £1.56m.

On opening the hydro scheme, Energy and Climate Change



Energy and Climate Change Minister Greg Barker and David Lowes, managing partner of Glenfalloch Estate and chairman of Osspower at the official switch-on of the £6.1m Allt Fionn scheme

Minister Greg Barker said: 'I am delighted to open the new Allt Fionn hydroelectric scheme, which will meet the electricity demands of over 1,700 households. The development of the hydro industry is very important as we work towards our renewable energy targets.'

'Schemes like Allt Fionn are helping us produce the clean,

green power that we need for the future. I'm looking forward to hearing about the progress of the remaining projects on Glenfalloch Estate.'

David Lowes, managing partner of Glenfalloch Estate and chairman of Osspower said: 'We are very pleased that the construction of the Allt Fionn Scheme has finally been com-

pleted within budget and to the rigorous environmental standards expected in this important part of the National Park.'

'We would like in particular to thank the construction finance providers, the Co-operative Bank, Ventus 2 VCT, providers of early stage finance, Hydroplan UK, engineering and environmental consultants; the contractors D A MacDonald, and Gilbert Gilkes and Gordon Limited, who supplied the turbines.'

'We will now focus on the financing and construction of the three remaining consented projects on Glenfalloch Estate totalling a further 4.1MW.'

Linda McKay added: 'The National Park Authority is committed to protecting and enhancing the special characteristics and natural beauty of the park whilst making a contribution to Scotland's goals for renewable energy production.'

'We have demonstrated that by working in close and positive collaboration with land managers and renewable energy developers it is possible to reconcile the potentially conflicting priorities of protecting the natural heritage and permitting sustainable economic development in the park.'

**Taynuilt lottery finds winner - after 60 attempts**

Oban woman nets £2,000 in village draw

A VILLAGE hall committee has found a £2,000 jackpot winner for its lotto draw – but only after 60 attempts at drawing a winning combination of numbers.

With no-one having won the jackpot for a number of weeks the prize fund for Taynuilt Village Hall Committee's fortnightly lotto draw reached the maximum of £2,000 last week, meaning tickets were drawn until a ticket with the winning four numbers was found.

Luckily for Oban woman Ann-Maree Campbell, her ticket came up trumps. Ann-Maree told *The Oban Times* she had not yet decided how to spend her winnings.

Hall committee chairman Michael Kydd said: 'When we get to £2,000 we keep drawing tickets until we get a winner but Anne MacCallum, who runs the lotto for us took 60 attempts to find a winner!'



Taynuilt Village Hall Committee chairman Michael Kydd congratulates lotto winner Ann-Maree Campbell on her jackpot win.

**Woodland Trust encourage search for toxic toadstool**

THE WOODLAND Trust Scotland is asking people to keep an eye out for fly agaric (*Amanita muscaria*), the classic red and white spotted toadstool, during woodland walks and record any sightings online.

Fly agaric is widespread throughout the UK and commonly found on light soils in mixed woodland and heaths among birch and pine.

The toadstool is toxic and was traditionally mixed with milk and left out in bowls to kill flies, which is where it gets its name. It was also commonly found on Christmas cards in Victorian and Edwardian times as a symbol of good luck and its colours may have been the inspiration for Santa Claus's red and white suit.

Rory Syme from Woodland Trust Scotland said: 'The best place to spot fly agaric is close to birch and pine trees. The wet summer we've had may mean that it will appear early this year. In previous years sightings have been recorded as early as the end of June.'



Fly agaric (*Amanita muscaria*), the classic red and white spotted toadstool

'Keeping track of key events in nature helps us record the changing seasons. Natural phenomena such as bird migration, changes in leaves and the appearance of flowers and fungi are some of the best indicators for climate change.'

Rory Syme added: 'Fly agaric can be dangerous, so the best advice is to look but don't touch.'

You can record sightings through the Nature's Calendar Project at [naturescalendar.org.uk/](http://naturescalendar.org.uk/)

**Isle of Staffa death man buried today**

A GERMAN tourist who died after falling from a cliff on Staffa this month is to be buried in his homeland today (Thursday).

Daniel Smuda, 49, the CEO of recruitment website jobscout24.de, died after the accident on July 6, falling 50 feet from above Clamshell Cave.

Mr Smuda was also a research associate of the Humboldt University of Berlin and CEO of CareerBuilder, GmbH.

**Isle of Mull knotweed is 'dangerous' say community council**

A FAST growing weed is blocking motorists' views at a roundabout in Tobermory where it has reached six-feet in height, according to members of Mull Community Council.

A recent meeting of the community council heard that the roundabout at the bridge in Tobermory is 'six feet high with Japanese Knotweed'.

Motorists views are obstructed by the weed which members of the community council called 'dangerous'.

A council spokeswoman said: 'Argyll and Bute Council has a duty to deal with Japanese knotweed. We will take appropriate action to destroy the weed at the area highlighted.'

'If any of the affected areas lie outwith the road corridor, we will raise the issue with the appropriate landowner.'

Japanese Knotweed is notoriously difficult to remove. Spread by rhizomes, it can be treated with chemicals over a three year period or removed via a significant excavation.

**Oban man fined after punching 15-year old boy**

A MAN who punched a 15 year old boy in the chest at a chance meeting in Oban's Glencruitten Road has been fined £450.

Sean Fallon McGowan, 22, of Willowdene, Glencruitten Road, admitted hitting the boy on November 12 last year.

Defending, agent Eddie Thornton said his client was heavily intoxicated at the time and was motivated by difficulties his own younger brother had had with the victim in the past.

**Mull police cars reduced by one**

POLICE vehicles on the Isle of Mull will have been reduced by one after it was redeployed, according to the chief inspector.

Chief inspector Brian Auld told *The Oban Times* the move came as up to two of the four vehicles on the island were sitting idle in any given day.

There is one sergeant and four constables on Mull. There was previously a vehicle at all four police stations but the island will now be covered by three.

Chief inspector Auld said: 'There is three officers working per day with two off duty. Each officer on the early shift, late shift and on-call will have access to a vehicle.'

**Tests prompt Port Appin cockles warning**

COCKLE pickers are being warned that raised levels of bacteria have occurred at a harvesting area in Argyll.

Monitoring work has found that cockles from Port Appin may pose a risk to human health and cannot be sold.

Notices to warn the public and casual gatherers have been posted at various locations on the shore.

Commercial shellfish harvesters working in the area have been contacted by the council and steps taken to postpone harvesting until microbiological levels subside.

Argyll and Bute Council's monitoring work continues and, when the situation changes and has been evaluated, warning notices will be removed.

**Mull radio station gains licence**

A NEW community radio station serving the islands of Mull and Iona will soon be on the air after being awarded a broadcasting licence.

Sound of Mull Radio was granted a five year licence by industry regulator Ofcom last Friday.

**Live broadcasting**

Radio enthusiast Adrian Fitness said: 'As you can imagine we are delighted that the application has been successful. It is great news for Mull and Iona.'

'A date has not been set for the launch of the station as there is a lot of work to be done before we can go on air but The Sound of Mull would like to thank everyone who has shown their support during the licence application process.'

Transmitters will now be put in place in Tobermory and Fionnphort with live broadcasting to take place for eight hours a day with additional presenter free programming.

Speech will make up 30 per cent of content with listeners encouraged to interact with the station.

There will be Gaelic medium programming, a variety of music and local news and travel updates.

The station will also list job vacancies on the island, weather updates and wildlife reports.

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# No through road for HGVs on Rest and Be Thankful option

A SOLUTION that will allow heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) to travel along the Old Military Road when landslides close the A83 Rest and Be Thankful route has not been yet identified, Transport Scotland has confirmed.

## August start

The announcement comes one week after the Minister for Transport Keith Brown told

MSPs that work to upgrade the road would commence in August.

Explaining the Old Military Road was deemed a safer option than the Glen Croe forestry track - the original diversion route - the minister said the Old Military Road upgrade was due to be 'completed by November'.

But engineers are yet to find a

way of allowing HGVs to travel along the old road, which has a very steep incline out of the glen.

## 'Ridiculous'

A spokeswoman for the Transport Scotland said: 'We are looking at a solution for HGVs but the design of the road is still being finalised. Details regarding the diversion route should be confirmed in the

coming weeks.'

Although Mr Brown outlined a timescale for works to commence, Transport Scotland said the company that would carry out the works was yet 'to be confirmed', whilst the cost of the project 'will be known once we have the final details'.

The possibility of having a diversion route that does not cater for large vehicles has been

branded 'ridiculous' by one Argyll haulier who asked not to be named.

Speaking on Monday, he said: 'I am horrified to think they are thinking about starting work when they are not sure if it is suitable for heavy goods vehicles or not.'

He added: 'No one has been consulted; if they are struggling to come up with a solution you

would think they would come to us to discuss it; perhaps we could do a trial run on the road to see how it is.'

'Maybe we should take a closer look at it ourselves.'

Argyll and Bute councillor Donald Kelly, who along with Argyll First colleagues launched a petition calling for improvements along the A83, said large vehicles bring 'eve-

rything' into Argyll.

Mr Kelly said: 'I would hate to think that only small vehicles could access the route and that heavy goods vehicles would still have to go the alternative route via the A82; as far as I am concerned that's a waste of time.'

'It is the heavy goods vehicles that keep Argyll moving and the economy running'

## Stolen charity cash replaced by horrified readers

A COUPLE who had their charity collection stolen from a shinty match in Oban have received donations from people horrified at the incident.

A report in *The Oban Times* earlier this month highlighted the theft of gate and tea money from Mossfield on July 7.

But Oban Celtic supporters Jim and June Pearson, who take donations at every home game at Mossfield Stadium, have been able to boost their takings, thanks to donors disgusted with the theft of cash that was due to be given to Cancer Research and Motor Neurone Disease Scotland.

Both charities will now receive £460 each.

Oban Celtic Shinty Club appealed to the culprit(s) to hand the money back and did not report the incident to the police to make it easier for the money to be returned.

The money has not been handed back.

## Oban man denies heroin charges

AN OBAN man who allegedly concealed a package of powder in his body before trying to dispose of it in a police cell appeared at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday.

Angus MacDougall, 40, of Dunmore Lodge, Albany Street, Oban is also accused of possessing heroin with intent to supply.

He denies the charges and will stand trial on August 22. MacDougall will appear at court next on August 9.

## Pay rates 'or else' say Council debt recovery team

BUSINESS owners on the west coast are being warned about the dangers of not paying their rates by Argyll and Bute Council.

The authority says it will take 'vigorous' action to recover rates and other debts from those who are able to pay but fail to do so.

Last month, sheriff officers instructed by the council recovered a four-figure sum from an Argyll business which failed to pay rates and reneged on a previously negotiated instalment agreement.

Both the council and sheriff officers, if instructed, will make attempts to agree a suitable payment arrangement first - but those who persistently refuse to pay face more serious action.

Any company concerned about unpaid rates or debt can contact Argyll and Bute Council's debt recovery team on 01586 555248.

## Mull man on driving charges

POLICE have charged a 19-year-old on Mull with a series of alleged driving offences.

The driver was stopped on the A849 at 12.40am last Saturday.

He has been accused of drink driving, driving without a licence and without insurance.

# Islay 'Laddich sells for cool £58 million

## French drinks giant invests heavily in Islay distillery's future

BRUICHLADDICH Distillery has become a major player in the malt whisky industry after shareholders agreed to sell the business to Rémy Cointreau for the sum of £58m.

It is the first distillery the French drinks giant has acquired but it has no immediate plans to change operations at the Islay site.

## Investment

However, Bruichladdich has indicated there will be investment in the plant and equipment, some of which dates back to 1881 when the distillery was built.

Last week, managing director Mark Reynier, speaking ahead of the deal being finalised, said a takeover would move Bruichladdich into the 'premier league' of malt whiskies.

Mr Reynier headed up a team, including production manager Jim McEwan, that has helped to oversee the successful revival of the distillery since it re-opened just 11 years ago.

Speaking after the deal was finalised on Monday, Mr McEwan said: 'Remy love what we do, and how we do it, and that is

*"I am filled with confidence and excitement. This Cinderella will go to the ball."*

Jim McEwan

what attracted them in the first place.

'Under their ownership we can invest money in the plant and increase production, which is brilliant news.'

## Very bright future

'We felt we had taken the distillery as far as we could but I see a very bright future ahead.'

'I am filled with confidence and excitement about what is about to be a beautiful chapter in the life of a distillery that never gained the accolades it deserved. "This Cinderella will go to the ball."

The distillery is a major island employer, with 55 staff on the books and the new owners have

no plans to cut down the pay roll, instead intimating it was logical to consider employing more people as a plan to increase production is formulated.

Bruichladdich chairman Sir John Mactaggart said: 'It has been an exciting and demanding eleven and a half years breathing life back into Bruichladdich.'

'The sale of the company clearly induces several mixed emotions, which I am sure will be widely shared.'

'But one needs to remember that we succeeded in saving, building and establishing - once and for all - the worldwide renown of Bruichladdich.'

'As with any business expanding at such a rapid rate, there comes a time when further substantial capital investment will be required to support long-term growth, and this cannot easily be generated by the business itself, or without significant extra shareholder funds.'

'It is of great comfort that Rémy Cointreau truly appreciate the very special nature of Bruichladdich - the place, the brand, the spirit and our people.'

## Doctor urges action on Isle of Coll roads

COLL'S doctor has urged Argyll and Bute Council to take action to repair the island's roads now before more people are hurt.

## Victims

Dr Celine O'Neill this week told *The Oban Times* that she is becoming increasingly concerned by the deteriorating routes around the island, which in some places are so bad they are impossible to negotiate faster than 15mph without a 4x4 vehicle.

Cyclists are regularly victims to potholes and undulations in the road too, many suffering injuries requiring treatment at the island surgery.

One of the biggest concerns for Dr O'Neill though is that the road makes travelling to emergency situations hazard-

ous at best, particularly from Sorisdale - where she lives - to the surgery in Arinaour.

She pointed to the significant degradation in the roads in the past two years and say another year of inactivity by Argyll and Bute Council could cause even bigger problems.

Dr O'Neill said: 'The roads are in such a condition you cannot go over them fast. It is unsafe.'

'If you need to go somewhere, you cannot go in a hurry.'

'The road has crumbled rapidly over the past two winters and we anticipate it will get worse this winter unless something is done.'

Argyll and Bute Council were contacted for comment but did not respond at the time of going to press.

## Mull viewpoints project progresses

PLANS for viewing points in key areas around the Isle of Mull to relieve traffic congestion are progressing.

A study has shown up a number of issues with facilities that exist at present, including the lack of visitor information, poor provision of toilets and the lack of safe car parking along key viewpoint roads.

The project is being taken forward by the Mull and Iona Community Trust.

The provision of facilities is aimed at wildlife watchers, families, first-time visitors,

repeat visitors and day trippers in the hope it will boost the island's economy and encourage repeat tourism.

Moray Finch, general manager of MICT, told a recent meeting of Mull Community Council that there would be 'a cost associated with maintaining bins and toilets' but that MICT were in the process of finding grant funding to apply to.

The project would see signs posted throughout the island identifying passing places in comparison to areas where motorists can enjoy the view.



Rail workers were quick to remove fallen debris from the track after heavy rain caused a landslide near the Falls of Cruachan

## Network Rail come under pressure following another Loch Awe side landslide

FALLING rocks halted the progress of the Oban to Glasgow train, just one mile from the scene of a derailment caused by a landslide just two years earlier.

The afternoon Oban to Glasgow train had to be sent back to Oban last Wednesday after rocks fell onto the line near the Falls of Cruachan.

None of the 66 passengers were injured and they were returned to Oban where they were eventually taken to Glasgow by bus while the rail line was cleared the same day.

However, Network Rail has been criticised for not identifying the landslide, which was only one mile east of a more serious incident in June 2010,

when the leading carriage derailed and caught on fire after hitting a boulder on the track.

Thompsons Solicitors, which is representing passengers from the 2010 incident and pursuing Network Rail for negligence, said the most recent incident was preventable.

Thompsons Solicitors partner Patrick McGuire, said: 'This latest incident shows that lessons still haven't been learned despite the terrifying ordeal endured by passengers and crew during the 2010 accident.'

'Network Rail has responsibility for maintaining a robust system to ensure their tracks are safe from foreseeable hazards. What happened on Wednesday was predictable

and therefore preventable.'

Peter MacFarlane, a passenger on the train last Wednesday, told *The Oban Times*: 'The first thing we knew something was wrong was when the emergency brakes were applied. It was a feeling like the one you get at the end of a rollercoaster.'

'Then I saw water gushing down the hill - it was quite a force - and one of the train staff jumped out to see what had happened. He was up to his ankles in water.'

The blockage was caused by a small amount of rock and mud that had washed onto the line.

Network Rail said its warning system did not come into play because the stones did not fall from high enough on the moun-

tainside above the track and that the geography of the area made preventing landslides difficult.

A spokesman for the company said: 'We work hard to reduce the impact of severe weather on our infrastructure.'

'Between 2008 and 2014 we will invest more than £90m across Scotland on projects designed to limit the potential for rockfalls and landslips on the railway. Since 2008 we have invested more than £7m on projects on the Glasgow-Oban line alone.'

Network Rail's insurers deny liability for the 2010 derailment on the basis that the boulders dislodged as a result of natural processes.

## Lorne Games organiser 'gutted' at cancellation

THE ORGANISER of the Lorne Highland Games says he was 'gutted' to have to cancel the inaugural event on Sunday because of bad weather.

Highland games stalwart Duncan MacIntyre said he had received warnings about high winds forecast on Sunday and made a call early in the morning to postpone the event.

The games had been scheduled to take place at Mossfield and have a similar layout to the Argyllshire Gathering's Oban Highland Games.

However, the new event was formed to fill a gap left by Highland games that had folded, including the Kilmore Highland Games, and had therefore received backing from the Scottish Highland Games Association.

Mr MacIntyre said heavyweight competitors and athletes from as far as Fife were committed to attending, while there had been a lot of local interest from Oban sports' clubs and

'local' heavyweight competitors.

A small group of hardy local athletes made sure the hill race went ahead.

Mr MacIntyre told *The Oban Times*: 'I was gutted when I had to make the decision but there were competitors from Fife coming and I had to give them enough notice.'

'I had been told to expect high winds and heavy showers in the afternoon and I knew tents had been flattened by the wind at the Treetop Music Festival.'

Asked what his expectations were for his maiden games, Mr MacIntyre said he had hoped for at least 1,000 people and enough competitors to justify the prize fund of £3,000.

Mr MacIntyre said he had been buoyed by the enthusiasm for another Highland games in Oban, which is on at a time more convenient to locals.

He added: 'I am optimistic that this could be a great set-up, so I am planning to organise a games next year.'

## Mull road closed

FERRY passengers travelling to Mull are being warned that the B8035 Gribun Road is still closed to through traffic due to storm damage.

The road remains open either side of the closure near Derryguig and Dhiseig and more information can be found in advice leaflets which are available at Oban and Craignure ferry terminals and on board ferries to and from the island.

## Racist remarks lead to £430 fine

A YOUNG Oban man who threatened a member of bar staff and made racial remarks towards him has been fined £430 at the town's Sheriff Court on Tuesday.

Ian Maclean, 20, of 15 Lismore Crescent, Oban admitted carrying out the offence at a town centre bar on July 16.

## Coll votes against wind turbine plan

A PLAN to build a wind turbine at An Cridhe on the Isle of Coll won't go ahead after islanders overwhelmingly rejected the scheme.

Of those responding to the vote, 84 voted against the turbine, 27 for and three spoilt papers.

## Belgian driver in three-car Appin road accident

A BELGIAN driver is accused of causing a three-car road crash on Sunday on the A828 by Stalker Cafe, near Appin, after turning onto the wrong carriageway.

The 34-year woman, who was driving a black Audi car, allegedly turned right onto the northbound carriageway, causing a head-on collision with a blue Ford Focus.

As a result, another car, a red Volkswagen Polo, was also involved in the collision.

The 63-year-old female passenger in the Ford Focus was taken to the Belford Hospital but none of the people involved sustained serious injuries.

The road was closed for a few hours, while the casualty was assessed at hospital and police investigations got underway.

## Teenager charged with firing gun

A TEENAGE boy has been charged after discharging a ball-bearing gun outside an Oban superstore store last week.

A 16-year-old girl was injured in the incident.

## Diesel on road caused crash claims driver

AN EXPERIENCED lorry driver of 14 years told Oban Sheriff Court how he wrote off his car after hitting a diesel spill on way from Lochgilphead to Oban.

James MacGregor was giving evidence at the trial of businessman, Thomas Barbour, 65, of Coille Dhairich, Glencruitten Road, Oban, who is accused of creating the diesel spill on the A816 on November 20 last year.

Mr MacGregor was one of two motorists to give evidence on Monday, both describing losing control of their vehicles after hitting an 'extremely slippery' slick of diesel on the road. Mr MacGregor, who was travelling with his wife, said: 'We came round a corner and the tail end of my car started to swing, there were three cars coming towards me and they managed to get past before I clipped the verge and hit a tree. It was as if I hit ice.'

The court had previously heard Barbour was driving a heavy goods vehicle owned by local company, Flit.

Flit director, William Bonniwell, told the court he was not aware of any diesel leak before he gave the vehicle to Mr Barbour. He had, however, asked him to check oil and water levels as the 12.5 tonne lorry had started getting hot when under strain. When Barbour phoned advising the engine was overheating, Mr Bonniwell said to stop the lorry and allow the engine to cool before returning to Oban. The trial continues.

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BRACKEN control by helicopter has been taking place in parts of Morvern recently using a well tested herbicide called Asulam marketed in the UK as Asulox.

Asulox, which is the only product approved for the treatment of bracken by aerial application, was banned by the EU in 2011.

Alarmed by the danger to humans and grazing animals, especially in remote rural areas, the UK farming unions won a temporary reprieve allowing land managers to carry on using it providing it was purchased before 31 December 2011.

Because of its toxic and carcinogenic properties and as a host for disease carrying ticks, bracken is one of the most dangerous and invasive plants in the country. Spraying by helicopter is the only safe method of eradicating it on steep ground.

Because of the proven health issues and the total ban, which will come into effect at the end of 2012, many land users are now calling for the millions of pounds currently being channelled by the Scottish Government into rhododendron clearance in the Highlands to be halted and switched instead to bracken control.

There is good anecdotal evidence to suggest that until the early 1900s bracken was almost rare in Morvern as it was often imported by boat from Ardnamurchan to Drimnin as winter bedding for cattle. An unwitting act which is no doubt the reason it is so prolific in Morvern now.

LOOKING back to *The Oban Times* a century ago, in January 1912 the rainfall reported at Drimnin for the previous year was 68.55 inches – four inches above the average.

Ardornish recorded 80.52 inches for 1911 and that it had rained for 240 days - an interesting difference given the two are only 14 miles apart.

AN OUTBREAK of measles was reported in the schools at Lochaline and Claggan. It spread to the adult population, carrying off Mrs Flora Cameron of Kiel, a native of Sunart.

Following a brief service at the house, her family and friends set off walking with her remains to the family burying ground at Strontian – a distance of 24 miles which was done in eight hours.

After the service in Drimnatorran graveyard and a brief rest in the Strontian Hotel, then known as the London Inn, they set off home about 7pm.

They arrived at Clounlaid in the White Glen, where Mrs Livingstone supplied them with refreshments as she had done on their outward journey.

They finally reached Lochaline at 3am having walked close on 50 miles in about 20 hours. The same journey can now be done by car in just over an hour.



FOLLOWING last week's Morvern Games coverage in *The Oban Times*, readers may be interested in this photograph of a Sunday school parents day picnic in Knock Park, the games' traditional venue, taken in 1890.

Dour expressions, bunnets and hats seem to be the order of the day!!

Iain Thornber

Environment Minister tours Hebrides

ENVIRONMENT Minister Stewart Stevenson concludes a three-day whistlestop tour of the Hebrides today (Thursday).

Mr Stevenson met staff at the community shop and café on Uig in Skye, before travelling to South Uist for a meeting with Oxfam Scotland and Lochboisdale Amenity Trust to view community coastal protection work at Daliburgh.

The minister visited Forestry Commission Scotland's wildlife viewing platform at Kylerhea near Broadford on Tuesday, and Rum yesterday to hear about the

community trust's 'Greening Rum' project. From Rum, the minister travelled to Eigg to view the island's electric control building and new crofts with Eigg Heritage Trust directors.

Mr Stevenson said: 'I am delighted to be visiting some of Scotland's island communities to see a diverse range of projects as well as meeting with key stakeholders. 'Our islands provide some of the most spectacular natural habitats for a variety of wildlife as well as magnificent scenery and a plethora of natural resources.'

Duror youth who carried knife ordered to do unpaid work

A DUROR teenager who brandished a Stanley knife at a group of young girls in Ballachulish has been ordered to carry out 160 hours unpaid work and join a wilderness-based development programme.

Ciaran Wilson, of 5 Abhainn Cottages, was told to attend the Venture Trust course in Applecross after admitting brandishing the knife at the group, including a 14-year-old girl, on land near Loan Fern on March 2.

Wilson had been walking in the village with two friends when the group of girls made comments towards him, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Fiscal Alison Wylie said: 'He took the knife from his pocket and walked towards them with his fists clenched.'

The two groups then went separate ways, but met again 30 minutes later. Following more remarks from the girls Wilson again pulled the knife from his pocket.

The 16-year-old's lawyer Stephen Kennedy said his client had been drinking and was carrying the weapon for 'self preservation' after receiving a number of threats from people in the village. Mr Kennedy said: 'This was not premeditated. It was a spur of the moment decision, and was a reaction to

the comments which had been made. He had never taken the knife out of his pocket before.'

Wilson pled guilty to behaving in a threatening or abusive manner and having the knife in his possession without reasonable excuse.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'I want to make it clear to you

that the court regards anything involving a weapon very seriously indeed. If you were not appearing as a first offender I would be seriously considering a period of detention.'

The Venture Trust is a charity which aims to boost the confidence and motivation of young people.



Poland's Sebastian Wenta tosses the caber at Tobermory. 16\_130mull22

Right: Iain McDowall from Aros, Mull excelled at the long jump. 16\_130mull09



Above: Fifteen year old Chelsea Higgins from Oban with her dancing trophies. 16\_130mull21



Oban's Lorne Colthart in the hammer throwing. 16\_130mull06



Above: The Oban High School Pipe Band arrive at the games' field. 16\_130mull25

Right: The Mull and Iona Piping Society entertained the crowds throughout the day at Erray Park. 16\_130mull10

Left: Abbie MacKenzie from Oban impressed judges at the dancing. 16\_130mull01

50-year old record falls at Tobermory

65th Mull Highland Games proves as popular as ever

REPORT by FAITH ORR forr@obantimes.co.uk

A RECORD held for nearly 50 years was shattered as the crowds cheered for feats of sportsmanship, piping and dancing on the Isle of Mull last Thursday.

One of the longest running games in the area, Mull Highland Games started in 1923 before stopping for a period because of the war.

**Traditional march**

Held at Erray Park in Tobermory, Thursday, July 19 saw the 65th games since its revival in 1948.

The day started with the traditional march to the games field from Main Street in Tobermory, led by hereditary chieftain Sir Lachlan Maclean and Mull and Iona Piping Society.

Sir Lachlan said: 'This march warns everyone that the games are about to begin and that they should make their way to the ground to see the competitions.'

The day continued with a full range of piping, dancing, heavy events and athletics on offer. There was even street theatre to entertain the crowd.

The performance 'Fish out of Water' drew some curious stares from onlookers as silver fish danced their way around the field.

After an uncertain start to the day the sun came out to the joy of crowd who soaked up the weather while watching Mull and Iona Piping Society and Oban High School Pipe Band take to the field.

The heavy events drew a lot of attention with Poland's Lucasz Wenta setting a new record of 62 feet for putting the 16lb stone which had not been broken since the legendary Arthur Rowe achieved 61 feet 21.2 inches in 1965.

Lucasz's brother Sebastian Wenta, a former runner up in the world's strongest man competition and this year's world caber tossing champion,

also impressed the crowds with his efforts.

The athletics also drew cheers, particularly for the long jump event in which some competitors only seemed limited by the length of the pit.

Iain McDowall from Aros on Mull celebrated his 19th birthday in style, with some stunning performances in the light events.

One of the most popular events was the highland dancing with competitors travelling from all over the country to take part. The able accompaniment for the dancing came from piper James Hepburn with judging by Ritchie Gibson.

Youngsters at the games were amazed by the inflatable dolphins and real teeth on show at the stall for Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Society.

One of the most keenly contested events of the day was the overseas men's race. Competitors tripped over each other – or maybe tripped each other up – as they vied to be the first to reach the finish line and take home the whisky on offer.

Mull Highland Games

**Results**

**Dancing:** Primary confined to Mull: Louise Meikle.

**Local Piping:** Pibroch: 1 Finlay Johnston, 2 Angus D MacColl, 3 Angus J MacColl; March: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 F Johnston, 3 A Henderson; Strathspey and Reel: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 A Henderson, 3 A MacColl Jr; Chanters: Hannah Thorne.

**Dancing:** Swords: Kirsty Barrett, Rothesay; Highland Fling: Kirsty Barrett; Hop, Step & Leap: 1 D Clunie, 2 M Turner, 3 I McDowall;

2 Jenna MacInnes, Oban, 3 Libby MacLean, Blairmore; Highland Fling: 1 Libby MacLean, 2 Chelsea Higgins, 3 Molly MacPherson, Oban.

**Heavy Athletics:** Throwing the Hammer: 1 L Colthart, 2 C Nicolson, 3 A McPhail; Putting Ball: 1 L Colthart, 2 J Campbell, C Nicolson;

**Tossing the Caber:** 1= A MacPhail and C Nicolson, 3 L Colthart; 28lb Wt Distance: 1 L Colthart, 2 A MacPhail, C Nicolson; 56lb Wt over bar: 1 L Colthart, 2= C Nicolson and J Campbell.

**Light Athletics:** Long Leap: 1 M Turner, Campbelltown, 2 D Clunie, Kilmore, 3 I McDowall, Salen; Hop, Step & Leap: 1 D Clunie, 2 M Turner, 3 I McDowall;

100yds Race: S Tomison, 2 D Clunie, 3 M Turner; 220 yards Race: 1 S Tomison, 2 M Turner, 3 G Turner; 440 yards Race: 1 M Turner, 2 G Turner, 3 W McGowan; One Mile Race: 1 M Turner, 2 G Turner, 3 C Tomison; High Jump: D Clunie, 2 I McDowall, 3 S Tomison; Cross Country Race: C Tomison, 2 J MacFadyen, 3 C Whyte.

**Open:** **Heavy Athletics:** 56lb Wt over Bar: 1 D Zieluski, 2 L Wenta, 3 S Wenta; 16lb Hammer: 1 L Wenta, 2 S Rider, 3 S Wenta; 22lb Hammer: 1 S Rider, 2 S Wenta, 3 S Tyler; Tossing Caber: 1 D Zieluski; 2 S Wenta; 3 S Tyler.

56lb Wt Distance: 1 S Rider, 2 S Wenta, 3 S Tyler; 28lb Weight/Distance: 1 S Wenta, 2 S Rider, 3 S Tyler; Dr Clegg's Clach: 1 S Tyler, 2 S Wenta, 3 S Rider.

**Light Athletics:** Long Leap: 1 D Watson, 2 M Turner, 3 D Clunie; High Leap: 1 D Clunie, 2= C McNicol and I MacDougall; Half Mile Handicap: 1 M Turner, 2 T Ashby, 3 S McGowan; Hop, Step, Leap: 1 D Watson, 2 G Lister, 3 S Tomison; 100 yds Race: 1 D Watson, 2 G Lister, 3 S Tomison; 100yds Handicap: 1 C Nicol, 2 B Scott, 3 G Lister; 220 yards Race: 1 T Ashby, 2 B Scott, 3 G Turner; 440 yards Race: 1 W McGowan, 2 T Ashby, 3 M Turner; Half Mile Race: 1 M Turner, 2 T Ashby, 3 W McGowan.

**Open Piping:** Pibroch: 1 F Johnston, 2 A D MacColl, 3 C Campbell; March: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 F Johnston, A Henderson; Strathspey & Reel: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 A Henderson, 3 A Scougall;

**Piping Junior:** Pibroch: 1 R Grey, 2 A Hossain, 3 K Orr; March: 1 R Grey, 2 K Campbell, 3 K Orr; Strathspey & Reel: 1 A Hossein, K Campbell, 3 R Grey.

**Dancing:** Reels – Adults: 1 R Walker, Fettercairn, 2 M Dillon-Bray, Fettercairn, 3 K McKeon, Australia; Swords: 1 K McKeon, 2 M Dillon-Bray, 3 R Walker; H Fling: 1 R Walker, 2 K McKeon, 3 L Morris, Hamilton; Seann Triubhas: 1 M Dillon-Bray, 2 R Walker, 3 K McKeon; Irish Jig: 1 L Morris, 2 R Walker, 3 M Dillon-Bray;

**Swords:** Juveniles: 1 M Anderson, Sanquhar, 2 N Smith, Monifeith, 3 C Higgins, Oban; H Fling: 1 L MacLean, Blairmore, 2 C Anderson, Sanquhar, 3 N Smith; Reel: 1 N Smith, 2 L Maclean, 3 A McKenzie, Oban; Hornpipe: 1 C Anderson, 2 N Smith, 3 L Maclean; Irish Jig: N Smith, 2 C Higgins, 3 L Maclean

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# Skye community launches its own internet initiative

AN ISLE of Skye community has launched its own wi-fi service as part of a project to help people living in remote places take advantage of the internet and become 'digitally included'.

At a special event in Glendale Village Hall in Duirinish on Tuesday, residents and busi-

nesses got their chance to see the benefits of digital technology. The hall was recently awarded a BT Community Connection, which provides free broadband for 12 months.

### Forms online

The initiative is part of a three-year drive across Lochaber, Skye and Wester Ross to

help local people gain internet skills and find out more about computers and technology.

Among those expected to benefit are crofters unsure of how to complete forms online.

The umbrella project, Get IT Together, is being delivered by national charity Citizens Online. Funders include social

investor the Nominet Trust, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Highland Council and BT Scotland.

Jane Beaton of Citizens Online is coordinating local efforts to ensure as many people as possible acquire internet knowledge and confidence.

John Fisher, Citizens Online

chief executive said: 'We are really pleased to be working in the Highlands once again and Jane is looking forward to the challenges of delivering the project across the area.'

'The success of these initiatives is working in partnership and the team is keen to talk to any organisation that would like

to participate or get involved in any way.'

Claire Hannah of Highlands and Islands Enterprise said: 'Technology can make a huge difference to people's lives, especially in fragile and outlying communities and we are delighted to be supporting this initiative.'

# New Coll hall viewed as threat

## Bunkhouse and hall taking business away from locals

BUSINESSES on the Isle of Coll have expressed concern that the island's new £2.5million community hall and bunkhouse, An Cridhe, will affect their trade.

A group of local accommodation providers and traders held a small gathering at the island's Art Den during this month's official opening ceremony for An Cridhe, in the way of a polite protest to what they feel could have an impact on their businesses.

Chief concern is that the bunkhouse will take business

**"Promises made to us over the opening of the bunkhouse are not being kept,"**

**campsite owner**

away, especially as it is now due to open year round, as opposed to only during the height of the season as was initially intimated by owner, Development Coll.

However, the social enterprise says the Arinagour hall and bunkhouse will provide potential to grow the island's economy by offering more capacity for tourists in a different type of accommodation.

The exhibition and floor space also offer extra opportunity for events to bring people to the island.

However, George McConnachie, Development Coll's business development officer, would work to mitigate any potential impacts on local business.

Pat Graham, of the island's Gardenhouse Campsite, said: 'I have already lost trade to the building and so has the local bed and breakfast.'

'Promises made to us over the opening of the bunkhouse are not being kept.'

'The governing management

committee of Development Coll has failed to approach any of the existing businesses on Coll and that's what they need to do.'

Paula Smalley runs the Tigh na Mara guest house in Arinagour. She said: 'I'll be keeping a note of the numbers that turn up compared to last year. I will wait to see the facts and figures, but I think it's fair to say I'm watching things very closely and I am concerned.'

Mr McConnachie said: 'It is worth noting that tens of thousands of pounds have already been pumped into the local economy via local contractors during the project build for accommodation alone. This, combined with the extra work opportunities generated has been of benefit to numerous local establishments.'

'In addition, all local businesses have been written to with the offer of free advertising within Coll Bunkhouse and An Cridhe - including alternative accommodation providers.'

'The management committee of An Cridhe and Coll Bunkhouse meets on a weekly basis and any potential negative effects on other businesses are discussed with the aim of nullifying any adverse effects.'

'It is the unqualified aim of Development Coll that the island as a whole will benefit from An Cridhe and Coll Bunkhouse and we are confident this will be the case.'



Scottish Sealife Sanctuary staff member Gareth Harriman with the 'Irn-Bru' lobster caught off the Isle of Skye, the latest addition to the Barcaldine centre. 15\_130lobster01/03

## Lobsters are black, lobsters are blue, off the Isle of Skye they are 'Irn Bru'

THE CHANCES of finding an orange coloured lobster are 10 million to one - but staff at the Sealife Sanctuary in Barcaldine have just taken delivery of their second one.

Nicknamed the 'Irn-Bru' lobster, the sanctuary's latest admission was recently found by Skye fisherman Willie Mackinnon.

It arrived at its new home in Barcaldine last Wednesday, where it will be kept in quar-

antine for three weeks before going on display.

Last week Three fisherman Frazer MacInnes pledged his blue lobster find to the sanctuary but it had to politely refuse the offer, as it already holds two blue lobsters and now has two of the 'Irn-Bru' variety.

However, it did offer a home for it at a sealife centre in Balloch.

Alastair Law, of the Scottish Sealife Sanctuary, said: 'People

find these creatures fascinating because they are under the illusion that all lobsters are a grey, dull colour but we have orange and blue ones and have even had an Albino lobster before.'

'We are generally the first point of contact for fishermen when they find a rare species because they want to show the public what is out there.'

Willie Mackinnon caught the orange crustacean in a creel while working off Waternish.



Television presenter, writer and director, Paul Murton returns to Cowal

## Paul Murton is chief at Cowal

COWAL Highland Gathering has appointed television presenter, writer and director, Paul Murton as chieftain for this year's gathering being held on Saturday, August 25.

Paul, who has worked in television and film including The Bill, Casualty, the period drama Bramwell, and the Scottish soap opera, River City Paul was brought up in Cowal where his parents owned the Ardentiny Hotel on the shores of Loch Long. He attended Ardentiny Primary school and Dunoon Grammar School.

He said: 'It is a privilege and an honour to be asked to act as the games' chieftain for the day, especially so because I have many fond memories of the event from my childhood, joining the crowds to thrill at the march past of the thousand pipers. And now I'll be taking the salute.'

Cowal Gathering event manager, Malcolm Barclay said: 'We are delighted that Paul has accepted our invitation to be this year's chieftain and look forward to welcoming him back to Dunoon. His passion for Scotland and its culture is well known and we are certain he will enjoy his day at one of the finest cultural events Scotland has to offer.'

This year's event starts on Thursday, August 23 continuing on August 24 with the main day being Saturday, August 25.

## Drink drivers caught thanks to action of public

FORT William Police have thanked the public after three people were reported for drink driving as a result of anonymous information in the past week.

A Northern Constabulary spokesperson said: 'Police are grateful for members of the public contacting them to report such offences and encourage them to continue doing so.'

It is with the support of the public that offenders can be brought to justice.'

## Fears voiced for future of bridge at Pennyghael

### 'One million tonnes of timber to be extracted from the Isle of Mull over next 20 years'

CONCERNS about the stability of Pennyghael Bridge has been raised by a member of Mull Community Council.

Fiona Brown, a Pennyghael resident, is worried that timber lorries, expected to be using a route over the bridge later this year, will further damage the old stone structure.

She said: 'The bridge has been hit on both sides and the parapet is well out of line. The timber is due to come out of Pennyghael forest when the pier is completed later this year and I don't know what that will do to the bridge.'

'If something happens to this bridge there is no detour, the traffic will be at a standstill. Lorries going across this old bridge full of timber are going to be far greater loads than it has ever taken in its life.'

Fiona is also concerned that the three bridges recently damaged in storms will need repaired and the resultant lack of funding will mean work needed on the Pennyghael Bridge will not be

carried out.

She added: 'There were plans to build a bypass bridge further down stream but that hasn't happened. I have contacted Argyll and Bute Council about the situation but they have not responded.'

A council spokesman said: 'Approximately one million tonnes of timber are likely to be extracted from Mull over the next 20 years.'

'Most of this will be shipped from two proposed jetty sites at Pennyross and Fishnish on the A849.'

'The Pennyghael Bridge, which is on the timber haul route to Pennyross, has been inspected and assessed and is not subject to weight restrictions.'

'A business case is being developed to take into consideration the wider vehicles and plant used by the forestry industry and this will be used to determine future action, if any, at this location.'

## UK's top engineering students come attend SAMS summer school

### Affect of renewable energy installations on marine species studied at Dunstaffnage

SIX of the UK's best engineering research students spent a fortnight at Dunstaffnage's Scottish Association for Marine Science this month for an ecology summer school.

The students, who are aiming to lead the development of offshore renewable energy technologies in the future, took the trip to learn more about the biology of the UK's marine environment.

The objective was to help them consider the possible impacts on

marine species from renewable energy installations.

SAMS module leader, Dr Ben Wilson, said: 'We particularly valued the chance to broaden the perspectives of engineering students who are ultimately destined for the heart of the marine renewables industry.'

'The education wasn't unidirectional either. In discussion they taught us a thing or two about the engineering constraints facing these embryonic technologies.'

## German injured in A83 Auchindrain road accident

A GERMAN man escaped with two broken bones after being hit by a car on the A83 near Auchindrain Museum.

The 35-year-old was crossing the trunk road at around 10.40am on Sunday when he was struck by the car.

The road was closed at 11.08am between Inveraray and Lochgilphead and the casualty was taken to Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead. He was subsequently flown to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley.

Police re-opened the north-bound carriageway at 1.06pm but by 3pm the road was fully re-opened. Any witnesses to the incident should contact Lochgilphead Police on 01546 702200.

## Group to study A830 deer accidents

A NEW group has been set up to examine ways to cut the risk of collisions between deer and vehicles on the A830 Fort William to Mallaig road.

The task force, involving Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), local estates, deer management groups, road chiefs, police and Highland councillors, will gather data over the next few months on seasonal deer movements and identify possible higher risk areas.

SNH and Transport Scotland and others on the steering group will use the findings to determine the best measures to help reduce the risk of deer on the road.

According to SNH, accidents involving deer along the route are not significantly higher than elsewhere in the Highlands, but some stretches 'are worth further investigation'.

SNH wildlife management officer Graeme Taylor said: 'The

proactive and collaborative approach taken here reflects the recently published code of practice for deer managers.'

'Local deer managers and Transport Scotland must now consider how they can reduce the risk to the public from deer vehicle collisions and improve deer welfare.'

'Our role at SNH is to help deer and land managers do this and I'd encourage managers to contact us if they need advice.'

## Inveraray woman brings Bereavement: The Musical to the Fringe

AN INVERARAY woman whose father died when she was just 17 has channelled her emotions into a critically acclaimed show, Bereavement: The Musical.

Mairin O'Hagen's father, Bernard, lived at Brenacholilie House, near Inveraray, and owned kiltmakers and outfitters, Redshank Scotland.

He died at the age of 47 in 2007, just before Mairin was due to be interviewed for her place at Cambridge University,

something that was particularly difficult for Mairin to take at the time.

However, five years later, Mairin got together with a composer friend she met at Cambridge University, Jeff Carpenter, who lost his mother at 15, to write the bitter-sweet musical based on their experiences of loss at an early age.

Bereavement: The Musical premiered in Cambridge to an overwhelming response, sell-out performances and standing

ovations. Such is the success it is now set for its Scottish debut at The Fringe next month.

Mairin, who wrote the show, said: 'The show aims to look at some of the less commonly discussed moments of the process of bereavement, acknowledging the deep underlying sorrow, but focusing on the more mundane, unexpected and sometimes comic responses and reaction we, and other people we interviewed, were surprised to discover accompanied the death

of a loved one.

'Jeff and I were astonished by the response. 'My father died just before my interview for Cambridge University, but it was he who had both encouraged me academically to apply, and sparked and encouraged my interest in theatre from when he started taking me to see theatrical productions at a young age.'

'Whilst the production could not be called a tribute to our parents, I was very moved on

the opening night to realise that my father would have been very pleased to see the ambitions we had discussed - for university and the pursuit of a theatre career - were coming together.'

For Mairin, the show's appearance at The Fringe is yet another homage to her father, who introduced her to the event.

Bereavement: The Musical will show at C venues, Edinburgh, from August 1-27 from 6.40pm.

## Mull Lines

A RACE night the likes of which Mull has never seen before will be held in Tobermory in August to raise funds for the Mull Rally.

The event, to be held in Macgachans, will also include canapés and arrival drinks and a raffle with unique prizes.

Sarah Fraser, organising committee member said: 'We're hoping it will be an entertaining night and something that has not been done before for the rally.'

'We are going to tailor the race night so it is more like racing rally cars than horses. It will be something different that Mull has not seen before.'

She added: 'We also have a really good raffle with prizes I have never seen in a raffle before - tickets to Manchester United home games, tours of the Ford Rally Team HQ and pairs of Susie Wolff signed racing boots.'

'We want the rally to continue to run and we need all the community support we can get.'

The Mull Rally race night will be in the upstairs bar of Macgachans on Saturday August 11 from 7pm until around 10.30pm.

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NEW JOBS advertised for Mull fish farms have attracted a tide of applicants for each position available.

The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) advertised three new jobs for its expanding operation on Mull and received 17 applications.

Twelve local people applied for the offered role of marine operative while the other five were from off the island, including two from England who were keen to make the Isle of Mull their home.

The jobs were created because existing staff were relocated and involve managing fish health, the responsibility for feed, stocking levels and some boat handling.

Stewart McLelland, chief executive officer of SSC said that the calibre of application was particularly high.

He said: 'For there to be five applicants for each job may be indicative of the current economy, but it also shows that we are creating jobs in the right place.'

'We are also delighted with the level of experience on offer and the range in ages applying. Salmon farming has been in existence for over 30 years on Mull and there are important skills in area that should not be lost to the local economy.'

The Scottish Salmon Company has applied for planning permission for two additional farm sites on Mull, these sites will create another eight jobs if the applications are successful.

Another three similar jobs at Loch Fyne attracted 15 applications.

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A DECISION to complete resurfacing works on the road between Salen and Tobermory on Thursday led to criticism of Argyll and Bute Council by those attending Mull Highland Games.

There was no prior warning of the work given to games organisers or those planning to attend the event.

One crowd member said: 'This is a bloody shambles, it is ridiculous. There is no joined up thinking here at all. They could have resurfaced any other day, why pick one of the busiest days of the year.'

A council spokesman said: 'The resurfacing work formed the last section of this year's surface dressing programme on Mull. The section just north of Aros Bridge was left incomplete as contractors had to withdraw their staff from the island in June due to material delivery issues.'

'The changeable weather in Argyll over the past few weeks has caused some issues and when the weather window arose at the end of this week, contractors seized upon it to avoid further delay.'

'It was not possible, unfortunately, to find a more convenient date to complete this work and we do of course regret any delays caused to the travelling public on this particularly important day of the year.'

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A BAND with a rather unusual style of making music will be visiting Iona at the end of July.

Liverpool-based musical ensemble Ex-Easter Island Head use instruments very different to the average band in that they play electric guitars like percussion instruments.

The group, who lay the guitars flat on stands before hitting them with mallets, will be performing Mallet Guitars Three in the island's library on Saturday, July 28.

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RNLI volunteer Tom Marsland and firefighter Dave Tattersfield on the Tobermory lifeboat with Tobermory Womble.

A MULL plumber started his mammoth 5000 mile trip to visit all 200 RNLI stations in Great Britain and Northern Island yesterday (Wednesday).

Tom Marsland, a volunteer crew member with Tobermory RNLI, has hit the road in his van alongside friend and firefighter Dave Tattersfield. The pair are raising money for the RNLI and the Fire Fighters' Charity and will take in the whole of the UK coastline, including Orkney, Shetland and Northern Ireland before returning to Tobermory in time for Lifeboat Day on August 19. While visiting London, Tom and Dave will be rowed up the River Thames by two South Wales firefighters who have previously rowed across the Atlantic.

The trip has been supported by various companies and individuals and as he made last minute preparations for the trip, Tom said: 'We've been overwhelmed by the support which we've received. Without this help our trip would not be possible. I'd like to thank everyone for their support which will help us raise money for the RNLI and Fire Fighters' Charity.' Dave added: 'We're both really excited about this trip although we know it won't be easy as we're travelling at the height of the school holidays and during the Olympic Games. The goal of raising money for two such worthy causes will keep us going.'

Donations can be made online at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/tomplumbstationrun>.

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

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**Police forensics team search in Fort William**

A POLICE forensics team carried out searches outside properties on Middle Street in Fort William on the early hours of Sunday morning. A Northern Constabulary spokesperson confirmed to *The Oban Times* the Crime Investigation Department was conducting the enquiry and said it was related to an ongoing matter.

**Skye 'school' for 'silver surfers'**



IT'S NEVER too late to learn: Effie Campbell dropped in to Glendale Village Hall in north-west Skye on Tuesday to learn more about internet technologies.

Dozens of local people attended the special event at the venue, which now has a wi-fi service.

Glendale Trust local development officer Elgar Finlay said Effie came in and 'asked for a go' of an i-Pad.

See full story, page 5.

**Fort's search for players continues**

FORT William FC manager Danny Conlon is desperate to add to a threadbare squad before his side kicks off the new season underway at home to Lossiemouth this Saturday.

Conlon lost a number of players from last season and currently has no goalkeeper, although ex-St Johnstone midfielder Gary Farquhar has joined.

Fort are due play against a Lochaber Welfare League side tonight (Thursday).

**NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING**



**New Gaelic school site sparks heated council debate**

Spending 'massive amounts of cash' at Blar Mhor is 'madness' claims councillor

LOCHABER councillors will be briefed on Monday on site development costs for Fort William's Gaelic medium primary school – as the debate on where the £4million facility should go intensifies.

As *The Oban Times* revealed in March, the council-owned former BMX track on Ardour Road in Caol is now a major rival to the preferred site at nearby Blar Mhor, where work is underway on a £50million retail, business and community facilities hub.

**Closed-doors meeting**  
At the closed-doors meeting in Lochaber House, Ron MacKenzie, Highland Council's head of support services, will give councillors costings for both sites.

The information will have a major bearing on which location officials will recommend for approval to the adult and children's services committee, which is due to make a decision on August 23.

A council spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'There are significant additional costs of peat extraction at Blar Mhor. I am sure this figure will be confirmed when the members are briefed on Monday.'

The council is due £500,000 community benefit cash from the Blar development – but whether that will cover peat clearance for the school is unclear.

Peat has been removed from



Councillor Bill Clark is against spending 'massive amounts of cash'

the Ardour Road site. Councillor Bill Clark said spending 'massive amounts of cash' at the Blar was 'madness'.

**'Against Gaelic'**  
He added: 'I just can't believe officials will put forward a recommendation that we will find money to clear a bog at a time when we are cutting services and staff are having to reapply for their own jobs.'

'They are getting a Gaelic school but do they want us to spend over £1million preparing the ground for it? We can't be seen to be throwing money about.'

'It would turn people against Gaelic.'

'I would want to see a recommendation for the Gaelic school to go on the former BMX track.'

'Why these councillors like Eddie [Hunter] and Allan [Hend-

erson] are digging their heels in wanting to spend large amounts of money in digging peat away is beyond me.'

'You are talking £736,000 for peat clearance. Putting in roads and services takes that figure up to £1.2million - and that's before you start.'

Councillor Eddie Hunter questioned those figures, claiming they were based on a survey from the A830 access part of the site, where peat is much deeper. He said: 'To base site preparation costs on a desktop study seems to be rather unusual.'

'The council has commissioned test bores at the site of the planned campus at Caol – what's to stop them going across to the planning gain area [the Gaelic school site on the Blar] and dropping boreholes into the peat, which everybody knows is a lot less than where Miller is clearing just now.'

'I remain to be convinced that the site is not viable until such time as test bores have been done and prices [for peat removal] obtained from several contractors.'

'The best place for the new Gaelic school and the 3G community facility would be on the Blar adjacent to Lochaber High School and other facilities.'

'It would be a terrible shame and lack of vision if a wonderful opportunity like this to create an educational and community hub was lost to Lochaber.'

**Success at West Ardnamurchan Show**



The Curtis family from Kilchoan scooped an armful of trophies at West Ardnamurchan Show and Sports on Friday after their Blackface sheep impressed the judges. Local crofter Rosie, pictured above with children Megan, Allan and Chloe, claimed the overall champion sheep title and several other cups. The event yet again struck it lucky with the weather as hundreds enjoyed a day out in Kilchoan. Show and sports chairman Gus MacLean said told *The Oban Times*: 'Once again the day allowed exiles to come home and catch up on news, families to mix and take part in the varied events, and visitors to enjoy West Highland hospitality in glorious surroundings.'

See our exclusive show report and photos on page 9. - 26\_1304106.

**New land reform group welcomed**

CAMPAIGNERS have hailed First Minister Alex Salmond's announcement in Skye that a new body has been set up to deliver big changes on land reform.

**Improvements**  
The Land Reform Review Group will assess existing legislation – seen as far too cumbersome for small community land buyouts – draw up improvements and report back to ministers by the end of next year.

Dr Alison Elliot, who has extensive experience working in the community and voluntary sector, will chair the group.

Professor James Hunter and Dr Sarah Skerratt, who have huge experience of Highlands and Islands rural development, have been named as vice chairs. A further 10 experts will be appointed to the group shortly.

Community Land Scotland, the body representing community landowners across the country, welcomed the appointment of 'three strong independent thinkers' to head the review.

*'The review can learn from the success of the land reform that has already taken place and help plan how to accelerate that.'*

**chairman David Cameron**

Chairman David Cameron said: 'It is also welcome that the terms of reference appear to be broad as this will allow scope for the group to examine radical action that will help advance the cause of securing further change in land ownership across Scotland.'

presenting evidence for further reforms to promote an ever greater role for communities in the ownership and management of their land and look forward to contributing actively to the work now getting underway.'

Mr Salmond revealed the shake up ahead of the summer cabinet meeting in the Aros Centre Portree on Tuesday.

The review, he said, should deliver radical change for rural and urban areas, improve current legislation and come up with even more innovative proposals.

He said: 'Land reform is an important part of Scotland's story. From the Crofting Acts of the 1880s and 1890s to the more recent right-to-buy legislation and support for community land purchase, significant progress has been made.'

'We cannot underestimate the crucial part land reform will play in contributing to the future success of Scotland for the next generation.'

'By improving the relationship between our land and people, we

can create stronger communities and deliver the economic growth and fairer society that the people of Scotland quite rightly expect.'

At the public question time following its meeting, the cabinet fielded questions from the packed audience in the 170-seat auditorium.

Hottest political issue was the government's imminent decision on whether to bring forward legislation on same sex marriage.

Questions from the floor were generally hostile, but a government spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'When ministers were mingling at the end there were people saying 'you are doing the right thing' - but they weren't standing up in the hall during the debate.'

During the session, Infrastructure Secretary Alex Neil's announced a feasibility study was under way into the resumption of air services to and from Ashaig Airfield near Broadford. Commercial flights from the airstrip ended in 1988.

**25 Years Ago** **Those Were The Days**  
*The Oban Times*  
Thursday, July 30, 1987

**Aonach Mor lobby meet Highlands minister today**

AN ATTEMPT will be made today to sway the Government's mind over their decision not to back the £7 million Aonach Mor ski project.

Representatives of Lochaber District Council, Highland Regional Council, the HIBD and MP Sir Russell Johnston – along with more private businessmen – will meet with Lord Sanderson, Minister for the Highlands to ask for a rethink.

They will also be pressing the government – who said the cost per job of the project was too high – to lay their cards on the table and outline under what circumstances they would give their blessing to the project.

A Scottish Office spokesman stressed that today's meeting did not mean that the Government's decision would be the subject of a rethink.

The spokesman said: 'The decision as far as the Scottish Office are concerned has been made.'

But he added that Lord Sanderson had agreed to meet local representatives to discuss any points they wanted to make.

'He is going along to listen to anything that the councils want to say on the matter,' he added.

Those in favour of the ski project are determined to get the Government on their side. Sir Russell Johnston is pressing for a go ahead.

He said: 'I have said to Lord Sanderson that I believe that it would be constructive if he could give a clearer indication of the proportion of private capital which the Government feels it would be necessary as a sign of private confidence and profitability.'



**Mull Highland Games -**

**MULL Games was blessed with one of the warmer days this past week and it brought the holiday and local crowds out in full force to fill the natural amphitheatre of the Tobermory Golf Course. The boys under 10s race was won by Martin Pottinger.**

**Housewife wins fitness title**

AT 40 years old, housewife Mrs Eva May certainly proved that she is a super-fit lady when she was voted 'keep fit personality of the week' whilst on holiday at Butlin's Ayr Holiday World recently.

Mrs May, of Keeper's Cottage, Skipness, by Tarbert, was on holiday at the Ayrshire coast centre with children Bertie, 10 and John, eight, when she decided to take part in a 'get trim with meat' session of keep fit exercises, sponsored by British meat.

Resident instructor Liz Carr had no hesitation in voting the attractive gamekeeper's wife the weekly winner.



**Kilchoan proves champion event for local man**

FOR THE first time in the history of Kilchoan annual show the same competitor took both the Championship and the reserve Championship title.

John Alex Cameron of Portuairk, Kilchoan, who has been competing for 15 years scored success after success in the sheep classes and was a worthy winner.

Sheep judge Mr Neil MacKechnie of Mull said that although there was a very good entry, John Alex was the clear cut winner. Show committee chairman Mr Gillespie MacMillan said: 'There were more sheep entries this year and it has all went very well indeed. It's been a very successful show.'

**Lawyers ban residents from Tralee Beach**

THE SAGA of Tralee Beach took another turn on Tuesday when several Benderloch residents received letters from a firm of Glasgow solicitors requesting them to refrain from entering the property.

The letter from McClure, Naismith, Anderson and Gardiner, St Vincent Street, Glasgow reads: 'Hugh MacColl, of the Executors of Mrs Marjorie v MacColl, Ardmucknish Bay Quarry (sometimes known as Tralee Beach).

'We have been requested by our above named clients who are the owners of the above property, to request you to refrain from entering that property at any time and also not to interfere with the legitimate quarrying operations being carried out there.'

Mr Robin Shaw, Rahoy lodge, Oban, chairman of the Tralee Bay Action Group (T-Bag) also received a letter requesting him to refrain from entering the property. Mr Shaw said: 'I intend to write to Mr MacColl's legal advisers thanking them for their letter and informing them that I do intend to walk on Tralee Beach on a certain day at a certain time.'

Argyll and Bute MP Mrs Ray Michie said on Wednesday that she very much regretted the whole situation but she was hopeful that she could help to try and solve the problem and reach an amicable settlement to suit both parties.

'I have already had a meeting with Lord Sanderson of Bowden, Minister of State at the Scottish Office on the subject,' Mrs Michie added.



**Oban Times plays host to Kilmore the hedgehog**

HERE'S the reason for all those performances in a tea bag. Kilmore the hedgehog who recently joined the staff of *The Oban Times* after being spotted ambling along the centre of the road near Soroba – in broad daylight – obviously the worse for lack of food and drink. He is now being weaned ready for return to the wild.





## Isle of Barra apprentice wins national award

A PLANT mechanics apprentice from Barra has been rewarded for his dedication to the trade after receiving a national industry award. Eighteen-year old Luke MacKinnon was awarded the NCC Scotland Awards 2012's Volvo Construction Equipment Second Year Plant Mechanics Apprenticeship Award at a prizegiving ceremony in Glasgow.

The annual awards are run and hosted by the National Construction College (NCC) Scotland, which is the training division of industry body CITB-ConstructionSkills. Luke, a second year apprentice with John MacLennan Contractors on Barra, won the prize from a shortlist of three finalists. His NCC instructors, Stewart

Lawrie and Andy Cowan, said: 'Luke is an enthusiastic and hard-working young man, who has the ability to work on his own and use his own initiative to solve problems, but to also adapt and contribute well within team activities. 'Luke has proven to be a diligent and attentive student when carrying out his course work either in

classroom or workshop. This has been reflected in his overall course results and his quality of workplace portfolio submitted.' Graeme Ogilvy, Director of CITB-ConstructionSkills, added: 'I'd like to congratulate Luke and all other winners and finalists for their outstanding dedication and achievement.'



**Beachd Ailein**  
Ailean Caimbeul

TUIGIDH DUINE SAM BITH carson a bhiodh seirbheisean dìon na Rìoghachd air am faicall a thaobh ionnsaighean ceannairc aig Geamaichean Oilimpigeach Bhreatainn a tha a' fosgladh ann an Lunnainn a-màireach. A dh'aindeoin gach inleachd is adhartas a thaig seirbheiseach thèarainteachd andiugh, chan eil dùthaich sam bith air chomas an dìon fhèin gu tur bho fheadhainn aig am bheil rùn cron a dhèanamh air sgàth adhbhair poilitigeach air choreigin. Tha sin a' cur tuilleadh uallaich air cruinneachadh sònraichte sam bith agus tha seo da-rìribh fìor a thaobh chruinneachaidhean eadar-nàiseanta leithid nan Geamaichean. Ciamar a tha seirbheisean dìon dol a chumail sùil is smachd air milleanan de shluagh ann am baile leithid Lunnainn agus aig an aon àm, a' fàgail làn-chothrom aca tlachd a ghabhail as an spòrs?

Mar phàirt den phlana dìon, cho-dhùin Ministreachd Dion Bhreatainn buidhe a' comharrachadh tilgeanan talamh-gu-adhar a stèidheachadh aig sia làraich air mullach cuid de na togalachan as àirde ann an Lunnainn agus nam measg sin, tha Tùr Fred Wigg ann an Leytonstone. A dh'aindeoin 's gur ann airson dìon an t-sluaigh a tha seo ga dhèanamh, chan eil e doirbh a thuigsinn carson a bha cuid glè dhraghail agus a' faighneachd carson nach deach cead neo aonta a shireadh, aig a' char as lugha, bhon fheadhainn a tha a' comharrachadh as an togalach. Bha cuid eile a' gabhail an eagail gum foadadh na tilgeanan sin a bhith a' tarraing aire agus ionnsaighean bho cheannairc. Ach an uair a chaidh an dùbhlán a thoirt chun an Ard-Chùirt ann an Lunnainn, chualas bhon eòlaiche-lagha a nochd às leth Rùnaire an Dion nach robh coir coluadar sam bith aig luchd-comharrachadh Tùr Fred Wigg ann an suidheachadh co-cheangailte ri dìon na Rìoghachd. Cha mhòtha na sin a tha coir aca air taic gluasad gu àite eile rè ùine agus tha làn-chumhachd-stiùiridh chùisean aig Rùnaire an Dion. Agus sin a dh'aindeoin 's nach eil an Rìoghachd an sàs ann an cogadh!

Tha na seirbheisean dìon ag ràdh nach eil maoidheadh air an togalach seo a ghabhas creidsinn agus ma tha sin fìor, carson nach do dh'innis iad sin roimhe? Saoilidh mi gur e dìth conaltradh ceart, gun tuigse gach taobh a shoillearachadh, bun na cùise an seo. Gun tagamh, tha uallach dìon na Rìoghachd air Ministreachd an Dion ach feumaidh am Ministear agus a chuid sheirbheiseach cuimhneachadh gum bheil iadsan nan dreuchdan agus mòr-shluagh na dùthaich a fhriththeadh agus tha modh aithris is eisteachd mar phàirt den t-seirbheis sin!

IT IS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE that rigorous security measures are in place for the Olympic Games in London, including surface to air missiles if experts agree.

However, it seems absurd that residents in a Leytonstone tower block were not properly informed and reassured about siting missiles on the roof of their building. The MOD has responsibility to defend the realm but that should surely include proper communication with the people it seeks to serve.

Ailean Caimbeul (Allan Campbell)

## Memorial planned for Skye's Glendale Bard

FOR A THIRD year Skye's Glendale Trust invited members of the area's diaspora to "come home to Glendale" and many did come for the homecoming weekend between 19 and 22nd July, and clearly enjoyed celebrating the history, culture, and the stunning scenery and environment of this part of west Skye.

Appropriately the historical exhibition central to the Trust's activity provides information on the land struggle which brought Glendale national prominence in the late nineteenth century, and for the homecoming programme this was supplemented by a fascinating selection of material from Highland Council's archive centre in Portree.



Professor Norman Macdonald spoke on the life and work of internationally acclaimed Glendale bard Neil MacLeod, son of Domhnall nan Oran (Donald of the Songs)



Above: A fishing competition proved popular, as did (below) the annual football match Glendale v Rest of the World.



## Campbells of Greepe correction

THE OBAN Times would like to clarify that the Campbells of Greepe are not performing at Dunvegan in this year's Blas Festival, as reported last week in our *Down Your Way, Dunvegan and Dairnish* column. The renowned singing family performed at Dunvegan for the 2011 Blas. We apologise for the error.

# Brave Louise to host charity concert

AN OBAN girl who has endured years of hospital treatment for the side effects of a debilitating genetic condition is hosting a concert next month in aid of children's cancer charities. Louise MacDonald is organising Rocking it Out With a Smile, a gig to help raise funds for the Schiehallion Ward and Teenage Cancer Trust, both based at Yorkhill Children's Hospital in Glasgow, and Les Hoey, a granddad from Wishaw who tirelessly works to make wishes come true for children battling serious illness.

by hosting the special concert at the Corran Halls on August 25. Four bands will provide the entertainment on the day, headlined by Glasgow group Siphon. They will be joined by Inverness group Red Ronson and Oban bands Lush Puppies and The Switch. There will also be a prize raffle and Louise hopes to raise as much cash as possible for the charities. She said: 'I thought a concert would be a great, fun way to say thank you and I think it's always best to do that with a big smile. 'Hopefully people in Oban will join me in saying thanks and at the same time help the charities, which I know do great things.'



Glasgow group Siphon to headline at Corran Halls

All three have had a major impact on Louise's life and countless other children. Now the 14 year old Oban High School pupil hopes to repay their generosity. Marliese said: 'The concert hasn't been held yet, but we've had so much support already. In particular, we'd like to say a big thanks to Digital Kangaroo, Scott's Sandwiches, Cuan Mor, Sloans, and Oban Bay Brewery for their help and help. They've been brilliant. Tickets for the concert are on sale now from the Corran Halls, Sloans and Cuan Mor, priced £10. Prizes for the raffle are still being sought. If you have something you wish to put towards the prize pool, drop in to The Oban Times or contact Steven on 01631 568021.

## Inveraray Highland Games

**Piping Results:**  
**Junior**  
Argyll and Bute:  
MARCH: Age 15 and under 18 years: 1. Steven McNair, Strachur; 2. Daniel McDermott, Rothesay; 3. Christopher Coates, Lochgilphead.  
STRATHSPEY & REEL: Age 15 and under 18 years: 1. Steven McNair, Strachur; 2. Christopher Coates, Lochgilphead; 3. Daniel McDermott, Rothesay.  
MARCH: Under 15 years of age: 1. Donnie McKerral, Campbeltown; 2. Jamie Baxter, Lochgilphead; 3. Michael McKinlay, Campbeltown.  
STRATHSPEY & REEL: Under 15 years of age: 1. Jamie Baxter, Lochgilphead; 2. Michael McKinlay, Campbeltown; 3. Donnie McKerral, Campbeltown.  
CHANTER: 1. Lucy McNiven, Islay; 2. Annika Kieppie, Loch Awe, Event 6.  
NOVICE PIPING:  
1. Jamie McKerral, Campbeltown; 2. Rachel MacKinnon, Islay.  
**Junior Open:**  
MARCH: Under 18 years: 1. Christopher Gray, Lockerbie; 2. Sandy Cameron, Roy Bridge; 3. Steven McNair, Strachur; 4. Ross Miller, Linlithgow.  
STRATHSPEY & REEL: Under 18 years: 1. Sandy Cameron, Roy Bridge; 2. Daniel McDermott, Rothesay; 3. Christopher Gray, Lockerbie.  
PIOBAIREACHD: Under 18 years: 1. Sandy Cameron, Roy Bridge; 2. Daniel McDermott, Rothesay; 3. Christopher Gray, Lockerbie.  
**Senior Piping A Grade Open:**  
PIOBAIREACHD, 18 years and over: 1. Roddy MacLeod, Glasgow; 2. Angus D McColl, Oban; 3. Faye Henderson, Kirriemuir.  
MARCH: 18 years and over: 1. Roddy MacLeod, Glasgow; 2. Donald MacPhee, 3. William



Isla MacCalman from Islay was awarded The Achaleven Shield for her performance in the premier, 12 years and under competition confined to Argyll and Bute. 06\_a29inv15.

Geddes, Glasgow  
STRATHSPEY & REEL: 18 years and over: 1. Roddy MacLeod, Glasgow; 2. Angus D McColl, Oban; 3. Andrew Carlisle, Co. Down  
PIOBAIREACHD, 18 years and over: 1. Jamie Forrester, London; 2. David Shedden; 3. Graham Drummond, Bathgate  
MARCH: 18 years and over: 1. Graham Drummond, Bathgate; 2. Andrew Roach, Bridge of Allan; 3. Gordon Rowan, Edinburgh  
STRATHSPEY & REEL: 18 years and over: 1. Craig Sutherland, Crieff; 2. George Stewart, Perth; 3. Sarah Muir, Campbeltown  
**Senior Piping C Grade Open:**  
PIOBAIREACHD, 18 years and over: 1. Ashley McMichael, Antrim; 2. Connor Sinclair, Crieff; 3. James Gore, Bingley;  
MARCH: 18 years and over: 1. Connor Sinclair, Crieff; 2. Callum Moffat, Lockerbie; 3. Andrew MacPhee, Kinross  
STRATHSPEY & REEL: 18 years and over: 1. Steven Gray,



Giants of the deep, basking sharks are regular visitors to Hebridean waters. Picture Colin Speedie and Swiss Shark Foundation

## Mull road clear-up begins

DEBRIS covering a road on Mull after flash flooding is gradually being cleared with dates being set for repairs or reconstruction for the three downed bridges. The landslide, on the B8035 south of Salen, happened on July 5 leaving a group of 13 people, including a child stranded. But Argyll and Bute Council this week confirmed one bridge at Abhainn Na H-Uamha, known as number 60, will be open this week for local traffic. There is still access to Ben More from Salen and limited roadside parking. Bridge number 80 at An Gearna is to be demolished and rebuilt. It is expected to be open and available for use from Wednesday, August 15 with a temporary surface and a 10mph speed limit. A bypass around bridge 100 at Abhuinn Dhiseig will also be open to traffic from August 15 with a temporary surface and a 10 mile per hour speed limit. The bridge is to be demolished and a new bridge and road surface will be built and finished by the middle of October. There will also be culverts replaced at Gribun rocks where the road was blocked by debris.

# Inveraray Highland Games draw increased spectator numbers

LAST WEEK'S Inveraray Highland Games proved it can still attract an audience despite gloomy economic forecasts when visitor numbers were notably up at the Winterton Park. **World championship** Thousands of people from across the globe turned out to see the world's strongest men compete across a range of

heavyweight sports including the renowned World Caber Championship which, this year, was won by Sebastian Wenta, whose brother Lucas claimed the prestigious title last year. Among the throng of spectators at the 2012 event was actress Caroline Quentin who is currently making a documentary on Britain's national parks. Lockberrie; 2. Connor Sinclair, Crieff; 3. Callum Moffat, Lockerbie  
**Highland Dancing Results:**  
Pre-Premier: Beginners: eight years and under, Inveraray Highland Games Shield: Kristie Scott, Dumbarton; Beginners: nine years and over, Robert MacArthur Shield: Lucy MacLean, Texas; Novice: nine years and under, Helen K Buntain Memorial Shield: Sophie McGarva, Greenock; Novice - 10 yrs and over, Myra Miller Shield: Iona McKinlay, Campbeltown; Intermediate: nine years and under, Catherine Stewart Shield: Lisa McGillivray, Dunoon; Intermediate: 10 years and over, Providence Capitol Shield: Emily McLean, Campbeltown; Premier: 12 years and under (confined to Argyll and Bute): Inveraray Games Shield: Libby McLean, Dunoon; Annie Melroy School of Dance Shield: Katir Lambert, Dunoon; The Achaleven Shield: Isla MacCalman, Islay; Age 13 years and under 16 years (confined to Argyll and Bute): James McCorkindale Quaich: Courtney Cowden, Dunoon; Christina Cairns School of Dance Shield: Jenna MacInnes, Oban; Ella Edgar MBE Shield: Kirsten Alexander-McGarry, Dunoon  
16 years and over (confined to Argyll and Bute): Betty Beaton Memorial Trophy: Kirsty Barrett, Rothesay; Spiers School of Dance Trophy: Stephanie Stinson, Dunoon; Sinclair School of Dance Shield: Fiona Forbes, Dunoon; Nine years and under, The Beaton Trophy: Tia Corrigan, Paisley; 10 years and under 12 years' Ex-Provost WD Semple Cup: Olivia Bremner, West Kilbride; 12 years and under 14 years, Archie Beaton Memorial Quaich: Rebecca Sproat, Bonhill; 14 years and under 16 years, Iona Duchess of Argyll Shield: Abbie MacNeil, Glasgow; 16 years and under 18 years, Morton Atkinson Shield: Candice Walker, Leslie; 18 years and over, Argyllshire Standard Trophy: Maureen Dillon-Bray, Rosyth; Best male dancer, Convener's Trophy: Steven Horner, Kirkcaldy; Best over seas dancer, Visit Scotland Quaich: Lucy McLean, USA.



Oban's Jenna MacInnes won the Christina Cairns School of Dance Shield at the Inveraray Highland Games last week. 06\_a29inv04

# Hebridean shark project underway

Satellite tracking tags fitted to basking sharks near islands of Canna, Coll and Tiree

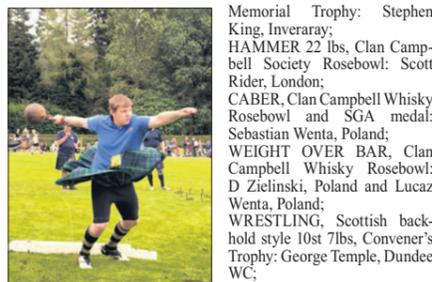
A PROJECT which scientists hope will reveal the secret life of large sharks visiting Hebridean waters got underway last week. Marine biologists from Scottish Natural Heritage and the University of Exeter will attach satellite tracking tags to 20 basking sharks as they feed on the surface. The tags will help scientists understand if the sharks travel to deeper water around Scotland and further afield over the winter. People will be able to follow the sharks' movements and behaviour on the SNH website almost minute by minute. The tagging work will take place in waters around Hyskeir - a tiny island off Canna - Coll, and Tiree, where large numbers of sharks are frequently sighted during the summer months. The tags will be attached using titanium darts and darting poles and will provide information for several months before falling off. SNH tagging project manager, Dr Suz Henderson said: 'We're really lucky to have the world's

# Inveraray Highland Games draw increased spectator numbers

second largest fish visit our waters every summer but we know very little about their movements throughout the rest of the year. 'We want to know how the sharks use the waters between Skye and Mull and how long they remain in the area. We'd also like to find out how important this area is in the life cycle of the sharks, and if some areas are used more than others. The results from this project will help to answer these questions. 'In addition an area between Skye and Mull has recently been identified as a place where it might be appropriate to develop a marine protected area (MPA) to protect basking sharks. The tagging work will help determine if an MPA is an appropriate way to safeguard these magnificent animals.' Dr Matthew Witt of the University of Exeter said: 'This project will use some of newest animal tracking technology available for marine species that allows us to know where the sharks are with near GPS accuracy.'



Gary Tuner from Campbeltown takes the lead on the running track ahead of Craig Robertson (right) and David McAllister. 06\_a29inv08



Lorne Colthart was named the best local heavy-weight athlete. 06\_a29inv24

**Track and Field Results:**  
HAMMER, Seton Challenge Cup: Stephen King, Inveraray; ATHLETICS, Duke of Argyll Challenge Cup: David Clunie, Oban; Best athlete aged 20 and under in the local field and track events, Josie McMillan Quaich: Ian McDowall, Mull; Best open cyclist, John Gardiner Memorial Trophy: Craig Hardie, Dalgety Bay.  
**Heavy Competition Results:**  
HAMMER 16lb, Archie Miller

Memorial Trophy: Stephen King, Inveraray; HAMMER 22 lbs, Clan Campbell Society Rosebowl: Scott Rider, London; CABER, Clan Campbell Whisky Rosebowl and SGA medal: Sebastian Wenta, Poland; WEIGHT OVER BAR, Clan Campbell Whisky Rosebowl: D Zielinski, Poland and Lucaz Wenta, Poland; WRESTLING, Scottish back-hold style 10st 7lbs, Convener's Trophy: George Temple, Dundee WC; WRESTLING, Scottish back-hold style 11st 7lbs: George Temple, Dundee WC; WRESTLING, Scottish back-hold style 13st 7lbs, Inveraray Highland Games Trophy: Frazer Hirsch: Carnoustie WC; Best aggregate, Clan Campbell Scotch Whisky Heavyweight Championship Trophy: Lucaz Wenta, Poland; **Overall Trophy Winners:** Best local heavy: Lorne Colthart, Oban and Neil Elliott, Helensburgh; Best local athlete: David Clunie, Oban; Best open athlete: Matthew Turner, Campbeltown; Best open cyclist: Craig Hardie, Dalgety Bay.

**LISMORE**

LISMORE Lumiere have an interesting programme of films lined up for the rest of the year starting on 21 July with 'How to Train your Dragon' for the children at 11.30am, 'Warhorse' at 2pm and 'The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel' at 8pm.

Future dates are 1 September, 2 November and 29 December.

There is no admission charge but donations on the night are encouraged as this will help them to continue to offer films on Lismore.

THE ANNUAL exhibition of the work of Lismore's artists and photographers will be on at the hall from the 4 to 11 August.

This is always an impressive event and a great opportunity to buy local art works.

ALTHOUGH a very small number turned up to hear two acclaimed folk musicians, Alan Reid and Rob van Sante, perform in Lismore hall those that did were full of praise.

Lismore's date was part of a tour of some of Scotland's remoter locations which they are finishing at the Edinburgh Fringe.

ON FRIDAY 3 August a sponsored walk raising money for Cancer Research is setting off from the café and going round Sailean and back and easy walk of approximately six miles.

Organiser Beth Campbell is to provide snack bags for a rest at Sailean Bay and refreshments with some nibbles will be served in the café on the return.

All are welcome; please wear something pink.

Transport to and from Point will be available from the 5pm ferry and returning to the 9.30pm ferry.

Sponsor forms are available at the café.

THE ISLE of Lismore Café is offering some interesting menus to tie in with the busy summer events starting with a curry dinner before the film night on 21 July.

Then, following the rigours of the sports and raft race on the 28 July, Beth will be serving fish and chips before the big dance in the evening and on August 10th there will also be fish and chips (eat in only) after the Lismore Youth Theatre with the Walking Theatre Company's performance of the 'Alexander's Island'.

On Sunday 12th August afternoon cream and strawberry teas will be served from 3.30pm and on 18th a Mexican dinner night, menus for which can be seen on www.isleoflismorecafe.com.

COMANN Eachdraidh Lios Mor is organising a visit to the new 1745 House Museum and Archive at Dunollie.

This will include a tour of the new museum and archive, and refreshments.

All those interested in attending should let Bob Hay know, as the party will be limited to 25 at most.

A FAMILY Fun Ceilidh at Lismore Primary School on the



Above and right: 24 light aircraft were on show at crowds flocked to this year's Islay Air Show

11 August promises to offer not only lots of entertainment but also a two-course buffet style meal.

Tickets must be bought in advance from any member of the Parent Council.

ISLANDERS are reminded of the importance of returning a recently circulated questionnaire giving their views about what should happen during an emergency event such as the prolonged power cuts of December 2011 when some homes were without power for five days.

As living on an island means particular vulnerability in severe weather when ferries may be out for days and medical and other emergencies can arise, the community council is keen that as many as possible return the questionnaire either to the shop or as an electronic message to Mandie Currie.

A brief community meeting will be held on 30 July to discuss the issues raised ahead of the meeting some time in August with the Scottish Hydro and other key service providers when it is hoped a coherent plan can be put in place for any further emergencies.

**ISLAY**

A SPECTACULAR air display marked the climax to this year's Islay Airshow.

A total of 24 light aircraft were on show, including two Tiger Moths, a Pit Special, Glacier, Jungman and a Bulldog.

A parachute display team helped to entertain the crowds, who also browsed the various stalls around the airport.

The occasion was also an opportunity to see some of the

cars, lorries and tractors run by Islay Vintage Car Club. Funds raised at the event will be donated to the Museum of Islay Life.

FOUR members of Islay's Ella Edgar Dance School have travelled to Switzerland to take part in the Annual Basel International Tattoo.

Katie McNiven, Stacy Baker, Mairi McGilivray and Ashley Harrison, will dance as part of a team of 32 Highland dancers known as The Ailsa Craig Dancers, who are representing Scotland this year.

Each year a different country is asked to send Highland dancers to this event, and this year it was Scotland's turn.

The Basel International Tattoo dance director for this year is Aileen Robertson from Ayr, who has been putting the dancers through their paces during one week's rehearsals on site, before the dancers perform in 15 shows during the following week.

To be invited to perform at such a prestigious event is a tremendous honour for the dancers. The standard of dancing is very high, and extreme discipline and concentration is needed.

BBC ALBA will be screening Ullaidhean - Museum of Islay Life, continuing the series where Derek MacKay and Kirsty MacDonald have been exploring Scotland's museums.

In the next programme, they will discover and discuss many unique treasures displayed in Islay's museum.

The programme will be shown from 8.30pm - 9pm on August 1.

TRANSPORT Minister Keith



Brown has announced the Air Discount Scheme (ADS), giving discounts for air travel to residents in the Highlands and Islands, will be extended to voluntary and charitable organisations, including churches.

As there are many organisations in Islay which provide support to the more vulnerable in society, it has been a positive step to recognise their contribution and allow those who help others to benefit from reduced

**INVERGARRY**

RESIDENTS in Invergarry will have the chance to quiz Scottish and Southern Energy Renewables officials about a proposed £800million Loch Lochy hydro scheme at a public meeting in the village on Monday night.

The company wants to create Scotland's biggest hydro-electric plant on the loch, and earlier this year unveiled plans for a 300ft high dam at Coire Glas and the creation of a new reservoir. Representatives from SSER

will hold a drop-in session for people to find out more information about the plans.

This will be followed by a public meeting, organised by Glengarry Community Council, where the officials will give a short presentation and answer questions from the audience.

The drop-in session starts at 5.30pm in Glengarry Community Hall, with the public meeting getting underway at 7.30pm.

**ARDNAMURCHAN**

ARDNAMURCHAN Light-house will host the second of four Institute of Physics workshops on Thursday August 9 from 6pm.

Adults and children over 10 are welcome to attend the event which is organised by the science charity, with the topic of 'Light and Optics'.

Places are limited, anyone interested in attending should visit the Kilchoan Learning Centre website.

**SOUTH UIST**

A SOUTH Uist wildlife artist is giving back to the environment which inspires his work - by powering his studio with solar panels.

Bill Neill, who runs the Studio Gallery at Askernish, wanted to cut his carbon footprint and cut his electricity bills. Mr Neill and wife Norma, who have lived on South Uist for 30 years, installed 16 photovoltaic panels on ground next the gallery last December and are reaping the benefits.

Mr Neill said: 'We've been very pleased with the results so far. On a sunny day it generates energy before we even get up. Of course it doesn't need to be hot to generate electricity, even on clear cool days it will be working away.'

Local surveyor Willie Macdonald of Absolute Solar and Wind said: 'The system will generate income and save on electricity costs - now that really is a pretty picture.'

**SPEAN BRIDGE**

LOCHABER sea cadets will emulate commandoes from World War II when they attempt a sponsored walk from Spean Bridge to Achnacarry next month.

Cadets from TS St Christopher will attempt the route which was part of training for soldiers based at the Achnacarry base. Commandoes were made to complete the march in under an hour while carrying a 36lb weight.

The sponsored walk on Sunday August 12, however, will be slightly less taxing. People

**GLENCOE**

THE CAN-AM Pipes and Drums are to perform in Glencoe on Saturday as part of their Jubilee Tour of Scotland 2012.

Some 40 pipers and 20 drummers drawn from pipe bands across the USA and Canada will play in the village shortly after 1pm. The party - 93 people in total - is expected to arrive in Glencoe in three coaches from Edinburgh around 11am.

The group will have lunch in the Glencoe Hotel at 12pm before the public performance.

Glencoe Heritage Trust will hold a small photographic exhibition of local history in its offices to mark the occasion.

The band will also perform in Fort William on Saturday evening.

**SUNART**

PLANTLIFE Scotland is holding a woodland walk at Arrundel National Nature Reserve near Strontian next Wednesday from 1.30pm to 4pm.

Arrundel National Nature Reserve part of Sunart Oakwoods, a nationally important remnant of an ancient coastal oakwood that once spread along Europe's Atlantic edge.

To find out more or to book a place, telephone 01786 or email scotland@plantlife.org.uk.

SUNART Community Company (SCC) directors are meeting in Strontian tonight (Thursday) to discuss progress on a proposed mini-hydro scheme near the village.

SCC, which has been working on the proposal for 12 months, wants to install the 100kw development on the Allt nan Cailleach - the Old Woman's Burn in English.

Much of the infrastructure, including an old Scottish Water dam, is already in place.

The project is not likely to come to fruition for several years because the existing electricity grid network has insufficient capacity to handle any surplus power generated.

However the proposed mini-hydro scheme, if completed, has the potential to deliver substantial revenue for the local community.

**TAYNUILT**

**Taynuilt Highland Games Results**

Open Heavy:

Light Hammer: 1 S King, 2 S Rider, 3 B Robb; Shot: 1 S Rider, New Field Record: 54'7, 2 B Robb, 3 N Elliott;

28lb Weight For Distance: 1 S Rider, New Field Record: 81'11, 2 N Elliott, 3 B Robb;

Caber: 1 S Rider, 2 N Elliott, 3 B Robb; Nant Stone: 1 S Rider, New Field Record: 38'4, 2 B Robb, 3 S King;

Heavy Hammer: 1 S Rider, 2 B Robb, 3 S King; 56lb Weight Over Bar: 1 = S Rider & B Robb, 3 Neil Elliott;

Overall Heavy Champion: S Rider; Games Cup For Open Heavy Events: S Rider;

Biglie Cup For Open Caber Tossing: S.Rider.

Local Heavy:

Light Hammer: 1 A Servant, 2 N Charlton, 3 C Leitch;

16lb Shot: 1 D MacLachlan, 2 A Servant, 3 C Leitch;

28lb Weight For Distance: 1 A Servant, 2 N Charlton, 3 D MacLachlan;

Caber: 1 A Servant, 2 D MacLachlan, 3 C Leitch;

Overall Local Champion: A Servant;

Goodale Rose Bowl For Best Local Heavy: A Servant.

Track Events

Gents Open: Gents 100yds: 1 D MacLachlan, 2 S Tominson, 3 S Twort;

Gents 220yds: 1 S Tominson, 2 I McDowall, 3 S Twort;

1/4 Mile: 1 D MacLachlan, 2 J Killoran, 3 I McDowall;

1/2 Mile: 1 M Knapp, 2 J Killoran, 3 I McDowall;

1 Mile Gents & Ladies: 1 T Smith, 2 L McEachen, 3 M Lustig;

Gents Local: Gents 100yds: 1 S Mobery, 2 C MacNeil, 3 H Mobery;

Gents 220yds: 1 S Mobery, 2 C MacNeil, 3 H Mobery; 1/4 Mile: 1 S Mobery, 2 C MacNeil, 3 C Marshall;

1/2 Mile: 1 S Mobery, 2 B MacFarlane, 3 A Neil;

Mile: 1 S Mobery, 2 D Teape, 3 C Laurie;

Track Events Ladies Open: Ladies 100yds: 1 A Evans, 2 Taygan Henry, 3 D Skrivanova;

220yds: 1 A Evans, 2 Taygan Henry, 3 Tia Henry;

1/4 Mile: 1 Taygan Henry, 2 Tia Henry, 3 D Skrivanova;

1/2 Mile: 1 Taygan Henry, 2 Jo McGuire, 3 = E.Marshall and A.Li.

Cups: Inverawe Cup For Open Athletics: Taygan Henry;

Duncan MacDonald Memorial Cup For Gents 100yds: D.MacLachlan;



Henry sisters Tia, aged 11, and Taygan, 13, of Livingston and District AAC were successful in the sprint events at Taynuilt Highland Games. The girls, from Broxburn, were on holiday in Oban to visit grandmother Sandra Owens.

Ingils Memorial Cup For Best Local Athlete: S.Mobery; John Garvie Cup Best Local Junior Athlete: S.Mobery.

Piping: Open: March: 1 D Urquart, 2 A MacColl Snr, 3 J Forrester;

Strathspey & Reel: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 A Boyd, 3 D Urquhart;

Piobaireachd: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 J Forrester, 3 D Macleod;

Jig: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 A Boyd, 3 D Urquart;

Local: March: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 A MacColl Jnr, 3 R Edwards;

Strathspey & Reel: 1 A MacColl Snr, 2 A MacColl Jnr, 3 R Edwards;

Junior: Open: March: 1 S.McNair, 2 A Hossain, 3 K Campbell;

Strathspey & Reel: 1 A Hossain, 2 K Campbell, 3 S McNair;

Local: March: 1 S.McNair, 2 A Hossain, 3 J Campbell;

Strathspey & Reel: 1 A Hossain, 2 K Campbell, 3 S McNair;

Best Open Piper: A MacColl Snr; Best Local Overall: A MacColl Snr;

Best Overall Open Junior: A Hossain;

Best Overall Local Junior: A Hossain.

Piping Cups: Angiolini Cup Best Overall Piping Competitor: A.MacColl Snr.

Games Shield For Open Piping: Stathspey & Reel: A MacColl Snr;

Games Shield Open Piping: March: D Urquart;

Games Shield For Best Local Piper: Strathspey & Reel: A.MacColl;

Games Cup For Best Local Piper: March: A.MacColl; Brander Lodge Hotel Trophy: Piobaireachd: A.MacColl;

Arदानaiseig Hotel Trophy: Best Local Junior Piper: A.Hossain;

Lodge St Modan Trophy: Best Overall Junior Piping Competitor: A Hossain.



**BALLACHULISH**

BALLACHULISH Volleyball Club under 12s recently took a trip to Glasgow to see the UK ladies Olympic team in action up close.

The Olympic team were taking part in a warm up game in

**BALLACHULISH**

the Kelvin Hall before heading to London, and some of the players posed for a picture with the Lochaber youngsters after the match.

Team coach Marie MacDonald said: 'A great day was had by all and special thanks to the team who gave their time to have their photo taken with the children. Good luck to them in London.'

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**BANK OF SCOTLAND**  
With you all the way

Pipe Major Angus MacColl, who won the open individual piping championship at Taynuilt games, leads Oban High School Pipe Band in a march around the field.

**Taynuilt Highland Games - Dancing**

**Primary:** 16 Pas De Basque: 1 Sophie MacPherson, 2 Eva Grace Kell, 3 Eva MacColl; Pas De Basque High Cuts: 1 Sophie MacPherson, 2 Eva Grace Kell, 3 Eva MacColl; Fling: 1 Eva Grace Kell, 2 Sophie MacPherson, 3 Eva MacColl; Swords: 1 Eva Grace Kell, 2 Sophie MacPherson, 3 Eva MacColl; **Beginners 9yrs & under:** Fling: 1 Caren Jane Morrison, 2 Bryana McColl, 3 Mairi MacCorquodale; Swords: 1 Caren Jane Morrison, 2 Isla Taylor, 3 Bryana McColl; Sean Truibhas: 1 Caren Jane Morrison, 2 Bryana McColl, 3 Lili Webster; Hullahach: 1 Isla Taylor, 2 Caren Jane Morrison, 3 Lili Webster; Flora: 1 Bryana McColl, 2 Caren Jane Morrison; Lilt: 1 Bryana McColl, 2 Caren Jane Morrison, 3 Mairi MacCorquodale; **Beginners 9yrs & over:** Fling: 1 Ailie Munro, 2 Emma Brown, 3 Kathryn Henderson; Swords: 1 Kathryn Henderson, 2 Hannah Brown, 3 Emma Brown; Sean Truibhas: 1 Emma Brown, 2 Zoe Brown, 3 Ailie Munro; Hullahach: 1 Kathryn Henderson, 2 Emma Brown, 3 Zoe Brown; Flora: 1 Ailie Munro, 2 Zoe Brown, 3 Emma Brown; Lilt: 1 Zoe Brown, 2 Ailie Munro, 3 Kathryn Henderson. **Novice:** Fling: 1 Pdraig Cowan, 2 Lisa McKellar, 3 Alanis Mia Morrison; Swords: 1 Lisa McKellar, 2 Ashleigh Taylor, 3 Alanis Mia Morrison; Sean Truibhas: 1 Pdraig Cowan, 2 Alanis Mia Morrison, 3 Lisa McKellar; Hullahach: 1 Pdraig Cowan, 2 Alanis Mia Morrison, 3 Ashleigh Taylor; Flora: 1 Alanis Mia Morrison, 2 Pdraig Cowan, 3 Lisa McKellar; Lilt: 1 Lisa McKellar, 2 Ashleigh Taylor, 3 Lisa Bradshaw. **Intermediate:** Fling: 1 Emily McLean, 2 Lisa McGilivray, 3 Megan Collins; Swords: 1 Lisa McGilivray, 2 Megan Collins, 3 Emily McLean; Sean Truibhas: 1 Lisa McGilivray, 2 Emily McLean, 3 Megan Collins; Hullahach: 1 Lisa McGilivray, 2 Megan Collins, 3 Emily McLean; Jig: 1 Lisa McGilivray, 2 Megan Collins, 3 Emily McLean; Hornpipe: 1 Lisa McGilivray, 2 Megan Collins. **Premier 12yrs & under:** Fling: 1 Kira Ewing, 2 Amy Lang, 3 Katie Lambert; Swords: 1 Kira Ewing, 2 Libby MacLean, 3 Leigh Buidi; Sean Truibhas: 1 Kira Ewing, 2 Katie Lambert, 3 Kira Ewing; Hullahach: 1 Leigh Buidi, 2 Katie MacPherson, 3 Libby MacLean; Jig: 1 Leigh Buidi, 2 Fiona Jane Armstrong, 3 Kira Ewing; Hornpipe: 1 Kira Ewing, 2 Fiona Jane Armstrong, 3 Katie MacPherson; Premier 15 years and over: Fling: 1 Courtney Cowden, 2 Iona MacKay, 3 Jenna MacInnes; Swords: 1 Chelsea Higgins, 2 Courtney Cowden, 3 Kirsty McGilivray; Sean Truibhas: 1 Iona MacKay, 2 Courtney Cowden, 3 Jenna MacInnes; Hullahach: 1 Iona MacKay, 2 Chelsea Higgins, 3 Courtney Cowden; Jig: 1 Iona MacKay, 2 Jenna MacInnes, 3 Abbie MacKenzie; Hornpipe: 1 Iona MacKay, 2 Courtney Cowden, 3 Becky Dott; Premier 16 years & over: Fling: 1 Kirsty Strang, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Fiona Forbes; Swords: 1 Kirsty Strang, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Iona Cairns; Hullahach: 1 Kirsty Strang, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Fiona Forbes; Jig: 1 Kirsty Strang, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Iona Cairns; Hornpipe: 1 Kirsty Barrett, 2 Kirsty Strang, 3 Fiona Forbes. **Trophy winners:** Taynuilt Games Challenge Trophy: Caren Jane Morrison; Dhurinish Challenge Cup: Emma Brown; Taynuilt Games Shield: Pdraig Cowan; The Taynuilt Hotel Quaiich: Lisa McGilivray; Dugald MacCallum Memorial Trophy: Kira Ewing; Piper Alex Martin Shield: Iona MacKay; Anne Mellroy Dancing School - Joint Winners: Kirsty Strang and Kirsty Barrett.



Janet MacColl, Lois Livett and Dale Meegan, volunteers at the West Ardnarmurchan Community Garden at the Sonachan Hotel, had a successful day with their sales table 10\_f30ki07

# Sun shines for Kilchoan show day

THE 2012 West Ardnarmurchan Show and Sports was once again blessed with beautiful weather and welcomed people from near and far for one of Kilchoan's biggest events of the year.

Mull visitors again made up a large part of the crowd, with around 90 people arriving on the 11am sailing from Tobermory alone - numbers which required CalMac to roster an extra member of staff to cope with demand.

Spectators enjoyed a full day of superb family entertainment on the day, which started with the agriculture show.

After Fiona Boa from Mull had judged the impressive number of quality sheep entries, this year's standout winner was a two-shear Blackface tup from Rosie Curtis from Kilchoan, who enjoyed success in most of the classes to claim the Crofter with Most Points title as well as the coveted trophy for the show's overall champion sheep.

Colin Cameron from Branault, Kilchoan won best sheep (any other breed) with a Cheviot gimmer.

Congratulations also go to young Stuart MacLachlan who won the under-18 Best Blackface competition for the second year in succession.

The main events started at mid-day with children's races and sports. Throughout the day traditional events such as the senior and junior heavies, road races, pet parade, and the tug o' war also featured.

One new attraction this year was the climbing wall, which proved to be very popular. Evening entertainment followed the prizegiving, with live music keeping everyone entertained in the main tent well into the evening.

Show and sports chairman Gus MacLean told The Oban Times: 'Once again the day allowed exiles to come home and catch up on news, families to mix and take part in the varied events, and visitors to enjoy West Highland hospitality in glorious surroundings.'

'The success of the day is possible each year only because of the hard work and commitment of so many people. We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped not only throughout the day but also in the preparation of the showfield. 'Thanks also to competition judges and everyone who donated towards competitions. Many thanks to everyone who attended and donated money so generously. Lastly, a huge thanks goes to the show committee members for their continued hard work and commitment.'

## Down Your Way Drumnadrochit

A NEW 600MW hydro scheme is being planned for Loch Nam Breac Dearga near Drumnadrochit.

Scottish and Southern Energy Renewables Development want to construct a dam and create a new reservoir at the loch near Balmacaan.

Public exhibitions about the scheme have already been held as part of community consultations before the plans are submitted to Scottish ministers.

Water would be pumped up from Loch Ness to the higher loch and then released to drive turbines housed in a large underground cavern off the A82. The only visible elements would be the dam and reservoir.

The plans shown at the meetings said: 'A key advantage of developing a pumped storage scheme at Balmacaan is the site's proximity to a large lower reservoir (Loch Ness) and its significant elevation of around 500m between the upper and lower reservoir sites over a relatively short distance.'

Glenurquhart Community Council vice chairman Peter MacDonald told The Oban Times: 'This would be a huge project which would have a large impact on the village.'

'We want to make sure there is plenty of community involvement in the early stages. It certainly needs a lot of discussion.'

If the plans are approved SSE say 12 people would be permanently employed at the plant, which would take around five years to build.

Local councillor Margaret Davidson has warned the nearby A82 would need to be upgraded if the plant is given the go-ahead.



Edie Crosbie, Chloe Curtis and Isla Crosbie were winners in the birthday card competition 10\_f30ki04



It was a mad dash for the line in the boys' 6-8 flat race 10\_f30ki02



Justin Cameron, Kilchoan was among many local competitors in the hammer competition 10\_f30ki01



Mary Khan from Kilmory was judged best baker at the show after accumulating the most points overall 10\_f30ki05



Rosie Curtis won overall best sheep with her two shear Blackface tup Picture - Stewart Pote



Cheyenne Cameron from Branault, Kilchoan proudly shows her Cheviot gimmer, which won best sheep, any other breed. Sisters Chloe and Kharis also helped prepare the sheep for the show. 10\_f30ki03

## TALKS ABOUT the handover of Blairbeg Park from Highland Council to community ownership are at an advanced stage.

The playing fields are the home of Glenurquhart Shinty Club and the Highland Games. Control of the park was given to Highland Council in 1975 and has been run since by the High Life Highland programme.

But local people want to take control of the pitch in order to have a more hands on running set up.

Glen Urquhart Rural Community Association (GURCA) secretary Janet Bell told The Oban Times: 'It will benefit the community to have the park back. It will give us much more control over things like grass cutting. We're hoping it will happen in the next month or so.'

GURCA are applying to change status to become a registered charity in order to take over running of the park. Trustees such as the shinty club would be in control of cutting the grass, laying out lines and general upkeep.



Heavyweight athlete Andrew Johnstone, Appin, putting the shot at Blairquhart Highland Gathering and Games, at Blairbeg Park, Drumnadrochit last year

PREPARATIONS are gathering pace for the Glenurquhart Highland Gathering and Games, which will be held next month at Blairbeg Park, Drumnadrochit.

The Games have been running for over 60 years, and feature a range of traditional events, including a piping competition, a hill race, tug o' war, highland dancing and heavy events competition.

The local events start at 10.30am and the open events at 1.30pm.

A bumper crowd is also expected for the fundraising Glen Challenge, which sees participants run or walk a 15km route through the glen from Corrimony to the games field.

## Cruise and ceilidh dance highlights of Fèis na Garbh Criochan success

FÈIS NA Garbh Criochan - the Fèis of The Rough Bounds - at Acharacle Primary School drew to a close on Friday afternoon as young musicians attending traditional music and drama classes throughout the week took the stage for the final concert.

An audience of around 140 local people and holidaymakers packed into the school theatre to enjoy a musical medley of performances from the young learners.

**Ceilidh cruise**  
All the children came from remote west Lochaber, from Knoydart through Moidart, Sunart, Morvern and Ardnarmurchan - the wild area from which The Rough Bounds draws its name.

The main fèis attracted 59 children aged eight to 18, while 25 youngsters aged four to eight attended the fèis beag (wee fèis).

Tutors for the week were: accordion - Iain MacMaster and Kirsten Macleod; chanter and bagpipes - Angus Binnie; tin whistle - Donald MacAulay; fiddle - Aonghas Grant, Sarah Jane Shankland and Megan Henderson; guitar - Jim Hunter, Finlay Wells and Mike Bryan; keyboard - Mhairi Hall; clarsach - Lauren Tait, Dierdra Graham; percussion - Alan Nairn, Andrew MacPherson; stepdance - Robin Cameron; shinty - JD MacMaster; drama and media - Amie MacMaster.

Highlights included a ceilidh cruise up Loch Shiel on the Sileas on Tuesday evening, the tutors' concert on Wednesday night, a family dance on Thursday night and the main ceilidh dance on Friday night.

Fèis na Garbh Criochan chair Lyndsay Bradley told The Oban Times the music the children produced over the week was 'amazing'.

**Lifestyle**  
She said: 'Given that music and Gaelic culture are such a vital part of the lifestyle here it is so important to keep the fèis going. 'A lot of the tutors are recording artists in their own right and we are so lucky they are passing on their skills to the kids. 'The response has been very positive and the kids all had a great time, judging by the feedback forms. 'All the events raise funds so the costs to parents for tuition are as low as they possibly can be.'

Ms Bradley also paid tribute to the dedication of her fèis committee, tutors, parents and volunteers who contributed in making the event such a success.



The chanter group drew warm applause 20\_f30achfeis04



Young fiddlers show their skills at the closing concert



The drama group strike a pose before they took the stage to perform 'A Gypsy Wedding' 20\_f30achfeis06



The young accordionists played a selection of tunes they learned at the fèis 20\_f30achfeis03

**Next week - Down your Way comes from Aberfeldy - with reporter Steven Flanagan you can contact Steven on 01631 568021 email: sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk**

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# The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

## Education, not limitation, is key

'IF SOMEONE told you to jump in front of a bus, would you?' The age-old rhetorical question is one most of us are asked as youngsters.

The moral? You are master of your own destiny; only you can take responsibility for your own actions. It's a simple, but fundamental lesson for life and one which most of us abide by on a daily basis.

However, more and more often in Scotland's courts we hear lawyers telling Sheriffs in mitigation for their client's actions that alcohol or drugs, sometimes as a result of an addiction, contributed to their behaviour.

Alcohol is typically the prime culprit. On the face of it, 'I was drunk' is an easy excuse, but at what point does personal responsibility end? If someone has taken alcohol prior to committing an offence, does that diminish their responsibility for their actions?

It is mentioned so often in court, that governments and health officials deem that a minimum price for alcohol must be the best way to deal with the situation.

But to go down that path ignores the root of the problem - the person's decision to drink to excess - or take drugs - in the first instance.

'If someone told you to jump in front of a bus, would you?' Education, not limitation, is key.

More needs to be done in our schools to make people aware of the dangers of substance misuse, otherwise when high alcohol prices kick in - what's to stop people moving to cheaper, illegal drugs?



## An old Inverailort Estate deer stalker

The atmospheric photograph above, submitted by Iain Thornber, Knock House, Morvern was taken by the Marquess of Sligo in September 1915 when he was a guest of Mrs James Cameron-Head on Inverailort Estate. The marquess shot the stag, which was a 'Royal', before he swapped his gun for the camera. The name of the stalker with the rifle holding up stag's head up is unknown - perhaps Oban Times readers can help? The Oban Times welcomes submitted prints and images of a bygone era for publishing. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

## GLASGOW LETTER

### Testimonial concert

I recently intimated that testimonial concerts would take place on Saturday July 28th to support the family of Ken Caird who was battling with cancer.

Sadly Ken passed away on July 11th but the concert in St Andrew's in the Square, named 'Undefeated', will still take place.

At 2pm the artistes will be Sheena Wellington, the Paul McKenna Band, Ian Bruce, the Adam McCulloch Trio, Alex Frackleton, Christine Bovill and Clova and then at 7.30pm it will be Dick Gaughan, the Moonshiners, Wendy Weatherby, Arthur Johnston and the Stars Band, Gordonanna McCulloch and the Second Hand Marching Band.

There will of course be some surprise special guests at both concerts.

### Advance warning

Duncan Chisholm will return to St Andrew's in the Square on October 12th to bring the final part of his Strathglass Trilogy to a Glasgow audience. Tickets are now on sale, cost £15.

Contact [www.ticketsoup.com](http://www.ticketsoup.com) or tel 0844 481 8898.

### Reminder

With just over a week to go to the start of Piping Live 2012 a reminder that tickets for the events requiring tickets can be purchased online at [www.pipinglive.co.uk](http://www.pipinglive.co.uk) or by tel 0141 353 8000. Tickets for Todd's Bar Events can be purchased tel 0141 548 2435 and for events at the College of Piping 0141 3343587.

### Folk on the Boat

After the tremendous success last year when the event sold out, Folk on the Boat 2 will take place on the Maid of the Loch at Balloch Pier from 7pm-midnight on Friday August 10.

Nine acts will provide the entertainment with proceeds going to Celtic Music Radio. For further information contact [studio@celticmusicradio.net](mailto:studio@celticmusicradio.net)

### Merchant City Festival

Tonight, Thursday, the Celtic Connections input to the festival will take place in the Old Fruitmarket at 7.30pm when the internationally renowned festival WOMAD bring together three of the best, most eclectic acts in world music today. The bands will be Balloji from Kinshasa, Deolinda from Portugal and Hot Water from South Africa.

The Merchant City Festival will run until Sunday July 29th and with 300 events over the five days it is well worth checking out the website [www.merchantcityfestival.com](http://www.merchantcityfestival.com)

### Dates for Diary

Thursday July 26 Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm-Alistair Ogilvy Band.

Friday July 27 Balloch Folk Festival-Ian Anderson Ceilidh Band and Mary Catherine Burke. Ceilidh Trail, Strachur Village Hall, 7.30pm-supporting Tannahill Weavers.

Saturday July 28 Ceilidh Trail, Falkirk Wheel, 2pm-5pm and Creggan Inn for ceilidh dance, 9.30pm-12.30am. Balloch Folk Festival-Skerryvore, John Langan Band and Helensburgh and District Pipe Band.

Sunday July 29 Balloch Folk Festival-Phil Cunningham and Ali Bain, Paul McKenna Band, Skunnereed. End of Glasgow Merchant City Festival.

Monday July 30 Ceilidh Trail, Criannallich Village Hall, ceilidh dance.

Thursday August 2 Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm-Barbara Dymock Band. Ceilidh Trail, Whiting Bay, Arran, Family ceilidh/dance, 7.30pm.

Friday August 3 Albert Halls, Stirling-Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, 7.30pm

Sunday August 5 Ceilidh Trail, Canal Inn, Falkirk, 4pm-6pm.

### Pub Scene

On Friday in the Islay Inn this weekend it will be Deoch'n Dorus providing the live music with the Keelies on Saturday while in the Park Bar it will be Monach Isles on Friday, Robert Nairn on Saturday and Micky McMichan on Sunday.

## PRESS POLICY

WE AT The Oban Times do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing the biggest local newspaper in the West Highlands.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB giving your day-time telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

The Oban Times adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct.

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

## YOUR LETTERS

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page.

The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including an email, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification.

Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk).

### Correction

IN AN article entitled 'Sheriff defers assault sentence for reports' in the July 12 edition of The Oban Times it incorrectly stated that Gerard Cameron's address was 4 Drumfada Terrace, Corpach. Mr Cameron's address is 41 Drumfada Terrace, Corpach

### Clarification

Last week *The Oban Times* reported on the theft of a four-figure cash sum from Abbeyview, Fionnphort, on the Isle of Mull.

We would like to point out that while the theft did take place in that area of the village, the money was not stolen from Abbeyview bed and breakfast house.

## Letters to the editor

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### Busy Oban police

Sir, Your front page leader of the July 19 issue reads 'Specialist police units assist Argyll' and Chief Inspector Auld is reported as commenting: 'The past weekend has been particularly demanding and challenging for my team'

On the same day the said Chief Inspector was spotted in Drimvargie issuing parking penalty tickets by his own fair hand.

'Nuf said!  
W.Raymond Shaw, Oban

### Concern over Arisaig House painting

Sir, Re. the article in The Oban Times on the proposed removal of the Henry Tanworth Wells artwork 'Letters and News at the Loch Side' to Fort William, I feel strongly that the painting should remain at Arisaig House, where it has hung since 1883.

Last year the West Highland Museum trustees seemed only interested in the possible monetary value of the painting in order to help finance their expansion plans. Following local concern and publicity they reversed the decision to sell, but they now want to remove it from its home.

It has descended through the family and somehow survived fire, wartime occupation by the SOE and several changes of house ownership, and yet the painting remains hanging in the entrance hall.

The house had been sold for some years with the painting still there when Miss Joan Becher died in 1985, bequeathing it non-specifically to a museum, because of its interest.

At Arisaig House, where it is still freely accessible to any member of the public who wished to call by to see it - and many do - the painting has resonance for the local descendants of some of those it portrays.

It is important too for the relationship between its artist and the principal subject: they were not casual acquaintances of painter and patron, but had been friends since they were young men.

Meanwhile, Fort William the West Highland Museum will need to clear a substantial space to display such a large painting, and then more space to adequately tell its story. But with what relevance to the museum visitor?

I am concerned that a move to a room in the museum would take the painting away from its context and diminish its interest.

Leave the painting on display in Arisaig House!  
Adam Swan, Lochailort.

### Arisaig House painting

Sir, The Henry Tanworth Wells painting which has hung in Arisaig House for 130 years has been highlighted by the press once again.

I am not now involved with any of the parties, but feel that it would only be acceptable if the painting were to be moved to the museum in Fort William that a legally binding agreement should be drawn up, before it moved.

Signed by all Trustees of the West Highland Museum, this

would guarantee in perpetuity that the painting, if ever moved from Cameron Square would return to the Parish of Arisaig, its rightful home, (re Minutes of the WHM Management Committee Meeting of 21st August 2003 which state that "the Tamworth Wells, sic, may have to be moved into the Museum which would become possible if the Barn went ahead", were there to be a problem over access. It was also noted that "the painting really belonged in Arisaig").

I have already suggested to the WHM Chairman of Trustees that a copy should be hung in the museum and interested visitors should be directed to the original at Arisaig House. It is cheaper for a cash-strapped museum to pay for a slightly smaller in-house copy than to foot the large bill to pay for professionals to move the original. I also suggested to the Chairman last year that a limited edition print could be produced for sale, then anyone could have a good copy of a lovely local painting. There is no problem in viewing the painting in Arisaig House, a phone call will suffice. Sending it south for auction to generate match-funding for the WHM's third attempt to attract Heritage Lottery Grant to aid the development of an extension to the rear of the existing museum premises would be neither honourable nor acceptable.

Lorna Byrne, (Mrs), Lochailside, Fort William

### Salmon farm at Gometra

Sir, I am grateful to Mr Landsburgh of the Scottish Salmon Producer's Organisation for the civilised tone of his letter (Oban Times July 19).

He chides me for supplying misleading information.

Receiving no response from Scottish Salmon Company, I obtained latest data from the Scottish Government Production Surveys.

The best thing about sea cage salmon production is the people who work in it. They are trying to do an impossible job under difficult conditions. The Scottish Salmon Company state they can guarantee no jobs. We believe none will come to this island.

The Gometra proposal is five Wembley Stadium football pitches of cage array containing two kilotonnes of factory farmed salmon on 42 football pitches of privatised seabed. Gometra, in the Staffa Archipelago, survives on our world-class wild and biodiverse seascape, having no teacher, doctor, or public services to offer residents or visitors. Our access to surgeries and schools via Mull needs to be made safer, not more hazardous, and the island's small community believes it dangerous and ridiculous to put an industrial scale factory farm here.

We are not alone - neighbouring Iona and Mull Community Councils have both objected, and our 'Save Staffa Archipelago' petition online stands at over 1000 signatures.

Shore aquaculture, entering commercial production in Ireland and Canada, is the solution.

The real challenge we face is to keep crucial jobs on Mull when the migration onshore takes place, as I believe it must given the Scottish Government's commitment to 'polluter pays'.

The First Minister and Scottish Government are smart enough to understand on which side our bread is buttered, and the current Aquaculture Bill will I

trust roll back the Scottish sea cage salmon industry's environmental harm and so provide a robust framework for a shore based industry to flourish. In the meantime the Gometra salmon farm proposal would devastate one of Scotland's remotest and most fragile communities and must be turned down.

Roc Sandford, Isle of Gometra

### Good Mull roads - contradiction

Sir, I am sorry to contradict the chair of Mull Community Council, but some of the roads on Mull are still horrendous there are a couple of roads in the north of Mull that are terrible.

They are only B-class roads but they are the only road that the residents living down them have to get them to the main road and are meant to be maintained by the council.

The residents that live down them pay council and road tax the same as everyone else, so why cant they have decent roads to travel on?

Some of the residents will only go once a week as they are trying to preserve their vehicles.

The potholes in places are so bad that you can't actually miss them, you have to slow right down and drive through hoping that you'll come out the other side without damaging your car.

I am aware that the council is strapped for cash but surely they could try and at least maintain them to a reasonable standard as the residents don't get any reduction in council or road tax to compensate them for the inconvenience.

It's a pretty sorry state of affairs when the local farmer that lives down one of them has to fill some of the holes with crush and run to try and preserve their own vehicles.

I am sure Councillor Mary-Jean Devon is aware of the situation and has done a fantastic job with the council in getting things done for the greater good of the island.

### Fish farm sites

Sir, I read with some frustration and curiosity the letter of July 19 by Scott Landsburgh, chief executive of the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation; a staunch defence of that industry it was, indeed!

However, I could not but wonder how close to a fish farm he himself lives.

We, in Braes in Skye, live some 400 yards from a fish farm which is a noisy, ugly blot on a beautiful sea-scapes, in clear view, in fact, from almost all the houses in the two townships of Balmeanach and Peinachorrain.

Although the site has more than once been condemned as an 'inappropriate' one for a fish farm by Highland Council and by a review body who visited the area, Marine Harvest (Scotland) continue to use the site - the Scottish Government having granted it permanent planning permission to do so, on the recommendation of Crown Estates.

Whilst I personally have no objection to fish farming as such, I feel that the utter inappropriateness of a site such as this can only serve to alienate the public, both local and visiting.

I would be interested, therefore, in Mr Landsburgh's views on what constitutes appropriate siting of fish farms. As it is unlikely that ours is the only

community affected, it would be interesting, too, to hear of others who feel their amenity blighted in this way.

A G Rankine, Braes, Skye

### Rest and Be Thankful reply

Sir, The Scottish Transport Minister has replied to my letter complaining about the delay in constructing the emergency diversion road at the Rest and Be Thankful.

The timetable for completing the diversion road has been put back three months to November and it will follow the Old Military Road.

Let's hope there will be no more road closures until the diversion road is available.

A proper solution is awaiting yet another study  
Alan Reid MP

### Scrutinise councils via the ballot box

Sir, Much as I share Arthur McFarlane's pleasure in the scrapping of the 'Executive Committee' (OT July 19). In the same issue a councillor was described as the lead councillor for Oban Lorn and the Isles which leads me to suspect that the committee far from being disbanded has simply faded into the background to come forward at the later date in a slightly different guise.

Any scrutiny committee set up would, if set up by the council, be hobbled by its connection as it would require financing (expenses etc) and would be open to conflict of interest claims and favouring one cause or another.

Altruism is a very hard thing to find especially in business, and politics nowadays is very much a business. If a totally separate body were to put itself forward as a scrutiny committee (nation-wide) it would need to be totally self financing and be thoroughly disclosed to the highest level.

I can't honestly see this happening.

If the electorate want to scrutinise the council they must vote in far greater numbers.

G Doyle, Easdale

### Tobacco packaging consultation

Sir, I wonder how many of your readers agree it's right that a highly addictive product like tobacco is sold in packaging designed to entice and beguile?

Or that a legal product - which, uniquely, eventually kills half the people who use it as intended - is allowed to be wrapped up to make it appear like a lipstick case, making it appealing to young people? Or right that an industry is allowed to use methods such as this in a nefarious attempt to recruit the 13,000 people in Scotland each year it needs to replace those who die as a result of smoking?

British Heart Foundation Scotland thinks it's all wrong.

Those who agree don't have long to take what could be a unique opportunity to express those views and make a real difference to our children's health.

The UK Government's consultation on plain packaging for tobacco products closes on August 10. I urge your readers to make their views count by signing our petition at [www.bhf.org.uk/plainpackaging](http://www.bhf.org.uk/plainpackaging)  
Ben McKendrick, British Heart Foundation Scotland, Edinburgh

## Times Diary

AS MANY young Scottish students anxiously await their exam results we are told of an American mother who went to great lengths to see her children succeed when she logged into a school district's computer to change their school grades.

Catherine Venusto from Pennsylvania had been employed for six years as a secretary for the Northwestern Lehigh School District and knew the access codes for the school's computer system. If she didn't like her son and daughter's exam results, she simply logged on and altered them.

An investigation found Venusto logged into the district's computer system more than 100 times.

HAVING watched a thrilling end to the Open Golf Championship at Lytham and St Annes, it is hard to imagine that something as simple as golf can cause trouble within a partnership.

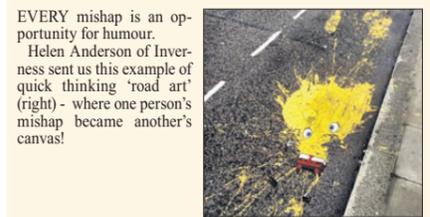
However, one Oban Times reader tells us that his brother found himself 'in the rough' by declaring to his wife that 'playing golf was the only time that a man should be seen with an iron in his hand.'



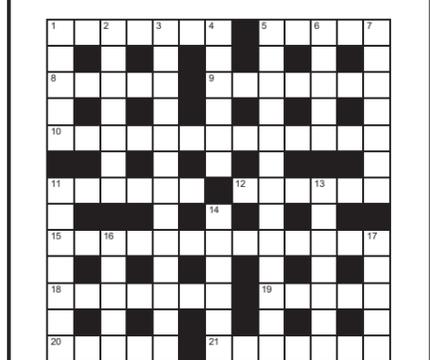
OUR thanks to Allan MacDonald of Paisley who sends us this example of how our body language can give your true thoughts away!

WHILE taking the opportunity to remind every demoralised Rangers supporter that Celtic's European campaign starts next week, Christopher McIntyre sent us this little gem of information that he found amusing:

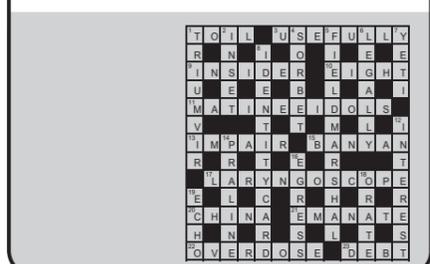
'Sky Sports would like to apologise to all subscribers for wrongly advertising that they could watch Rangers in 3D. They meant Rangers in D3.'



## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- Across**
- In a perfect world (7)
  - Class (5)
  - Laughter in Hebrew (5)
  - Doughtily (7)
  - The enablement of international marketing (13)
  - Cerumen (6)
  - Sound bones (6)
  - Helps unselfishly (4,9)
  - Dumplings (7)
  - Corpulent (5)
  - Reside (5)
  - Dignify (7)
- Down**
- Cake topper (5)
  - Inflame with love (7)
  - Idle (13)
  - Wine bar frequenter (6)
  - Greeting after lunch (4,9)
  - Japanese-American (5)
  - Proverbs (7)
  - To be united (7)
  - Edible plant (7)
  - High-seated watcher of tennis (6)
  - Type of layer (5)
  - Family female (5)



## Former council leader claims survey tipped against Blar Mhor

FORMER Highland Council leader Michael Foxley has criticised a questionnaire on potential sites for an indoor training centre and '3G' sports pitch in Fort William.

The ex-Fort William and Ardnachan councillor claims the survey is slanted against the Blar Mhor, which as council head he strongly pushed as the best place for community facilities including a new Gaelic

primary school.

Work to remove peat and install access roads at the huge Miller Developments site is already well underway.

Work on a 60,000 sqft Tesco superstore is expected to start early in the New Year, with a retail park, business and industrial units to follow. An ambulance and police HQ and new Belford Hospital are also planned on the 107-acre site.

However, the new SNP-led Highland Council is weighing up whether to stick by proposals to site the school and sports pitch on the Blar.

Up to three metres of peat will need to be removed at great cost before construction could start. Community benefit cash from Miller and longer term planning gain would offset those costs to a degree, but financial constraints mean cheaper to

develop sites elsewhere are actively being considered.

The questionnaire, part of a joint Lochaber Sports Association (LSA)/Highland Council feasibility study, invites respondents to rank three of six sites - Canal Parks, An Aird, Black Parks, Blar Mhor, Claggan Park and Lochaber High School - in order of preference as the best location for a new pitch, indoor training centre

- or both.

Blar Mhor is described as 'a standalone facility' - a description which angered Dr Foxley. He said: 'As a councillor I was directly involved in the funding and construction of five new playing fields in Lochaber and also with the plans and funding for a further four playing fields.'

'I do not understand why ... the Blar Mor is described as a stand alone facility.'

'It is the preferred location for the Gaelic School for greater Fort William as both resources and staff can be shared with the nearby Lochaber High School and is a desired location by many for the G3 shinty/football pitch on the community site, so that again this facility can be shared with the Gaelic School and LHS.'

'Parking will be readily available in the future. This im-

portant point about co-location and shared facilities needs to be made clear as [the] consultation continues.'

LSA chair Jane Blanchard felt unable to comment on Dr Foxley's views but said the public would be able to see how feasibility study is progressing in Morrison's store, Fort William on August 8 between 12.30pm and 6.30pm. Deadline for responses is August 23.

## Kilchoan annual watersports start today

WEST ARDNAMURCHAN Regatta Club kicks off two days of watersports at Kilchoan at 11am today (Thursday) with sailing and windsurfing races.

The main competition day tomorrow sees sailing, rowing, canoe, raft, outboard and powerboat races held every 10 or 15 minutes from 10am.

The presentation of prizes at 4.30pm will be followed by the regatta prize draw at 5.15pm.

A regatta dance in Kilchoan Community Centre tomorrow evening at 8pm will round off the annual event. Tickets will be on sale at the door.

**Entries invited for Acharacle mini-triathlon**

ENTRIES are now being taken for a mini-triathlon being staged in aid of Fèis na Garbh Cricochan (Fèis of the Rough Bounds) funds at Acharacle on Sunday, September 29.

The event comprises a 1.5 mile run from Acharacle Primary School to Cliff Park, a cycle to the old pier and a one mile swim to Castle Tioram and back to Dorlin beach, where participants and supporters will enjoy a barbecue and tunes from fèis musicians.

For details contact Lyndsay Bradley at lynzbrad@aol.com.

## 'Brave' comes early to Eilean Donan

EILEAN Donan Castle in Lochalsh is to screen Disney Pixar's 'Brave' a week before it goes on general release across Scotland.

Local children and parents have been invited to a special showing of the new animated film in Screen Machine - the 80-seat mobile cinema which bringing the latest films to remote areas - on Saturday.

The film, which is set in Scotland, is expected to give a major boost to the tourism industry.

Iain MacColl, Screen Machine senior operator, said: 'We'll follow Eilean Donan with summer screenings throughout the Highlands and Islands.'

## 4.4 x 3.9 20\_f30eilean01

Eilean Donan Castle is to host a screening of Brave

NEWSDESK  
01397  
703003

# Fort William man who threatened court witness is jailed

### Wife also fined £400 after threats to witness's mother

A FORT William man who told a witness he was a 'dead man' for giving evidence against him at the town's sheriff court has been jailed.

Stuart Crichton, aged 42, of 26 Grange Road, was found guilty of uttering threats to William Stewart outside the court building.

Crichton's wife, Theresa, was also convicted of behaving in a threatening and abusive manner towards Mr Stewart's mother who was also due to appear as a witness at the June 20 trial.

The intimidation took place as 36-year old Mr Stewart and his mother were sitting outside after the court had adjourned for lunch during Mr Stewart's evidence.

The Crichtons made the threatening remarks as they walked past, Mr Stewart told Fort William Sheriff Court.

He said: 'I heard a comment from Stuart, "Now you're a dead man". I took it as a threat.'

**"Now you're a dead man. I took it as a threat."**

**Court witness**

'She commented as well saying "You too missus". I assumed that was meant to my mum.'

Mrs Stewart said the comments had been made in a 'very aggressive tone'.

In her evidence, Mrs Crichton, aged 52, claimed she and her husband had been discussing online comments which had been made towards her son.

'I could have said those words, but not when they said I did. Those words were used when we were discussing our son. I didn't look at Mr and Mrs Stewart and I didn't speak to them.'

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie said the Crichtons' claims were not believable.

'It makes no sense whatsoever,' she said. 'They just happened to be talking about something else and these people just happened to misunderstand it.'

Stewart's solicitor Ms Chapman said: 'It is accepted that words like that were used, but they were not directed towards the Stewarts - they were having a conversation about their son.'

But Sheriff Douglas Small agreed with Ms Wylie and jailed Crichton for eight months.

He said: 'In my opinion the defence position is untenable. It is far too much of a coincidence. This is an extremely serious offence. You have threatened a witness who was in the course of giving evidence against you.'

Fining Crichton's wife £400, Sheriff Small told her: 'I accept you probably tagged on to what your husband was saying to Mr Stewart.'



From front, Glengarry children Evie Kocjan-Briggs, Eleanor Littlewood, Joseph Kocjan-Briggs and Lucy Bloom are impressed by the crofting display 20\_f30garry01

## First Minister announces £130,000 boost for Skye projects

SOUND archiving and film-making projects based on Skye have £130,000 from the Scottish Government.

First Minister Alex Salmond announced the cash support on Monday during a visit with Education Secretary Michael Russell to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college on Sleat.

**National Sound Archive**

The bulk of the money, £100,000, will allow the National Library of Scotland to pilot a National Sound Archive with Tobar an Dualchais (Kist o' Riches in the Scots language).

The project digitises, catalogues and preserves Gaelic and Scots songs and stories collected over the past 80 years.

Thousands of recordings - many made on old tape recorders - have already been saved for the nation.

A further £30,000 goes to MGA Alba to encourage young Gaelic filmmakers take part in its annual FilmG project, delivered by creative multimedia company Cànán.

Both Tobar an Dualchais and

Cànán are based at Sabhal Mòr.

The announcement, according to the First Minister, demonstrated the government's 'strong commitment' to the cultural economy and creative activity.

He said: 'Through its work to collect, preserve and provide access to more than 11,500 hours of Scotland's sound heritage, Tobar an Dualchais has potential to play a key role in our long term ambitions to create a National Sound Archive for Scotland.'

'Today's funding will extend this excellent work, supporting employment and skills development for the digitisers, cataloguers, data editors and copyright officers who are involved - many of who are working from some of Scotland's most economically fragile areas.'

'By allocating a further £30,000 to the FilmG project, we're demonstrating our firm commitment to fostering a sustainable future for Gaelic in Scotland. I hope that this additional support will mean

next year's FilmG project will return an even bigger showcase from Scotland's talented young Gaelic filmmakers.'

Donnie Munro, Chairman of Tobar an Dualchais, said: 'This represents a further and much appreciated commitment by the Scottish Government to our national cultural heritage through supporting the excellent work being carried out by the Tobar an Dualchais-Kist O' Riches team.'

Praising the extra funding, MG ALBA chief executive Donald Campbell said Film G was 'a vital strand' in helping Gaelic usage among young people.

Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson welcomed the announcement, which came hours before the Scottish Cabinet's meeting and question and public answer session in the Aros Centre in Portree on Tuesday.

Mr Thompson said: 'These significant investments demonstrate the SNP Government's commitment to fostering Scotland's creative industries.'

## Glengarry's four-day flower festival receives rave reviews

A FOUR-DAY flower festival in Glengarry Parish Church of Scotland came to an end on Sunday amid rave reviews from locals and visitors.

The donations only exhibition comprised 21 beautifully composed flower displays around the church interior, sited to make best use of sunlight flooding through the windows.

Under the general theme of 'with these hands' eight arrangements celebrated 'giving' and the work of charities such as the British Heart Foundation Water for Africa and Highland Hospice.

Six displays portrayed 'work' in many forms, including The Glengarry Hydro Scheme, gamekeeping and

crofting.

Seven flower compositions highlighted the 'talents' of artisans such as beekeepers, dressmakers, artists and bakers.

The festival was the second to be held in the church, the first being held seven years ago. All monies raised went to church funds.

Helper Belle Henderson told *The Oban Times*: 'The festival has brought people together from throughout the whole community - it is a real community effort.'

Fellow Helper Helen Allen added: 'We are just a group of volunteers who came together for this - everybody pitches in.'

## Morvern exhibition lands windfall

AN EXHIBITION of days gone by in Morvern has provided an unexpected financial windfall for Kiel Parish Church in Lochaline.

The 114 year-old building above the village hosted 12 colourful exhibition stands depicting life and work in the parish over the ages during Morvern Gala Week.

The displays were only up for four days, but they attracted a constant stream of visitors from all over Scotland, who also enjoyed teas and homebaking.

No entry fee was charged - but a pleasant surprise awaited organiser Creina Jackson as she packed away the stands. She told *The Oban Times*: 'We had no intention of making it a fund-raising event.'



Creina Jackson

'But we were astounded at the end to find over £250 had been left as donations for church funds. We might think of having it again next year.'

Creina added: 'I was delighted so many friends and neighbours rallied round to make the church such a welcome venue for our many visitors who come here at this time of the year.'

The exhibitions themes included The Diamond

Jubilee (Helen Watt); Colours of the Rainbow (Kate Cruickshank); MacMillan Nurses (Anna Strachan and Lesley Smart); Jubilee Street Party (Jayne Kennedy); Seascope (Sheila and Amanda Fergusson); Crofting (Morag Barnes); St Columba's Tableaux (Barbara and Fiona Christian); Mermaid's Garden Under the Sea (Annabel Lawrence); Defending the Faith (Creina Jackson); Gone Fishing (Theresa Bolton); Country Garden (Joanne Henderson and Trina MacCuish); Play Park Update (Veronique Walraven and Nikki Burnham); Old Morvern Photographs (Alastair Scoular, Robert Laurie and Creina Jackson) and Miniature Gardens by local children.

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**Eye to eye**  
with John Wallace

**Sporting Vision**

This weekend the greatest sporting event of the year starts in London. Our television screens have been full of news items and documentaries about the athletes and their preparation for the greatest sporting challenges they are about to face. One aspect of an athlete's training I have not seen mentioned is vision training. Many elite athletes undertake specific programmes to enhance their vision for their particular sport. Many also require vision correction which is frequently specific to their sport.

Track athletes do not necessarily require pin sharp distance vision but must have excellent peripheral vision to be aware of their fellow competitors. Sailors need both excellent distance vision and peripheral awareness. Shooters also have differing visual requirements. Clay pigeon competitors rely on peripheral awareness to perceive the movement of their target while those in the rifle disciplines need extremely stable distance vision and a narrower field of view.

For some sports, if you need a visual correction, contact lenses are the best option, particularly when peripheral awareness is a necessity. For long range rifle disciplines spectacles are a better option. These provide clear stable vision and specialist vision enhancing coloured filters can easily be incorporated. Swimmers may need to consider specialist contact lenses which cannot flush out under water or incorporate a vision correction in their goggles. For any athlete spending a considerable amount of time outdoors sunglasses are an essential piece of kit

Every sport has its own vision requirements. Even if you are not competing at an elite level, your sporting enjoyment can be enhanced by using the most appropriate form of visual correction or protection. Your optometrist can advise on the best form of sports related vision training and specialist corrections required for particular sports. They can also refer you to specialist qualified sports vision optometrists where necessary.

John Wallace BSc (Hons), FCOptom, DipCLP  
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# Tiree Music Festival

## Sell-out success

Red Hot Chilli Pipers, Vatersay Boys and Skerryvore make for rich mix

FESTIVAL goers flocked to the Isle of Tiree last weekend for the sell-out Tiree Music Festival (TMF) with bands including Toploader, the Red Hot Chilli Pipers, the Vatersay Boys and Tiree's own, Skerryvore, taking centre stage against the island's stunning backdrop.

Now in its third year, TMF 2012 was bigger than ever with a sell out capacity of 1,250 as well as the new TMF Community Village and campsite which was home for the weekend for over 500 music fans.

TMF organiser and Skerryvore band member, Daniel Gillespie said: "TMF 2012 exceeded all expectations and it's all thanks to each and everyone who came to Tiree from near and far. From the bands who performed to the volunteers who helped out over the weekend, the local businesses and landowners who supported the event and, of course, the amazing crowds, this was a truly unforgettable TMF."

"Thanks to everyone for their incredible support and for making TMF 2012 the success it was. Here's to 2013."

The TMF buzz started building on Friday when the campsite opened in glorious sunshine and a plethora of tents were pitched in anticipation of the weekend's music offerings. On top of music performances, TMF 2012 included workshops with Stuart Cassels

of the Red Hot Chilli Pipers and circus skills as well as open mic opportunities, amongst many other activities.

There was also fun aimed at the younger TMF goers with face painting and balloon modelling on offer. Also spotted enjoying the weekend's entertainment were several bands of festival goers who came 'in the mood' - a group of Smurfs, oompah loompas and even a furry crocodile with some opting for a more 'unique' style of gigging attire.

Saturday played host to an array of artists including Face The West, Gunna Sound and Donald MacDonald & Islands. And across the water from the Isle of Barra, The Vatersay Boys took to the main stage on Saturday night, wowing the crowd with an energy-laden performance including favourites the *Sands of Vatersay*, *Oidheche Bha* and the theme to *Local Hero*. And then came Saturday's headliners - the Red Hot Chilli Pipers - who unleashed their unique brand of 'bagrock' on to the TMF followers.

Mixing together the sounds of pipes with rock music including ACDC, Coldplay and Snow Patrol, the Red Hot Chilli Pipers raised the (outdoor) roof with an incredible set, highlighting their worldwide popularity.

Like so many other music festivals this year, wet weather made an appearance but, despite the

wind and rain on Sunday, spirits weren't dampened.

Sunday's acts included Emily Smith, Crooked Reel, and Tiree bands Skippinsh, Gunna Sound and Trail West with performances on the main stage, in An Talla and on the TMF Community Village Stage.

Skerryvore received a rousing response from their home crowd performing some of their most iconic music as well as new tracks from their latest album, 'World Of Chances'.

The band added a dash of Viva Las Vegas to Tiree when they rolled giant dice into the crowd - symbols from their new album cover. Not doubt about it, Skerryvore's homecoming was warm and welcoming - the rain even stopped for their performance.

Sunday headliners came in the shape of Toploader who performed tracks from their three albums, 'Onka's Big Moka', 'Magic Hotel' and 'Only Human'. But the Toploader anthem of the night belonged to their biggest hit 'Dancing In The Moonlight', which was made extra special as the band invited Skerryvore piper Martin Gillespie onstage to perform the track with them.

Over the weekend, music filled the air, echoing the length and breadth of the island as the festival goers showed their TMF appreciation, celebrating one of the best festivals around.



The Red Hot Chilli Pipers headlined the main stage on Saturday evening. 08\_c30music14

## Young traditional musicians on ceilidh trail

SOME of Argyll's best young traditional musicians will tour Argyll and the isles for this year's popular ceilidh trail.

Three of the eight musicians in this year's Argyll Ceilidh Trail are from the Isle of Tiree, namely

twins Jamie and Anna MacDonal and Eilidh MacFadyen.

Oban has two representatives in Ruairidh Morrison and Becky Hill, with Mairi Voinot from Lochgilphead, David Provan from Ardrishaig and Alex MacKechnie from Strachur completing the line up.

**Training**

The youngsters attended a special week's training at Plockton Music School at the beginning of July and have been busy preparing for their first gig tomorrow (Friday) in Strachur, supporting the Tannahill Weavers.

The following night they will team up with the Lochaber Ceilidh Trail for a special concert at the Creagan Inn, Appin.

The tour will then take the teenagers to Balloch, Crianlarich, Oban, the islands of Arran, Gigha and Easdale, then Ardkinglas, Kilmartin and Inveraray, before going back 'overseas' to Luining and finishing off on the

Isle of Tiree on August 11. The Ceilidh Trail is part funded by Argyll Leader. The Scottish Government, Creative Scotland, Highland Council, HIE and Bord na Gaidhlig and Comunn na Gaidhlig.

**The Oban Times**  
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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- Return coach transfer from the hotel to Leavesden on the Saturday
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# TMF



Above: Jane Hepburn on fiddle from Face the West who played the main stage on Saturday evening.



Right: Eoin MacNeil of the Vatersay Boys as they played their usual rousing, crowd pleasing set despite having played a gig in Oban the night before

Below: Sisters Johanna and Amy Hanschell from Bute with their friend Sammy Gilmour, centre, were on Tiree for the first time.



Donald McDonald, lead singer in the Donald McDonald and the Islands played the main stage on Saturday.



Left: Sian Milne with five-month-old Josh from Tiree

# Taynuilt enjoys a summer of popular ceilidhs

AT THE latest weekly summer ceilidh in Taynuilt, local piper Emma Law provided a rousing selection of tunes to kick-start the evening's entertainment.

Two Isla Sinclair Dancers, namely Briony Kincaid and Kirsty Thompson, gave excellent displays of highland dancing while Connel's Rebecca Hill once again produced some beautiful tunes on her clarsach, while Ann Barlow (fiddle) and Helen Watt (keyboards) also entertained.

**Barbershop chorus**  
Ceilidh organiser Moira Dunlop and Tarbert's Dr Neil MacDonal delighted the audience with beautiful solo singing performances and Neil was also on hand to assist the other six members of the popular Fynesiders Barbershop Chorus in a wonderful display of close-harmony singing.

Fear an Taighe Donald MacKinnon kept proceedings flowing smoothly throughout the ceilidh.

The previous Thursday young Kimberley Campbell from Lochawe confidently produced an excellent selection of tunes on the bagpipes while Connel's Rosie Stevenson (fiddle) and Alasdair MacDonald (accordion) provided further musical entertainment throughout the evening.

Three Isla Sinclair Dancers, namely Mairi MacCorquodale, Emma Hill and Ailie



Emma Law opens proceedings at the Taynuilt ceilidh.

Munro produced impressive Highland dancing performances.

Well-known local singers Morag Smith, Peter Sinclair and Audrey Paterson sang an enjoyable selection of solos. Audrey was also joined by husband Davy for

a couple of duets.

The appreciative audience included holidaymakers from places as far afield as Australia, Germany, Netherlands and Switzerland.

Fear an Taighe for the evening was Oban's Robin Banks.

## Lochaber musicians play Ceòlas fiddle and dance night



Lochaber musicians Iain MacFarlane and Ewen, Ingrid, Allan and Megan Henderson went down a storm at the recent Ceòlas fiddle and dance night in St Peter's Hall in Daliburgh. Ceòlas, the six-day Gaelic and music summer school held annually on South Uist, was another outstanding success, according to organisers.

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www.lorn.org.uk

### what's on oban

Thursday 26th July > Ceilidh Night 9pm-till late  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House Disco 11pm-2am  
Thursday 26th July > Stretch & Archie  
Markie Dances  
Friday 27th July > Mic Night (Open mic event)  
Markie Dances  
Saturday 28th July > Brass Monkeys  
Markie Dances  
Wednesday 18th - 28th July > Appin Art Group  
Port Appin Hall Exhibition 10.30am - 6.00pm  
20th July - 5th August > Galley Gig Fest  
Galley of Lorne, Ardfern Live music every night  
Come for a meal beforehand in our lochside restaurant

### what's on lochaber

Friday 27th July > Nightclub with DJ Irish Al  
Fort William Skipinnish Ceilidh House Beat the Clock  
Saturday 28th July > Nightclub 10pm till 2am  
Fort William Skipinnish Ceilidh House Beat the Beats  
Saturday 28th July > HIGHLAND VOYAGE - Para Handy  
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## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

### CRAIGNISH FESTIVAL

**Craobh Water Fun Day**  
Sunday 29th July from 10 am  
Leave your car and walk across the causeway to Craobh Haven Watersports  
Crafts and farmers market, water fun and games, dinghy and raft racing, BBQ a great day out by the water!  
www.craignishfestival.org.uk  
C3 Scottish Charity no. SC035761

You are invited to an evening of live music at Seil Island Hall with The Antics and The Lush Puppies (special acoustic set)  
Saturday 28th July 9pm - 1am  
admission £8.00 BYOB  
Free entry for children under the age of 16 if accompanied by an adult.  
All proceeds go to Seil Hall children's play area.  
Charity Number SC032419

An Comunn Gàidhealach CRUACHAN BRANCH  
**SUMMER CEILIDH**  
Thursday 26th July  
Taynuilt Village Hall at 8pm  
Admission £4: Members & Children (5-16 yrs) £2

### GARDEN OPENING

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10.30am till 6pm

**Ardchattan Garden Fete**  
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Saturday 28th July  
CORRAN HALLS  
2.00pm  
Usual Stalls  
Wheel of Fortune  
Tombole  
Teas  
Prize Draw 3.15pm

**Argyll Animal Aid**  
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All AGM's will be placed on the Public Notice Page  
Please ask for details

# The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

# Pet Idol!

COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Pet's name .....  
Breed of pet (optional) .....  
Owner's name: .....  
Address: .....  
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Email: .....  
I agree to all terms and conditions applied to this competition .....  
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**How to enter**  
We are now open for entries! Whether you have a cute cat, darling dog or creepy crawly, you can enter a photograph of your much loved pet by post or online at www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol. When entering by post, please make sure you write the name of the pet, the town where they live and a contact telephone number on the back of the photo, complete the entry form here and send to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Please make sure that only your pet is in the photograph. Should you wish for your photo to be returned, please also enclose a stamped addressed envelope. We will do our best to return your photo but please make a copy just in case.  
After you have entered your pet into the competition, look out every week in The Oban Times to see when your pet appears. The closing date for entries will be announced in a future issue. Full terms and conditions online at www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol.

Pets entered for this competition must be owned by the person submitting the entry. Alternatively, entrants must have written permission from the pet owner. Only one entry per pet. The competition is free to enter via post or online. Photos must be of the pet only. We will not accept photos which include people with the pet. Poor quality photographs, which are out of focus, difficult to see the pet, ripped, torn or folded, will not be accepted as an entry and will be returned to the sender providing a stamped addressed envelope is supplied by the entrant. By entering the competition, the pet owner gives consent to the reproduction of your pet's photograph in The Oban Times Pet Idol features in the paper and online and in any other related Oban Times Pet Idol promotions. If you do not wish your pet's photo to appear in the newspaper or online then you should not enter the competition. The closing date for entries will be announced in a future issue. This is a voting contest. The overall winner will be the pet which receives the most votes in the grand finale. The Oban Times cannot take responsibility for the safe delivery and safe return of the entrant's photograph. Photos posted in without an enclosed stamped addressed envelope will not be returned. The winner must be willing to take part in publicity. The Oban Times Ltd has the right to publish details of all entrants. Employees of Wyvex Media Ltd and their immediate family are not eligible to enter. The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. Full terms and conditions online at www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol. Value of goody bag will vary between £30 and £50 depending on type of pet.



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FARMING

Lorn Show judges announced for new venue

THE LORN Agricultural Show is set for its debut at Keil Common Grazings, Tralee, Bendersloch on August 4.

This year the show committee has introduced a Young Handlers' Section for which there are two trophies.

These have been donated by James Adam, Garraron Farm, for the primary school age group and Ewen MacGillivray, Cieran Marine, for the high school age group.

New attractions for this year are a tractor pulling competition, ATV - trailer reversing competition and back to front bicycle competition.

The judges for this year's show are: Blackface and Young Farmers - Mr Donald MacGregor, Dyke Farm, Kirkintilloch; Cross Sheep - Mr Jimmy MacGregor, Dyke Farm, Kirkintilloch; Highland Cattle - Mr M. Auld, West Plann, Crosshouse, Kilmarnock; Pure and Cross Bred Cattle - Mr David MacArthur (Jun), Mid Flenas Farm, Littlemill, Nairn; Dogs - Mr M Bonniwell and Ms F Miller, Dalvaie, Bendersloch; Home Industries and Children's Section - Mrs Fiona McTaggart, Lyrabus Farm, Isle of Islay; Show Umpire Mr. Malcolm Macdonald, Ardachy, North Connel.

Show schedules are available from the secretary, Fiona Dickie - musdale@btinternet.com

Please note there is no Highland dancing competition this year. This will be reviewed after this year's event when the layout of the field becomes clearer.

Store trade back slightly at Stirling

UNITED Auctions sold 625 store cattle and 98 east cows at Stirling on Wednesday.

Bullocks averaged 196.8p (-8.22p) and sold to 231.6p per kg for a 272kg Limousin cross from Glenree and £1250 for a 618kg Limousin cross from Lammerview.

Heifers averaged 192.12p (-4.41p) and sold to 217.7p per kg for a 209kg Limousin cross from Glenree and £1170 for a 574kg Charaolis cross from Harviestoun.

Cast cows averaged 131.1p and sold to 172.6p for a Charaolis cross from Quixwood and £1495 for a Charaolis cross from Quixwood.

Forward cattle averaged 153.82p and sold to 183.9p per kg for a Limousin cross from Lammerview and £1230 for a Limousin cross from Quixwood.

Prime rates back for cattle at Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 46 prime cattle and 230 prime sheep at Dingwall on Tuesday.

Prime bullocks averaged 206.4p (-4.0p) and sold to 225p per kg for a 560kg Charaolis cross from Wester Cullicudden Farm, Conon Bridge, and £1,430.55 for a 765kg Blonde D'Aquitaine cross from Alanaha, Nairn.

Bullocks averaged 215.1p (+16.2p on the year) and sold to 277.3p per kg for a 440kg British Blue cross from Coldhome Farm, Fortrose, and £1,380 for a 630kg Limousin cross from 141 Burnside, Kinlochbervie.

Heifers averaged 205p (+14.5p on the year) and sold to 338.9p per kg for a 360kg Limousin cross from Lyne of Urchany Farm, Nairn, and £1,500 for the champion, a 630kg Limousin cross from Udale.

OTM prime cows averaged 217.7p;

251-300kgs Graystale £570, 217.6p;

301-350kgs Drumley £740, 212p;

351-400kgs Bogside £790, 201.5p;

401-450kgs Beild £890, Auchencloigh 209p;

451-500kgs Lammerview £1070, 214.19p;

501-550kgs Lammerview £1110, 209.4p;

551-600kgs Harviestoun £1170, 203.8p;

Cast cows Quixwood (Cha) £1495, 172.6p;

Kilmichael (BRB) £1475, 159.3p;

West Craigmear (Sim) £1335, Quixwood 161.9p; Todhall (Ga) £1325, 158.5p; Quixwood (AA) £1175, 157.9p; Auchencloigh (SD) £1155, 146.6p; Auchencloigh

Clydesdales return to Tiree Show after 50 years

CLYDESDALE horses made a welcome return to the showing after an absence of 50 years at Tiree Agricultural Show last Friday.

And for islander Mary Flora Brown it was to be a triumphant return as her Clydesdale 'Major' was selected as overall champion at the show.

As crowds enjoyed an excellent day of warm sunshine the high quality of livestock gave the judges a difficult task.

Even with entries in the sheep section slightly back on last year, judge Donald McCormack from Blackrock, Isle of Islay told *The Oban Times* that the quality on show offer more than made up for any shortage in number.

Right - Mary Flora Brown, right, won overall champion at Tiree Show with her Clydesdale 'Major', from Roadside Cottage, Balemartine, with twin sister Sandra MacDonald, who was also showing. 08\_c30tiree10

Below: Supreme cattle champion was the British Blue heifer Ruaig Hettie by Bringlee Waldo and out of Ruaig Casey from Alastair and Iain MacInnes, Ruaig. She was also purebred champion at last Friday's show. 08\_c30tiree04



Udale Limousin cross heifer is Dingwall anniversary champion

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 1,308 store cattle and 50 Over 30 Month cattle at their anniversary show and sale at Dingwall last Wednesday when cattle were not shown in the same bloom as last year, but overall averages showed an increase of 16.2p per kilo for bullocks, 14.5p per kilo for heifers, and £48.41 per head.

Judge, D. Fraser, Easter Clune of Lethen, Nairn, chose as his overall champion in the T.S.H. Burns and Son, Solicitors sponsored show of single cattle, the senior champion, a 630kg Limousin cross heifer from the Tom Henderson, Udale, Poyntzfield, which realised £1,500 to Fraser Brothers Butchers, Dingwall.

The reserve champion went to the intermediate champion, a 565kg Limousin cross bullock from The Firm of J. Munro, Invercharron, Ardgay, realising £1,280 to A. Cumming, Tillydesk, Ellon.

Bullocks averaged 215.1p (+16.2p on the year) and sold to 277.3p per kg for a 440kg British Blue cross from Coldhome Farm, Fortrose, and £1,380 for a 630kg Limousin cross from 141 Burnside, Kinlochbervie.

Heifers averaged 205p (+14.5p on the year) and sold to 338.9p per kg for a 360kg Limousin cross from Lyne of Urchany Farm, Nairn, and £1,500 for the champion, a 630kg Limousin cross from Udale.

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Cast cows Quixwood (Cha) £1495, 172.6p;

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(Lim) £1105, 159.7p; Clauchlands (Ho) £1105, 136.7p; Muirland (Sho) £1085, 138.4p.

OTM bulls Gateside (Lim) £1430, 142p; Battleby (Hi) £975, 113.9p; Langfauld (AA) £875, 127p.

DINGWALL Dingwall and Highland Marts Bullocks up to 200kg - Eilburn, Conon Bridge, £410, 205p; 201-250kg - Tomchrasky, Glenmoriston, £610, 248p; 251-300kg - Auchencloigh, Fochabers, £730, Kirkton Farms, Ross shire, 246.2p; 301-350kg - Keppoch Farm,

159.0p and sold to 184.5p per kilo for a 710kg Limousin cross from Clyth Mains, Caithness, and £1,330 for an 840kg Aberdeen Angus cross from Greenvale, Thurso.

OTM feeding cows averaged 123.1p and sold to 144.2p per kilo for a 520kg Luining cross from Clachan Farm, Inverbrroom, and £970 for a 700kg Aberdeen Angus cross from Waters Edge, Stornoway.

OTM clean bullocks and heifers averaged 159.4p and sold to 176.1p per kilo for a 460kg Limousin cross heifer from Dunain Mains, and £1330 for a 775kg Simmental cross bullock from Stromebhan, Lochmaddy.

Prize list Singles sponsored by TSH Burns Junior bullock (born on or after 01.08.11)

1st & Junior Champion Firm of J. Munro & Son, Invercharron, 405kg, £1000

2nd I. Grant, Slattadale, 310kg, £740

3rd G. Anderson, Auchencloigh, 362kg, £800

Junior heifer (born on or after 01.08.11)

1st & Reserve Junior Slattadale, 350kg, £980

2nd Slattadale, 310kg, £690

Intermediate bullock (born between 01.04.11 - 31.07.11)

1st, Intermediate Champion and overall reserve Invercharron, 565kg, £1280

2nd Slattadale, 515kg, £1160

3rd Auchencloigh, 375kg, £760

Intermediate heifer (born between 01.04.11 - 31.07.11)

1st & Intermediate Reserve W. Mackintosh, Lyne of Urchany, 360kg, £1220

Senior bullock (born before 01.04.11)

1st & Senior Reserve Messrs W. J. Jack & Son, Woodend, 535kg, £1120

Senior heifer (born before 01.04.11)

1st, Senior Champion and overall champion T. Henderson, Udale, 630kg, £1500

Aberdeen Angus bullock 1st & Aberdeen Angus Champion Messrs W. MacIver & Company, Flowerburn Mains, 535kg, £1110

Aberdeen Angus heifer 1st & Aberdeen Angus Reserve Champion Flowerburn Mains, 475kg, £960

Pairs sponsored by Conanvet Pair of bullocks 1st Invercharron, 432kg, £1000

2nd Messrs R. & P. Dalgetty, Woodside, 405kg, £990

Minimize cattle numbers through winter recommends consultant as wet weather takes its toll

MANY livestock businesses in Scotland face a very difficult winter following the wet summer.

Hopefully the forecast changes to the Jet Stream may improve things, but much damage has already been done. SAC specialist believe that while there is no single, simple solution there are many small steps livestock farmers can take to minimise the cost to their business and the risks wet grazing and fodder pose through increased pest burdens and sickness.

Well known SAC consultant Dr Basil Lowman recommends farmers with cattle discuss with their buyers and suppliers the options for minimising the stock they may have to take through the winter.

'There won't be room for passengers this winter,' he says.

'With spring calvers I suggest farmers use a competent scanner to check heifers and cows are pregnant five weeks after the end of mating. Any barren cows should be weaned immediately before fattening them indoors and selling them as soon as possible.'

Dr Lowman also recommends offering calves a high quality creep feed and, when intakes average 2 kg per head per day, weaning and housing them, continuing to feed at least 2 kg per day of the creep split between two feeds.

'Unless conditions improve I



Wet grazing and wet fodder pose increased pest burdens and sickness

would keep first calved heifers and other lean cows indoors. When the fitter ones have dried off they can be turned to dry fields or fed on sacrifice areas. In small herds, if bulls are just going out, consider trough feeding cows if ground conditions allow.'

For autumn-calving stock Dr Lowman stresses the importance of checking they are pregnant as soon as possible so that proper business decisions can be taken about barren cows.

'If the wet conditions continue, keep them indoors to calving and keep them in. Don't foster on calves,' he argues.

'Cull any cows that lose a calf. You can leave bulling heifers outside, providing they are not doing too much damage to the field, but they must be housed at least three weeks prior to the start of bulling.'

The approach is equally tough for growing and finishing cattle with the SAC expert recommending housing the most

forward animals and putting them onto intensive rations so they reach slaughter weight as soon as possible. He notes the majority of abattoirs will accept cattle at fat class 3 - 4L. Once cattle are housed those which are on an ad-lib cereal diet or will be fit for slaughter before the turn of the year should not be turned out again.

Thainstone based SAC Consultant Ewan Johnston argues that with the wet weather enabling easy transfer of worm larvae up grass leaves from dung, it is important to monitor the levels being ingested by young stock.

'One way of easily monitoring the worm burden is to carry out faecal egg counts (FEC's) from fresh dung samples. This can easily be done using mob samples where the target stock are gathered in a corner for 10-15 minutes until some fresh samples are provided and can be collected. This way your drenching is based on facts, and could save time, effort and money.'

SAC Wormscan packs offer this help. Contact your local advisory office, SAC disease surveillance centre or vet practise for more information. It is important to involve your vet in deciding what treatment is required (or not) depending on the worm burden.

Ewan is also concerned about grass staggers or hypomagnesaemia in cattle. This is usually linked to a wet autumn with intakes of magnesium from forage reduced as periods of cold wet weather reduce dry matter intakes. He argues that if the present wet weather continues consideration should be given to implementing control strategies now.

'If there is straw available it can help raise the dry matter intake and slow the speed the food moves at through the gut, giving more time for improved absorption. Supplementary dry feed or access to a high magnesium mineral supplement will also help to reduce the risk of grass staggers. However, high magnesium supplements should only be used during high risk periods, so take advice.'



Alastair MacLean, Heyipol's homebred Beltex gimmer was supreme sheep champion. She is by Beach Tree Maximuscle out of Tiree Kitkat and also won best in the Beltex gimmer class, as well as best purebred gimmer, and champion purebred female. 08\_c30tiree06



Reserve supreme champion in the cattle section was a Charolais calf from Archie John MacLean Heyipol. The April-born calf is out of a British Blue cross 08\_c30tiree05



The duck herding demonstration kept youngsters entertained throughout the day 08\_c30tiree05

Stirling prime

UNITED Auctions sold 2767 prime sheep including 1,776 lambs avg 191.4p (-7.8p/wk) and 991 ewes and rams at Stirling last Thursday.

Texel lambs from West Lethans sold to £101 and £100 from Dyke, with Beltex from Woodend also fetching £100.

Beltex ewes from Wester Ochtermuthill sold to £124.50, with Texels from Connachan to £118 and Suffolks from Wester Mye to £94.50.

Texel rams from Ardbheinn sold to £123.50, with Suffolks from Upper Kidston to £119.50 and Cheviots from the same home to £100.50.

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40th Anniversary  
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Monday 18th June to Wednesday 26th July  
PERTH  
Thursday & Friday by appointment from 5th of July  
and all week from the 6th August till 20th September  
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all of July and August  
LAIRG  
6th August till 16th August  
HUNTLY  
30th July till 7th August  
Alan Walsh (Scotland) 07836 547 987  
Andy Woodburn (Muirkirk) 07710 488 679/  
(01290) 661 258  
Roy Walsh - 07873 493367 (Lairg)  
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Anything considered Local man, Conscientious & hard working  
Extensive experience in both practical & administration skills  
Contact 07876 636364 In confidence

Market reports

STIRLING

United Auctions

**Bullocks**  
251-300kgs Glenree £660, 231.6p;  
301-350kgs Brownhill £700, Graystale 219.5p;  
351-400kgs Bogside £800, Dyke 215.8p;  
401-450kgs Milrig £880, 200p;  
451-500kgs Harviestoun £1020, Milrig 207p;  
501-550kgs Milrig £1135, 223.3p;  
551-600kgs Coalhill £1215, 204.5p;  
601-650kgs Lammerview £1250, 202.3p.  
**Heifers**  
Up to 250kgs Glenree £455,

217.7p;  
251-300kgs Graystale £570, 217.6p;  
301-350kgs Drumley £740, 212p;  
351-400kgs Bogside £790, 201.5p;  
401-450kgs Beild £890, Auchencloigh 209p;  
451-500kgs Lammerview £1070, 214.19p;  
501-550kgs Lammerview £1110, 209.4p;  
551-600kgs Harviestoun £1170, 203.8p;  
**Cast cows**  
Quixwood (Cha) £1495, 172.6p;  
Kilmichael (BRB) £1475, 159.3p;  
West Craigmear (Sim) £1335, Quixwood 161.9p; Todhall (Ga) £1325, 158.5p; Quixwood (AA) £1175, 157.9p; Auchencloigh (SD) £1155, 146.6p; Auchencloigh

(Lim) £1105, 159.7p; Clauchlands (Ho) £1105, 136.7p; Muirland (Sho) £1085, 138.4p.  
**OTM bulls**  
Gateside (Lim) £1430, 142p; Battleby (Hi) £975, 113.9p; Langfauld (AA) £875, 127p.

Dundonnell, £950, 272.2p;  
351-400kg - Lochbuie, Newton-moore, £970, Rheavackin Farm, Kiltarity, 255p;  
401-450kg - Coldhome Farm, £1220, Lochbuie, and Invercharron, 246.9p;  
451-500kg - Woodend, Killearnan, £1100, 7 Kinerras, Kiltarity, 234.8p;  
501-550kg - Slattadale, Lochmarree, £1160, 225.2p;  
551-600kg - Invercharron, £1280, 226.6p;  
over 601kg - Rhannich Farm, Edderton, £1350, 141 Burnside, 219.1p.  
**Heifers**  
up to 250kg - Tomchrasky, £500, 240.4p;  
251-300kg - Kirkton Farms, £780, 269p;

301-350kg - Slattadale, £980, 280p;  
351-400kg - Lyne of Urchany, £1220, Morvich, Rogart, 257.7p;  
401-450kg - Wester Cairnglass, Gollanfield, £1490, 334.8p;  
451-500kg - The Arr, Lethen, £1100, Morvich, 237.4p;  
501-550kg - Oldtown of Leys, Inverness, £1160, 227.5p;  
551-600kg - Dunain Mains, Inverness, £1160, 196.6p;  
over 601kg - I Hoebeg, South Uist, £1190, Udale, 238.1p.  
**OTM prime cows:**  
Todholes, Thurso, (SimX), and Culrain Mains, Ardgay, (AA), 172.0p; Castlecairg Farms, Nigg, (BBX), 171.2p; Assynt Mains, Evanton, (LimX), 162.9p.  
**OTM feeding cows:**  
Culrain Mains, (AA), 141.5p;

Langwell Cottage, Lairg, (BG), 139.5p; Lower Gartally, Drum-nadrochit, (Dex), 123.6p.  
**OTM clean bullocks & heifers:**  
Castlecairg Farms, (ShoX), 171.7p; Stromebhan, (Sim), 171.6p; Greenvale, (AAX), 159.0p.  
**OTM other leading prices per head**  
OTM prime cows: Clyth Mains, (LimX), £1310; Todholes, (SimX), and Culrain Mains, (AA), £1290; Bayhead, Munloch, (ShoX), £1140.  
**OTM feeding cows:**  
Culrain Mains, (AA) £870; Langwell Cottage, (BG), £830; Clachan Farm, (Lui), £750.  
**OTM clean bullocks & heifers:**  
Oldtown of Leys, (ShoX) £1150; Greenvale, (AAX), £970;

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)



**PLANNING**  
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](http://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
12/01431/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, detached garage and installation of septic tank	Land at Ardteatle Dalmally Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Dalmally
12/01521/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse.	Barrachander Quary Kilchrenan Taysmilt Argyll and Bute PA35 1HD	Sub Post Office Taysmilt
12/01531/PP	Erection of log cabin for a temporary period of 5 years.	Ferry Shop Fionnphort Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA66 6BL	Sub Post Office Fionnphort
12/01556/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land North of Lynwood Longdale Road Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 5DZ	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
12/01560/PP	Extension to dwellinghouse to form ancillary/holiday letting unit (amended design to planning permission reference 11/01592/PP)	Land North West of Dunearn Ellenabeich Isle of Seil Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Bahvicar

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](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk). Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Argyll and Bute Council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Office Whitegates Road Lochgilphead PA31 8SV. 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.

**PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - EXTERNAL APPOINTMENT LAY CHAIR**

Are you keen to make sure your Council is meeting the highest standards? Could you help provide an independent assessment of the Council's performance management and its democratic decision making process? Would you be able to spare around eight days each year to Chair the Council's new Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee?

If the answer is yes then the Council would like to hear from you. Argyll and Bute Council is committed to providing services in an open and accountable way. To help achieve this we would like someone from the Argyll and Bute community to Chair the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee as an independent representative. The committee will comprise Councillors and Community Planning partner representatives and will meet quarterly.

You don't need formal qualifications, but you'll be asked to analyse complex issues, exercise clear judgement and ensure decisions taken are objective and fair. Above all you'll have a strong commitment to the Argyll and Bute area, a desire to serve your community and be comfortable sharing your opinions with others.

Serving on the Committee requires a time commitment of around eight days each year. There is no payment for being the independent chair although travel and subsistence costs will be paid.

If you think you could form part of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee please write to the Executive Director - Customer Services, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT, explaining the skills, experience and personal attributes you believe you would bring to the role. Further information about the appointment is available from Douglas Hendry on 01546 604244.

Applications must be received by 12 noon on Friday 10 August 2012

**AUDIT COMMITTEE - EXTERNAL APPOINTMENT**

Are you keen to make sure your Council is meeting the highest standards? Could you help provide an independent assessment of the Council's financial management, and external audit process? Would you be able to spare around eight days each year to sit on the Council's Audit Committee?

If the answer is yes then the Council would like to hear from you. Argyll and Bute Council is committed to providing services in an open and accountable way. To help achieve this we would like someone from the Argyll and Bute community to join the Audit Committee as an independent representative. You don't need formal qualifications, but you'll be asked to analyse complex issues, exercise clear judgement and ensure decisions taken are objective and fair. Above all you'll have a strong commitment to the Argyll and Bute area, a desire to serve your community and be comfortable sharing your opinions with others.

Sitting on the Committee requires a time commitment of around eight days each year. There is no payment for being a Committee member although travel and subsistence costs will be paid.

If you think you could form part of the Audit Committee please write to the Executive Director - Customer Services, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT, explaining the skills, experience and personal attributes you believe you would bring to the role. Further information about the appointment is available from Douglas Hendry on 01546 604244.

Applications must be received by 12 noon on Friday 10 August 2012

**COUNCILLOR SURGERIES**

**Councillor Roddy McCuish (E.W.4 Oban South and the Isles)**  
Councillor Roddy McCuish will be holding a council surgery in the Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban on FRIDAY 3RD AUGUST 2012 from 3.00pm - 5.00pm  
Councillor McCuish can also be contacted by phoning the Members Services Unit of Argyll and Bute Council (01546 604305) or by e-mail [roderick.mcuish@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:roderick.mcuish@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

**Councillor Louise Glen-Lee (E.W.5 Oban North and Lorn)**  
Councillor Glen-Lee will be holding surgeries during the month of August as follows:-  
Every Monday morning during the month of August (6th, 13th, 20th, 27th) 9.30am - 10.30am in the Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban

Date	Venue	Time
27th August	Seil Island Village Hall, Isle of Seil	5.30pm - 6.30pm

Councillor Glen-Lee can also be contacted by phone - Tel: 01631 567 955 or by e-mail - [louise.glen-lee@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:louise.glen-lee@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

**CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 TAXI FARE REVIEW**

Notice is hereby given that there will be no amendments to fares for taxis operating within the jurisdiction of Argyll and Bute Council following the recent taxi fare review in accordance with Section 17 and 18 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. These come into effect from 6th August 2012. The maximum fares will remain as follows:-

Argyll and Bute Council Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 Taxi fares with effect from 6 August 2012		
Tariff 1	Hirings from ranks or "flag" Hiring between 7am and 10pm Initial charge (860 yards or part thereof) Subsequent charge (each 200 yards or part thereof)	£2.70 20 pence
Tariff 2	Hirings from ranks or "flag" Hiring between 10pm and 7am Initial charge (860 yards or part thereof) Subsequent charge (each 170 yards or part thereof)	£3.20 20 pence
Tariff 3	Hiring from ranks or "flag" between 10pm 24th December and 7am 27th December and 10pm 31st December and 7am 2nd January Initial Charge (860 yards or part thereof) Subsequent Charge (each 120 yards or part thereof)	£3.70 20 pence

**Soiling Charge** - £100 maximum (with permission to display warning signs indicating that there may be an additional charge for any potential loss of earnings suffered as a consequence)  
**Waiting Time** - 30 pence per minute commencement of journey, charged on a pro rate basis per second  
**Taxi called by mean of telephone** - 30 pence additional charge  
**Large Mini-bus type vehicle** (carrying 5 or more passengers together at their own request)-  
a) Where Tariff 1 would apply - charge Tariff 2  
b) Where Tariff 2 would apply - charge Tariff 3  
c) Where Tariff 3 would apply - surcharge £1.00  
**Fee by negotiation** - for all journeys commencing within but finishing outwith Argyll and Bute, in a place of the above charges, such fares may be charged as prior to the acceptance of the hire, were proposed to the hirer and accepted by him/her  
**Ferry Fares** - The hirer shall be liable for the cost of a return ferry fare for any journey involving a ferry  
Charles Reppke, Head of Governance and Law, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT



Dunbartonshire and Argyll & Bute Valuation Joint Board

## THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS ANNUAL CANVASS

Electoral Registration Forms will be posted to every residential property in Argyll & Bute, during the month of August, listing the registration details held by the Electoral Registration Officer.

Register by Freephone ☎, Internet 🌐 or by Mobile Phone Text Message 📱

Residents will be given the opportunity to use FREEPHONE, INTERNET and MOBILE PHONE TEXT MESSAGE to confirm their electoral roll details.

Details of how to do this will be on the Registration Form.

All services will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, throughout the canvass period and can be used by households where the names on the electoral register remain UNCHANGED from the previous year.

It is hoped that these convenient choices for making the return will be of particular benefit to the household, people living in rural areas and of course busy households wanting to save time.

Register by Post 📧

If there are any ELECTOR NAME CHANGES required to the details appearing on the Registration Form, amendments should be made accordingly, and the form must be returned by POST in the pre-paid envelope provided.

David C Thomson  
Electoral Registration Officer



## The Scottish Government

**TRANSPORT SCOTLAND**

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**  
**MARINE CONSTRUCTION: CONNELL BRIDGE, ARGYLL**  
Notice is hereby given that SCOTLAND TRANSERV has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of installation of a temporary access structure and bridge maintenance at:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Location Connell	56° 27.304'N 56° 27.457'N (WGS84)	05° 23.391'W 05° 23.429'W

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at **Connell Village Store and Post Office, Main Street, Connell, Argyll PA37 1PA.**

**Opening times:**  
Monday 9:00-17:30 Tuesday 9:00-17:30 Wednesday 9:00-13:00  
Thursday 9:00-17:30 Friday 9:00-17:30 Saturday 9:00-13:00

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](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) quoting reference: **FKB/A1357.**

**Scotland Transerv**  
Broxden House  
Broxden Business Park, Lamberkine Drive, Perth PH1 1RA.

[www.highland.gov.uk](http://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](http://www.highland.gov.uk)

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

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
12/02286/FUL	Pineapple House Dunro, Appin	Erection of summerhouse/shed
12/02502/FUL	Corrychurachan Fort William	Demolition of existing house and erection of house and letting unit
12/02681/FUL	Old Forestry Yard Dunro	Alterations and extension to house
12/02684/FUL	Land 110m South East of Woodside Cottage Glenborrodale, Acharacle	Erection of house (amendment to 09/00106/FULL0)

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

**Recruitment of Area Assessors Panel**

The Crofting Commission is holding meetings in:

- County Hotel, Stornoway on 7th August at 7.00pm
- Ben Nevis Hotel, Fort William on 8th August at 7.00pm
- Pentland Hotel, Thurso on 13th August at 7.00pm
- Ceilidh Place, Ullapool on 13th August at 7.30pm
- Rogart Village Hall on 15th August at 7.30pm
- Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula on 15th August at 7.00pm
- Thistle Hotel, Millburn Road, Inverness on 15th August at 7.00pm

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the recruitment of a new Area Assessors panel for the Crofting Commission. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

For further information please contact Jane Thomas on 01463 663479 [jane.thomas@crofting.scotland.gov.uk](mailto:jane.thomas@crofting.scotland.gov.uk)

**Fastadh Pannal nam Measadairean Sgìreil**

Bidh Coimisean na Croitearachd a' cumail choinneamhan ann an:

- Taigh-òsta a' Choury, Steòrnabhagh air 7 Lùnastal aig 7.00f.
- Taigh-òsta Bheinn Nibheis sa Ghearasdan air 8 Lùnastal aig 7.00f.
- Taigh-òsta a' Phentland, Inbhir Theòrsa air 13 Lùnastal aig 7.00f.
- Ionad Ceilidh Ulapuil air 13 Lùnastal aig 7.30f.
- Talla Bhaile Rogairt air 15 Lùnastal aig 7.30f.
- Taigh-òsta an Dark Island, Beinn na Fadha air 15 Lùnastal aig 7.00f.
- Taigh-òsta an Thistle, Rathad Sruth na Muilne, Inbhir Nis, air 15 Lùnastal aig 7.00f.

Tha a' choinneamh seo ga cumail gus deasbad air fastadh pannal ur de Mheasadairean Sgìreil do Choinneamh na Croitearachd.

Bidh fàilte ro gach neach a tha airson a' choinneamh seo a fhrithealadh.

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh, fònaibh gu Sine NicThòmais air 01463 663479 no air post-d gu [jane.thomas@crofting.scotland.gov.uk](mailto:jane.thomas@crofting.scotland.gov.uk)



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**Rhoda Grant MSP**  
Regional MSP for the Highlands & Islands

**Advice Surgery**  
Friday 27 July 2012, 6pm - 7pm  
Kelvin Hotel, Shore Street, Oban  
No appointment required

Write: PO Box 5717, Inverness, IV1 1YT  
Telephone: Constituency Office 01463 716299  
E-mail: [rhoda.grant.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:rhoda.grant.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

**Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence**

3663 Alba Ltd trading as Forteith Foodservice of Buckingham Court, Kingsmead Business Park, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP11 1JU  
Is applying for a licence to use 3663 Alba Ltd T/A Forteith Foodservice, Gellangall Road, Oban PA34 4HG as an operating centre for 12 goods vehicles.

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

Jane Childs wishes to thank all family and friends for their support and encouragement during her claim for constructive unfair dismissal before the Employment Tribunal against John W. Lawrie Plumbing and Heating Engineers, Fort William.

She wishes it known that the Employment Tribunal found in her favour and awarded a basic award for unfair dismissal in respect of her 23 years service, as well as her legal costs. Thanks to them all, too many to name.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

When moving home, 62% of people relocate within a five-mile radius.

This illustrates a strong attachment to the local area. Regional press is the relevant choice for property advertising.

**OBAN** town centre two bed flat, fully furnished, approximately £650 pcm, no dss.

**GLASGOW** Ibrox (near subway). Two bed flat, fully furnished, approximately £650 pcm, no dss.

Telephone 01631 562476.

**2 bedroom flat to let in rural listed building between Ardrishaig and Tarbert.**

Just refurbished. 440 pounds per month.

Tel: 0779 6184004 or email: [lorldubai@yahoo.com](mailto:lorldubai@yahoo.com)

**CONNEL VILLAGE TO LET**

2 Bedroom Flat, own entrance, £500pcm + bills + Council Tax NO DSS

Telephone 01631 710720

FOR SALE/LEASE MAY BE CONSIDERED  
**WHISKY MACS CAMPBELTOWN**



Whisky Macs is a very popular bar and is ideally located to take advantage of the waterfront developments, with great restaurant potential.

For further details contact C & D Mactaggart on 01586 552317.

**West Coast West Coast Property Guide Property Guide**

**TO LET**

Fully furnished 3 bedroom detached house, with garden 1 mile south of Ardrishaig.  
**£500pcm + council tax**

No DSS Available 1st Sep

Tel: 07788755887 or 01546605202

**West Coast property service**  
[www.westcoastpropertyguide.co.uk](http://www.westcoastpropertyguide.co.uk)

**For Sale HOTEL in CAMPBELTOWN**

**Dellwood Hotel**

- Prime location - Dellwood Hotel is the first hotel on the main road into town
- The original Morise of Campbeltown, dating back to 1860
- Run by the same family since 1966
- Lounge bar and restaurant
- 13 letting bedrooms
- Large gardens and grounds
- Car park

Offers over £410,000 FREEHOLD Ref: 39640

**BRUCE & CO.** Call 0844 2488 340  
BUSINESS SALES SPECIALISTS for more information

**MacPhee & Partners**

**8 Dalavich, by Taysmilt**  
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You will bring to this role experience of project appraisal and development and have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Ideally, you will have some experience or knowledge in community ownership or the social enterprise sector and have had involvement in multi agency projects.

If you are interested in being considered for this position, please apply online by visiting our website at [www.hie.co.uk](http://www.hie.co.uk) For a hard copy application pack, e-mail: [recruitment@hient.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@hient.co.uk) or call 01463 244 414.

Closing date: Sunday 12 August 2012.  
 Interviews likely to be held on: Wednesday 22 August 2012.

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If you are interested but would like to know more about the roles, we are holding an Open Day on Wednesday 1st August at Aqualinium, Kinloch Road, Campbeltown where you can drop in any time between 11am – 3pm to find out more about this exciting opportunity.

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- Determination to succeed.

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Please e-mail your CV to Lorna Reynolds, Regional HR Advisor at: [lreynolds@mackays.co.uk](mailto:lreynolds@mackays.co.uk) stating the store location in the subject line. To find out more about M&Co please visit [www.mandco.com](http://www.mandco.com)

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Application packs are available from HR Department, NHS Highland, Argyll & Bute CHP, Aros, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8LB - Tel 01546 606788 (24 hour answering service) or e-mail - [recruitment.ab@nhs.net](mailto:recruitment.ab@nhs.net)

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60 Renault Clio Dyn, 1.5 DCI Sport Tourer, Black, 11,000 miles.....	£9,500
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# West Highland Yachting Week

## Craobh, Oban and Tobermory 28th July - 3rd August 2012

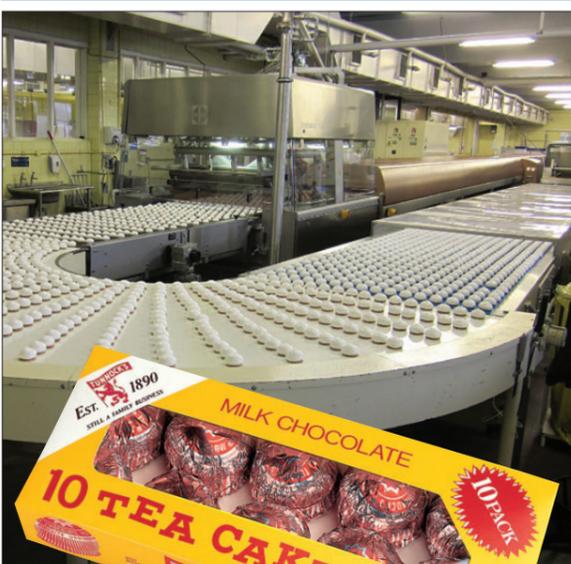


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### Get set for West Highland Yachting Week!



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CRAOBH, Oban and Tobermory are ready to welcome the West Highland Yachting Week (WHYW) fleet that arrives on Saturday July 28 at Craobh and moves to Oban and Tobermory over the week till Friday August 3.

Offering an exciting variety of competitive sailing, stunning scenery and a first class social programme with the best of west coast hospitality it's little wonder this major yachting continues to be a magnet of attraction for the sailing community.

It's a regatta for meeting old friends and new and this year sees entries from some who have not competed for years as well as many new faces. Some sailors return with the third generation - children who competed as youngsters now skippering with their own families.

And this year entries show that the event is 'bucking the trend' of many major regattas with over one hundred yachts registered to compete in the Points Series.

There are ten racing classes with a mix of passage, round the island and Olympic style racing throughout the week. The six spinnaker classes, divided between both CYCA and IRC handicap systems, are known as the Tunnock's Fleet reflecting the major sponsorship of the event from Tunnock's.

The four restricted or white sail classes where the emphasis is on family involvement are known as the Argyll Fleet acknowledging the support of the event from Argyll and Bute Council.

Principal Race Officer Malcolm MacGregor is delighted to have such a healthy entry list. He said: 'We hope the mix of races we offer in both passage and round the cans including the ever popular round Lismore Race will give all the competitors an enjoyable week with something for everybody.'

#### A Dynamic Race Programme

Feeder races start from Oban and Gigha bringing all yachts to Craobh Marina on Saturday July 28 for the launch of WHYW. Marina manager Jim Berry is once again organised to welcome the fleet at Craobh. He said: 'Craobh is looking forward to hosting the start of the week and we will endeavour to make sure everyone has a great time at the marina. We have a modern all facilities block servicing the marina and are offering half price berthing on Saturday night for all WHYW competitors.'

He added that the mini-shop for top-up supplies is now based at the Lord of the Isles.

Facilities for yachts are also available at nearby Kilmelford, Crinan and Ardfern.

#### ■ Craobh to Oban Passage

The Points Series starts on Sunday with the fleet racing on passage from Craobh to Oban through the Sound of Luing and inside Insh Island. Caledonian MacBrayne sponsor this race with the finish in the Sound of Kerrera unless light winds dictate a shortened course.

#### ■ Round Lismore

Monday sees the return of the Round Lismore Race with this popular circumnavigation possible this year due to favourable tides. The fleet starts at the northern entrance to Oban Bay and races anti-clockwise round the island.

#### ■ Firth of Lorn

Sponsored by the Oban Common Good Fund, the Firth of Lorn racing sees the fleet divide into those racing with spinnakers, the Tunnock's Fleet and the restricted sail classes, the Argyll Fleet racing separately.

The Argyll Fleet sail to the south of the CalMac ferry line taking in Bach Island, Insh and marks off Ardencale and Loch Feochan. The colourful Tunnock's fleet races round the cans off Ganavan north of the ferry line on Olympic style courses set by Race officer Malcolm MacGregor. Wind permitting there will be two races for the Tunnock's fleet.

#### ■ Oban to Tobermory

This ever popular race is a particular test for the fleet sailing the Sound of Mull and is sponsored by Tobermory Whisky.

#### ■ Sound of Mull

WHYW boats have a day's racing off Tobermory on Thursday when the Tunnock's Fleet again race two Olympic style courses in an area bounded by Rubhan Gall and Mingary Bay while the Argyll Fleet race out to Ardmore, Quinish Point and Ardnacross Bay.

#### ■ Tobermory to Oban

After two nights in Tobermory, the fleet sails back to Oban down the Sound of Mull with this race specially sponsored by Thomas Tunnock Ltd. The final prize-giving ceilidh is held in the Corran Halls.

#### Where to see the yachts

##### ■ Saturday

Craobh Marina-up to 130 boats mustered here for WHYW's grand opening party

##### ■ Sunday

Watch the fleet leave Craobh Marina from the end of the causeway from 0830 to the start off Craobh, the mark at the bottom of Shuna Island and then up the Sound of Luing. Cullipool, Easdale Island and Ellenabeich offer good vantage points and for the finish watch from the Gallanach Road or Kerrera itself.

When in Oban Yachts berth at Oban Marina, off Oban Sailing Club, the Esplanade or at Dunstaffnage Marina. Oban is the WHYW base till Wednesday morning

##### ■ Monday

Best views from Dunollie Point and Oban's Esplanade as the fleet head out from 10.30 am and then to Ganavan. Also at Dunstaffnage Marina and on the Castle headland.

##### ■ Tuesday

Watch from Oban Esplanade or Dunollie Point from 9-9.30am to see the yachts leave Oban. Or Dunstaffnage Marina and shoreline as boats head to the start. Watch the Tunnock's Fleet race round the buoys from Ganavan or the west side of Kerrera for the Argyll fleet.

#### ■ Wednesday

See the yachts head out from 9am from the Esplanade or Dunollie Point to start the race to Tobermory off the north entrance to Oban Bay, or at Dunstaffnage marina. The fleet on passage to Tobermory is a sight to behold in the Sound of Mull when the yachts come together. Passengers aboard the CalMac ferry gain a bird's eye view through the Firth of Lorn and the entrance to the Sound by Lismore Light. The fleet musters in Tobermory Bay.

#### ■ Thursday

Boats leave Tobermory from 0930 - Head to Rubhan Gall Lighthouse or Ardmore Point to see the fleets racing at the North entrance to the Sound of Mull. The Argyll Fleet returns to race down the Sound of Mull to the Green Isle for their last course mark.

#### ■ Friday

Watch from Tobermory Bay at 8.30 as the boats head down the Sound of Mull to Oban. Viewing from the east coast of Mull - the road from Tobermory to Craignure and the Cal Mac ferry back to Oban.

Anyone wishing to check on best locations to see the fleet can phone 07879 646 170

Results of each day's racing are posted at the Race Caravan at the head of the pontoons at Craobh, on the North Pier at Oban and at the head of the pontoons at Ledaig, Tobermory.

#### Great camaraderie and tremendous fun

As well as a great race programme WHYW is renowned for its apres sail social programme offering a wide range of activities for all ages to enjoy.

The Mid Argyll Pipe Band will get the feet tapping aboard boats at Craobh Marina to pipe everyone ashore and start the evening's entertainment at the Lord of the Isles where Meg and Les MacLeod host the grand opening party which will finish with fireworks at midnight - a spectacular finale to launch to the event. Add to this the mixture of ceilidhs, the OSC Barbecue, the Beach Party, family swimming, touch rugby and general socialising and it's a fun-packed programme. See the full social programme for what's happening throughout the week.



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**On the start line – locals to watch out for**

Eriska's Beppo Buchanan Smith races one of the fastest boats in the fleet – his new Mills designed Enigma 34 sailing off CYCA handicap 5. Beppo's former Delphia 24 Racer is in the capable hands of Richard Shellcock of Benderloch. He races in Class 3 as does Adrian Laycock's Prime Cut and Colin Crawford's Dehler 34 Nimrod, so this will be an interesting match. Lochaber's Roddy Campbell returns to defend the Class title in Windmark II, his Sun Odyssey 42i steered by Hamish Loudon with Oban's Graham Anderson and his Hanse 371 Lucky Ned Pepper also in Class 1. Oban based Anne Campbell with the X34 Ajax and Ross Wilson of Oban in his beautiful Swan 42 Starcross are also entered in this class but with a strong entry it is anticipated that some class divisions will change.

Steven Forteith races in Class 3 and is a strong contender with his father's First 31.7 Shadowfax sporting a new suit of Owen Sails. Fellow OSC members Joey Gough with Tangle o' the Isles, Eric Chapman with his Sigma 33, add hot local competition in Class 5, that may prove one of the most competitive class in the fleet. Again class divisions may change with some Class 5 boats moving to Class 7.

Campbeltown's John MacTaggart and Tarbert's Willie Leitch pitch up together in Class 7 whilst Class 8 has strong local contention with Marian Austin of Lochaber Yacht Club, Angus Fyfe in the newly renovated Popcorn, David Cooper from Glencoe, Donald Smith and Findlay Clark from Kilmelford, Alison Chadwick from Oban and Alastair Cousin from Campbeltown all battling it out.

Campbeltown Sailing Club's Frank McHardy races alongside former class winner Judy Orr in Class 9.

**■ New Faces**

As well as the familiar names that have been WHYW stalwarts are new faces that point up the continuing attraction of the event

Hamish Wilson from the Isle of Wight is bringing his Little Harbour 52 Robin for the first time. Said Wilson who remembers family holidays chartering on the west coast: 'We love the sailing here and the appeal of the racing and social side to WHYW. We're coming with our family and a range of age groups and think the event gives something for everyone aboard. We took five weekends to move the boat north to compete and afterwards will cruise and then return via Dublin. It's a long journey but we think it's worth it.'

And Frenchman Sebastian Harinokouk adds on even more miles to come to WHYW bringing his First 42s7 Duckwall Pooley from France to compete. Sebastian has a holiday home in Tiree and made it a first last year competing in the Tiree regatta racing against traditional wooden luggers!

Newcomer to grace Class 7 this year is Jim McIlraith's Holman and Pye yawl Saboo and she will complement many usual names including Stephen Pickles, Stevie Andrews, Gavin Clyde and Murray Caldwell, Stevie and Murray both sailing new boats. John Prentice and family bring their Contessa 32 Circe from Inverness to contend Class 8 and will have close racing with Alastair Pugh's 32 Marisca. White sail class 9 has a mix of familiar and new faces with the Campbeltown contingent Blue Liz and Eureka always up there and Malindi of Lorne another strong contender.

**■ Irish interest**

Grant Kinsman brings his Sigma 33 Pippa IV from Dun Laoghaire this year along with fellow Sigma Elandra. Jim Shields and Slippi Jin head up from Carrickfergus to contend Class 6 with Stevie Andrews as above in Class 7.

It promises to be an excellent event and running alongside the Olympics is sure to fire up the interest in racing. Class entries at time of going to press.

For up to date entry list and information see [www.whyw.co.uk](http://www.whyw.co.uk) and on [www.facebook.com/WestHighlandYachtingWeek](http://www.facebook.com/WestHighlandYachtingWeek)

**Popcorn 'Pops' back to the racing scene!**

A little yacht on the starting line up in Class 8 makes a return to WHYW after an absence of nearly 30 years.

And what is more remarkable is that Popcorn, the family Contessa 25 of the Fyfe family of Fort William hasn't been in the water for 26 of these years!

Popcorn was part of a famous trio of Fyfe family racing yachts that include Bubblegum and Gumdrop. Although the family latterly raced Sovereign, it was probably Popcorn, Bubblegum and Gumdrop under the helm of Ian Fyfe that are best remembered.

Gumdrop, the Contessa 35 competed in the Capetown to Rio race in 1976 and Bubblegum, a Bazar 43 raced the Parmelia Yacht Race in 1979 from Plymouth via Capetown to Perth, Australia, the longest ocean race at that time. Bubblegum also did the Whitbread in 1981 and then a circumnavigation. Ian Fyfe was a great ocean sailor but whilst the other boats were sold on, Popcorn remained at Fort William.

Built in 1976 Popcorn was always a fast boat. Ian's son Angus did his first WHYW with his father in 1973 and continued to compete for many years. Angus started racing Popcorn in 1982 at WHYW and the Scottish Series as well as other regattas till 1985 winning many major trophies on the west coast. Then he married, his family came along and Popcorn was laid up becoming a 'garden ornament' with ferns growing out of the hatch for the 25 years.

It was when Angus was bailing her he realised major restoration work was required. He gave the task to Peter Watt of Boat Solutions who undertook the project at Creran Marine. The hull was sound but much internal work was needed and the boat was re-wired, re-rigged and a new mast stepped.

It was a sentimental moment when Popcorn took to the water again and sailed to Glencoe Boat Club. Ian Fyfe Snr (92) celebrated the moment aboard her and as a fitting return to the racing scene Popcorn won her first race back at the club.

Now Angus and his grown up family will be keen competitors at WHYW bringing the next generation to the event. 'We are all looking forward to this and the family are amazed Popcorn is sailing again,' he said.

**Saboo races WHYW for the first time**

Jim McIlraith's beautiful yawl Saboo will be the head turner in the fleet. Sailing with his family and a friend this will be the first WHYW for Saboo but not for Jim who has made many 'guest appearances' on other boats. The last time he campaigned his own boat was in 1984 in Caligula when they swept the boards. Traditionally Saboo sails south to the Best Festival of the Sea but this year the timing and option to sail with the family proved a magnet to race in Class 7. Having won the Blue Water Trophy twice Saboo is not slow under sail although prefers the breeze over 12 knots said Jim.

She was built by Sandy Walker of Kilmarnock to Lloyds A1 specification and launched in 1975. However Saboo, (Sandy alone built one off) was immediately laid up again in 1976 when Sandy fell ill. The boat lay unused till in 1990 and in the three years that followed she was sold and ended up in Spain. After years of racing small boats, Jim had been searching for something bigger and found Saboo in a somewhat dilapidated state but at too high an asking price. Eventually when the price dropped he managed to secure her and in 1993 she was brought back to Troon where she had originally been launched by the famous crane at the Ailsa Perth shipyard in Troon. Within minutes of her launch Mrs Walker, widow of the builder, was back aboard to check her over!

Jim looks forward to WHYW for an event that's completely different and loves the west coast, maintaining west is still best for sailing.

**East comes west – Circe back to do battle!**

Staunch supporters of WHYW for many years John and Jim Prentice are back this year with Circe, their Contessa 32. After a taster of sailing at Tobermory Regatta in their early teens in dinghies they heard talk of WHYW and finally crewed on the 32' Vindo White Grouse in the 90's. John said: 'It was a lovely boat and I dreamed of having something that size some day. I was always ecstatic when going through the Doris Mhor and when the bigger classes caught us at Easdale. I remember the Maxi Helizara especially heeling well over and going like a train.'

The following year John and Jim sailed in Petra with friends they had met in the Mishnish the year before and another year crewed on Fascinator from Invergoron.

**■ Circe arrives**

In 2000 John and Jim bought their Contessa 32 Circe and signed up for WHYW at the first chance. 'We had a good year trying to beat Willie Finnie from Lossie in another Contessa 32 called Xarina. In 2007 the J Valshe was at Craobh and that was amazing to see with her mast seen from miles away. What an atmosphere as you entered the marina! There were some great parties that pointed up the fantastic social scene as well as the racing,' said John. 'Our best result that year was against Marisca at the round buoys off Tobermory. Two years ago we had a second coming from Craobh to Oban. We got knocked over by the camera helicopter downdraft and the kettle lost its knob as it flew from the stove!' he said.

John added that what made the long journey west worthwhile was the west itself. 'Heading down the canal to the west, the crack with whoever you meet along the way and when you arrive, the Irish folk, the size of fleet, the passage races and the drama of the surroundings,' said John. This is the first year Circe will be sailed by the family with the second generation now able to crew and all the team are looking forward to it.

Windflower, the Contessa 26 is also travelling east to west from Fortrose, the half-tonner Hendricks from Lossiemouth and another Findhorn boat. Although it's a long journey, it seems east to west for West Highland Yachting Week is well worth it!

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**EVENT SPONSORS**

The Joint Regatta Committee gratefully acknowledges the support of all sponsors ensuring the success of the 65th West Highland Yachting Week.

■ **Tunnock's**

World renowned biscuit makers Tunnock's have supported the event for the last four years. The spinnaker classes are known as the Tunnock's Fleet and Thomas Tunnock Ltd sponsor the Tobermory to Oban passage race on the final day of the event. Top up biscuit packs for the famous Tunnock's survival box are an essential part of WHYW.

Boyd Tunnock CBE, managing director of the Uddingston based company who is also an enthusiastic competitor 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.'

■ **The Oban Common Good Fund**

Recognising the benefit the regatta brings to Oban, The Oban Common Good Fund has given its support to help run WHYW. With a festival atmosphere when the fleet is in town WHYW is increasingly developing as a community event. The Oban Bicentenary Trophy celebrating the town's 200 years as a Burgh is a special award for the best yacht performance from Craobh to Oban.

■ **Argyll and Bute Council**

The support of the local council is acknowledged in naming the restricted sail classes the Argyll Fleet on the days the fleets race separately. This partnership reflects the economic and social importance of WHYW to the wider community of Argyll and Bute.

■ **Tobermory Whisky**

Tobermory is the popular mid-week venue for racing and competitors can raise their glasses to say 'Cheers' to Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky once again on board WHYW. With the association between whisky distilling and sailing going back centuries it is an appropriate partnership. During the regatta there will be the chance to sample this finest malt in Oban at the Skippers' Reception. The passage race from Oban to Tobermory on Wednesday is sponsored by Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky. Katherine Crisp, Tobermory Brand Manager commented: 'We are delighted once again to be involved with such a respected event in the sailing calendar.'

■ **Tobermory Harbour Association**

Offering the best of west coast hospitality with moorings, pontoon berths and free anchorage in Tobermory Bay Tobermory Harbour Association (THA) is a welcome partner with WHYW. Taigh Solais at Ledaig has full onshore facilities for visiting yachts. THA, whose ethos is 'facilities for all' encourages all afloat to sort and re-cycle their waste ashore. Brian Swinbanks, chairman of THA said: 'We are very happy to support West Highland Yachting Week that brings enormous benefit to all our community on Mull.'

■ **The Crown Estate**

The Crown Estate supports 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 Paul Banks, Coastal Manager (Scotland) said: 'The Crown Estate



Image courtesy of www.yachtingimages.co.uk

is delighted to be able to provide support to the 2012 event again. With over 5,000 licensed moorings around Scotland we play the lead role in managing the provision of mooring space for the Scottish boating community. We wish all participants the best of luck and good sailing.'

■ **Caledonian MacBrayne**

Caledonian MacBrayne hosts The Skippers' Reception for West Highland Yachting Week in the Departure Lounge of the CalMac Terminal in Oban on Monday July 30th. Prizes for both the feeder races and the Sunday Craobh to Oban race which is also sponsored by CalMac will be presented at this reception and there will be a special whisky tasting courtesy of Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky. Andrew Deeprose of Caledonian MacBrayne said: 'Caledonian MacBrayne is delighted to continue the association with this major event. West Highland Yachting Week is an important event in this area and we look forward to this year's regatta.'

■ **Scottish Fuels**

Scottish Fuels also support WHYW. They said: 'We are delighted to be involved with such an important event which happens to be hosted in the area where our business and core customer base is located. The event puts the spotlight on the west of Scotland from every sailing enthusiast across the world, as well as lots of competitors, supporters and tourists watching the events locally. In addition, the buzz around the Week is fun for everyone in the community, not just fans of sailing.'

■ **West Coast Motors**

West Coast Motors is again providing a special transport service between Dunstaffnage and Oban to link up with après sail events when the fleet is in town. West Coast Motors has been bringing people together via their transport system since 1923 much as WHYW has been attracting sailors for 65 years. West Coast Motors also run a fast passenger ferry service - Kintyre Express - providing speedy sea links between Campbeltown, Ballycastle and Troon as well as offering flexible private charter.

■ **Flit Self Drive, Van, Car & Bike Hire**

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**Create your 'Window on West Highland Yachting Week'**

Shops and businesses in both Oban and Tobermory have been encouraged to take part in the West Highland Yachting Week Window Dressing Competition - the theme is up to each entry as long as it links in with the event and promotes WHYW sponsors and supporters. A silver trophy will be presented to the winner of the best window both in Oban and Tobermory with prizes as well as sponsor packs for taking part.

Meg Lowe who judged the competition last year said: 'The standard of window dressing was very high and it's always difficult to choose a winner. However the competition is a community spirited enterprise and draws people to each shop window which will hopefully boost business as well! We look forward to some imaginative ideas being produced this year.'

Any shop who still wishes to enter please contact Alison Chadwick at [mail@amcnab.co.uk](mailto:mail@amcnab.co.uk) or phone 07879 646 170

**Photographs at West Highland Yachting Week**

Ron Cowan, the well known yachting photographer will be at West Highland Yachting Week for the event. Selections of his photographs from last year are on his website [www.yachtingimages.co.uk](http://www.yachtingimages.co.uk)

If you have a particular query about your boat picture contact him either via the website or Ronald M. Cowan ABIP, Incorporated Photographer, 85 Eastwoodmains Road, Clarkston GLASGOW G76 7HG For further details, please contact [ron@yachtingimages.co.uk](mailto:ron@yachtingimages.co.uk)



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Morvern Community Development Company is offering a fantastic new fully equipped 24 berth visitor pontoon facility in the sheltered Loch Aline within walking distance from the village of Lochaline. All revenues received from Lochaline Harbour are reinvested in facilities and projects in and around Morvern. We look forward to welcoming visitors in Lochaline. No booking necessary.

Tel: 01967 421783 or 07583 800 500 (Marine Manager) VHF Channel 80. We are on Facebook "Lochaline Harbour"  
[www.mcdclochaline.co.uk](http://www.mcdclochaline.co.uk) or for rates visit [www.lochalineharbour.co.uk](http://www.lochalineharbour.co.uk)

**KILMELFORD YACHT HAVEN**  
Kilmelford, by Oban, Argyll PA34 4XD  
[info@kilmelfordyachthaven.co.uk](mailto:info@kilmelfordyachthaven.co.uk)

- SHELTERED WINTER STORE
- EXTENSIVE REPAIR FACILITIES
- EXPERT AND EXPERIENCED STAFF
- SWINGING MOORINGS

5% discount off mooring/storage charges for annual customers Tel: 01852 200248  
[www.kilmelfordyachthaven.co.uk](http://www.kilmelfordyachthaven.co.uk)  
Fax: 01852 200343

**T. BARBOUR**  
Railway Pier, Oban  
Telephone: 01631 562849

Best wishes to all competitors and visitors for the coming events

**CRAOBH MARINA**

The ideal west coast cruising base.  
Book your winter storage/afloat/ashore now.  
Tel 01852 500222 [craobhmarina@talk21.com](mailto:craobhmarina@talk21.com)

## Dunstaffnage Marina



Best Wishes to all Entering West Highland Week 2012  
As always we take all who wish to berth with us on a first come first served basis!  
The Marina Operates on Ch37 or for General Enquiries 0845 6404050  
Photograph courtesy of Ronald M Cowan Yachting Images



**Live music starts at 9.30pm**  
Sunday 29th July - Finn  
Monday 30th July - Natalie Clark  
Tuesday 31st July - Beach Party Disco

### WEST HIGHLAND YACHTING WEEK

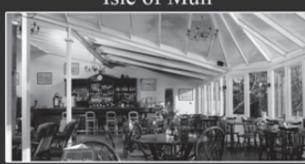
Sponsored by The Oban Common Good Fund

#### Social Scene 2012



## THE WESTERN ISLES HOTEL

Why not treat yourself to some delicious food at the Western Isles Hotel Tobermory, Isle of Mull




Breakfast 7.30-9.30  
Lunch in the Conservatory 12.00 - 14.00  
Dinner in either the Conservatory or Dining Room 18.00 - 21.00  
Roast available every Sunday

Tobermory, Isle of Mull  
Tel: 01688 302012  
www.westernisleshotel.co.uk  
Western Isles Hotel LLP registered in Scotland no. 302018

## AULAY'S BAR

Enjoy a drink at Aulay's!  
*'The Bar that Cares'*  
Excellent bar meals, Large selection of traditional ales and lagers and an extensive range of Scottish Malts  
*Welcoming West Highland Yachting Week*  
8 Airds Place, Oban • Tel: 01631 562596



Image courtesy of www.yachtingimages.co.uk

### Friday 27 July

- Isle of Gigha**  
Bar suppers and dinners available at Isle of Gigha Hotel from 18.00hrs to 20.30hrs with local fish being the focal point of the menu. Booking advised. Entertainment from the Gigha Players from 21.30hrs. Weather permitting, barbecue in hotel courtyard.

### Tuesday 31 July

- The Wide Mouthed Frog, Dunstaffnage Marina**  
Food served mid-day till 14.30hrs and from 18.00hrs with a creative menu at the Wide Mouthed Frog pub and restaurant. Fantastic atmosphere at this picturesque marina. Ceilidh entertainment on Tuesday night.
- Atlantis Leisure Centre - Free Family swim night**  
18.00hrs to 20.00hrs  
The chance to go swimming with all the family at Atlantis. Relax in this excellent pool after a hard day's racing. Other facilities i.e. gym, sauna, classes are all available at Atlantis Leisure Centre at cost.
- Oban & Lorne Rugby Club - Inter Yacht Touch Rugby**  
19.00hrs PROMPT to 22.00hrs  
Bring your team along to this fun rugby tournament. All teams to turn up at 19.00hrs prompt! To enter complete the registration form included in the sailing instructions and return to the race office. Forms can also be collected from the race office. Bar open at club and barbecue.

### Saturday 28 July

- Craobh Marina and Lord of the Isles Pub & Restaurant - Lord of the Isles Grand Regatta Opening Party**  
11.30hrs to last orders  
All day and evening entertainment from 11.30hrs. Enjoy a wide selection of food, drink and evening entertainment. Oyster, champagne and seafood bar, Hog Roast & BBQ - with bacon butties or full Scottish breakfast from 08.30hrs on Sunday. Midnight Fireworks! Booking is advised for special West Highland Yachting Week evening dinners in the restaurant and Sunday sit down breakfast. The Mid Argyll Pipe Band will entertain in the evening and pipe sailors to the Lord of the Isles courtesy of Craobh Marina.

### Sunday 29 July

- Oban Marina, Isle of Kerrera - Food from the Waypoint Grill and open air entertainment**  
20.30hrs till late.  
Enjoy live music from Shandrix overlooking the marina and Oban Bay. Scottish ceilidh dancing with caller outside the new log cabin. Seafood grill, barbecue and drinks in the attractive Waypoint Bar with its reputation as one of the finest on the west coast.
- Skipinnish Ceilidh House - Beach Party!**  
22.00hrs till late  
Tickets £5 with WHYW voucher and £8 on the door. Vouchers issued with Skippers' packs at Craobh Marina. Come along in fancy dress beach wear for the party of the week! Famous guest DJ and Inter-Yacht Dance Competition. Show off your dancing skills!

### Monday 30 July

- Oban Sailing Club - Early evening Barbecue Party**  
18.00hrs to 20.30hrs  
Come and enjoy a 'light bite' with a barbecued burger and salad at Oban Sailing Club. Team this with a drink from the bar and catch up on tales of the day's racing with great views of Oban Bay. Non-sailors must sign in.
- Skippers' Reception and Tobermory Whisky Tasting (invitation only) - CalMac Departure Lounge**  
Arrive 19.30hrs for 20.00hrs start (finishes 22.00hrs)  
The popular Skippers' Reception takes place in the attractive and spacious departure lounge in Oban's CalMac Ferry Terminal. Invitations in Skippers' Packs. There will be complimentary drinks and delicious canapés to enjoy. The Prize-giving for the two Feeder Races and for the first passage race of the week from Craobh to Oban will be held during the reception. Whisky tasting with WHYW sponsor's Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky.

### Tuesday 31 July

- Skipinnish Ceilidh House - Live Music from ceilidh band**  
22.00hrs till late  
Tickets £5 with WHYW voucher and £8 on the door. Vouchers issued with Skippers' packs at Craobh Marina.

### Wednesday 1 August

- Live music/entertainment/food at various venues in Tobermory.**  
MacGochans - Live music playing 22.00hrs.  
Mishnish - Live music playing 22.00hrs.

### Thursday 2 August

- Mid-week prizegiving - MacGochans**  
20.00 to 21.00hrs  
Mid-week prizegiving for racing from Monday to Wednesday
- Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky tasting courtesy of Tobermory Distillery in MacGochans**  
21.00 to 22.00hrs.  
Enjoy the lively atmosphere of MacGochans bar and be entertained by live ceilidh music at 22.00hrs sponsored by Tobermory Distillery.

### Friday 3 August

- Final Prize-giving Night - Corran Halls**  
20.30hrs to 01.00hrs. Prizegiving from 20.30hrs to 21.30hrs.  
Celebrate the final night of West Highland Yachting Week and dance the night away to live music from world-renowned ceilidh rock band 'Craigendarloch'.

## THE EATING OUT GUIDE 2012



**Loch Melfort Hotel**  
Benefit from our free moorings to enjoy lunch or supper at Chartrooml Bistro; spectacular views, casual dining and delicious food.



**Coasters**  
Come & see our summer seafood specials  
Opening time 11am - 1am Fri & Sat  
Till midnight Sun - Thur  
Thursday is quiz night



**Markie Dais**  
Victoria Crescent, Corran Esplanade, Oban  
Best bear garden in town, bar meals served all day.  
12noon - 9pm. Live music all week.  
Children welcome till 9pm  
Tel: 01631 564448



**Coriander Indian**  
Sit in, take-away, or have your meal delivered  
8 Soroba Road  
Oban  
PA34 4HU  
Phone: 01631 570806



**Seafood Temple**  
Serving fresh locally sourced seafood. Open 7 days a week for bookings  
Tel: 01631 566000



**Manor House Hotel & Restaurant**  
A touch of fine hospitality overlooking the harbour.  
Bar lunches available 12-2.15pm  
5 course a la carte dinner: 6.45-8.30pm  
Gallanach Road, Oban.  
Tel: 01631 562987



**Aulay's Bar**  
Lunch menu available from 12-3pm  
Traditional Scottish food at reasonable prices  
Tel: 01631 562596



**The Barn**  
Real Ales, great food, covered bear garden, pets welcome. Open 11am - 1am. Less than 3 miles from Oban Town Centre  
Tel: 01631 564618 Email: thebarn@cologin.co.uk



**The Mishish Restaurant & Oyster Bar**  
Open 7 Days  
A slice of the city on the West Coast  
Locally sourced fayre, Complimentary Wi-Fi, excellent wine list  
Mishish Restaurant  
Mishish Hotel, Main Street, Tobermory, PA75 6NU  
Tel: 01688 302662



**The Western Isles Hotel**  
Freshly prepared food with a friendly service and the best view of your boat in Tobermory harbour.  
Tel: 01688 302012

### West Coast Motors Bus

West Coast Motors are running their special West Highland Yachting Week bus service for competitors between Dunstaffnage Marina and Oban. Timetables are available from the race office and within the Sailing Instructions. (Bus Fares: Adult Single = £2.00, Adult Return = £3.00, Child Single = £1.50, Child Return = £2.00, Scottish Concession card holders (age 60+) travel free.

### West Highland Yachting Week Window Dressing Competition - Oban and Tobermory

The communities of Oban and Tobermory welcome everyone at West Highland Yachting Week. Many shops and businesses will be dressing their windows to reflect the event taking place. If you have a favourite "Window on West Highland Yachting Week" tell the Joint Regatta Committee. Feedback will count towards the winner of the competition.

# SAILING TIMES

in association with **CRAOBH MARINA**



Tel 01852 500222 craobhmarina@talk21.com

### PEQUITA



28' Twister Composite construction Built in Uphams Yard, Brixham in 1967. Registered. Sails - Hood Main, Satara Furling Headsail. Engine - Mitsubishi Nanni 260DC 16hp  
Equipment Includes - DSC VHF Radio, GPS, Wind Speed, Eberspacher Heater, 4 man Liferaft in container, Lifejackets and Harnesses. Price Includes Tenmast Boat Cradle, Fibreglass dinghy and Mooring in Lamloch.

Tel: 01770 600640  
**£10,500 o.n.o.**

### 21 FOOT PICTON CABIN CRUISER



Full cockpit / stern cover. Yamaha 60, stabiliser fins. Fully fitted large 2/3 berth cabin, toilet compartment, internal / navigation / search lights, GPS, fish finder, etc. Ready to launch.

Tel: 01866 822023 or 07850676617  
**£6000 o.n.o.**

### NORTHRAFT 5.5 RIB



115 Yamaha 4 s/k with low hours, very well equipped, includes pods, platter, VHF, A frame, nav lights, windscreen, cover, Roller Coaster trailer. Excellent condition, very light use.

Tel: 07831 697901  
**£7800 o.n.o.**

### DEVON BUILT 14FOOT WAVEMASTER MARINE

Double skin fibreglass open boat and trailer.  
Oak and iriko transom, gunnel and thwarts with anchor, oars and rowlocks. Fitted for trawling rods.  
Sitting on galvanised steel locking trailer with winch and trailer number plate. Board with lights.

Phone 01397 704608 or 07879672801  
**£700**



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ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

BMW 502 1955 model car, £10 Telephone 07766 966220.  
 BMW SPECIAL EDITION 325i (boxed), £10 Telephone 07766 966220.  
 CHEVROLET CORVETTE 1957 model, £10 Telephone 07766 966220.  
 FORD CITIERNE 1936 Texaco Tanker(boxed)model, £10 Telephone 07766 966220.  
 MERCEDES BENZ SLR McLaren model car, £10 Telephone 07766 966220.  
 NEW BOXED COLLECTORS ITEM DOLL House Emporium, Wentworth Court and Burghley Basement, quick style, cost £475, £300 Telephone 01631 750190.  
 PINK CADILLAC ELDORADO 1955 cast model car, £10 Telephone 07766 966220.

AUDIO EQUIPMENT

SKY DIGI-BOX "Amstrad" Skydigi-box, perfect working order, 2 scarts; Tel line-in; m 36x19.5cms(14.5"x 7.5") Model DRX400-2 card slots; Bargain, £15 Telephone 01586 554537.

BICYCLES

CHILDS TAG ALONG attaches to adult cycle so child can cycle at rear. Excellent condition, £45 Telephone 01546 600039.  
 CYCLE CARRIER attaches to tow bar, carries 3 bikes, excellent condition, £25 Telephone 01546 600039.  
 GIRLS BIKE suitable for 6+, in good condition, £15 Telephone 01546 605251.  
 TWO MOUNTAIN Bike Tyres 24 X 1.95, in good condition with no visible wear. Still on wheels, £6 Telephone 01631 770311.

BUILDING / DIY

WASH HAND BASIN brand new, still in box, white, w600mm x d390mm x h170mm, £30 Telephone 07881 581506.  
 BALLACHULISH SLATES for sale. Telephone 01586 830123.  
 INTERIOR PINE DOOR brand new, a 6 panel pine interior door unused with polished brass door handles also brand new, £45 Telephone 07881 581506.  
 MARCADDY CABLE REEL SK460 heavy duty dispensing drum for electrical extension cables/hoses etc. Can be wired to have permanent sockets on it. £5 Telephone 01631 770311.  
 VITMASTER VITREOUS FLUE PIPE brand new still in box black flue pipe D150mm x L135mm, £30 Telephone 07881 581506.

CAR ACCESSORIES

ECOTEK CB-26P GOLD improves car's performance and economy through clean burn technology. New, was £49. See web for details, £15 Telephone 01631 770311.

SAAB 9-3 MATS set of four used floor mats for SAAB 9-3 2005. Colour Grey. Some wear but serviceable. Available in Lochgilphead, £5 Telephone 07427 676361.

TWIN SCREEN PORTABLE LCD DVD Player, Goodmans, for car or out and about, mains or car powered, earphones, 30 games with two controllers. Carry case, £49.99 Telephone 01631 770311.

CARS AND CAR PARTS UNDER £250

CAR TYRE 185/65 H14 continental, brand new/unused, on a Ford Focus Steel wheel, suit many popular cars, £12.50 Telephone 01852 300493.  
 FORD FOCUS 02 PLATE spares or repairs, good runner mechanically, good tyres and brakes, £249 Telephone 01546 600264.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

GENTS LEATHER ¾ COAT genuine Milan black, size medium, never worn, £49.99 Telephone 07766 966220.  
 NEW MONSOON DRESS with tags, slate grey, strapless with ribbon and flower at the waist, size 10 and 12, £30 Telephone 01631 750190.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

BREADMAKER Cookworks vgc with recipe book, £12 Telephone 01631 720036.  
 BREADMAKER Morphy Richards Fastbake 48230. As new, with full instructions. North Connell, £20 Telephone 07725 877480.  
 HALOGEN OVEN and new steam iron, £30 for both Telephone 01631 720036.  
 HOTPOINT CHIMNEY COOKER Hood, 70cm wide, 3 years old, stainless steel, £800 Telephone 01866 833342.

HEATING, FIRES AND FIREPLACES

MILANO TOWEL WARMING RADIATOR new in box for central heating system, white. Size H406, W450, 330, Output 573BTU, was £50, £15 Telephone 01631 770311.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

PEARLISED PAPER & CARD White, Blue & Pink colours in stock available in A3/A4/A5 sizes, from 13p per sheet. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

CURVED 32 silver base with two glass shelves and brushed silver steel poles. Ideal for corner. Argos no. 936/9704 was £60, £15 Telephone 01631 770311.  
 SATGEAR SKY/FREESAT SATELLITE new and unused, dish is 43x60cm and comes with mounting brackets and quad LNB, £15 Telephone 01546 605251.

DOMESTIC PETS

BLACK AND WHITE KITTENS ready August, £30 each Telephone 01838 200672.  
 ENGLISH POINTER PUPPIES 4 boys, black and white, KC reg, beautiful puppies, lovely temperament, ready now, £650 Telephone 01631 566755.

FIREWOOD

HARDWOOD LOGS good quality seasoned hardwood log blocks, ready to split and store for the winter, 8ft x 4ft trailer load, £49.99 Telephone 07747 016900.

FURNITURE

8-DRAWER UNIT WITH BASKETS Argos - Malvern 8-drawer basket unit. Not out of box, RRP £119.00, £49 Telephone 01546 603425.  
 BEECH DINING TABLE modern Ikea table, size 140 cm length x 90 cm wide, extra leaves extend table to 185 or 230 length. Good condition, £49.99 Telephone 01546 600039.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

GEORGE JENSEN THERMOS coffee or tea jug, £10 Telephone 07552 085839.  
 GLASS CAFETIERE with 2 glass mugs, £6 Telephone 07552 085839.  
 NEW BATH new fibreglass bath, taps/waste not included, £40 Telephone 07775 806256.  
 STAINLESS STEEL KITCHEN SINK RHS drainer, two tap holes, raised back, 1000 x 503mm. New but with slight damage to corner, £5 Telephone 01631 770311.

LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE

ADVETURIDGE SIX MAN TUNNEL Tent new, blue, two sleeping compartments, porch area, own carrybag, built in groundsheet, quick put up time, £49.99 Telephone 01631 770311.  
 HOT AIR STYLING BRUSH VITAL Sassoon professional hot air styling brush - hairdryer and styling brush in one. Unused, £10 Telephone 01852 200256.

LIVESTOCK

PULLETS brown or black or pure breeds, ducks, geese, feeders drinkers, hen sheds. Telephone 01470 572213.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk  
 OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

MARINE

DECK HARNESS Quickfit150 Navimo(cost £70+) as new, £350+0 Telephone 01631 566593.

MARINE UNDER £250

ADULT BUOYANCY AID Sowerter Club 50N buoyancy aid, blue and white. North Connell, £10 Telephone 07725 877480.  
 MANUAL GAS LIFEJACKET as new Typhoon manual gas lifejackets (2). Been stored for several years but never worn, £30 each North Connell Telephone 07725 877480.  
 OUTBOARD ENGINES Yamaha 50hp, two stroke, longshaft with remote engine controls and tank. Yamaha 4hp, four stroke, longshaft with tank. Honda 5hp four stroke, short shaft with tank. British Seagull 4HP, longshaft x 2. Telephone 01586 553804 Campbeltown.

MISCELLANEOUS

FEED TROUGH BY J&M CRAIG Kilmarnock, from byre built in 1910, conditions from good to worn, red clay glazed, size 80cmx42.5cmx18cm, weight 75kg, ideal as planters. For further information contact: iainmclark@hotmail.com or Telephone 01631 566722.  
 LUXURY WALLPAPER beautiful VYMURA "feature wall" wallpaper, 1 roll, huge Irises, plum colour-see M0390 on www.wallpapers-uk.com £17.99, Stunning!, £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA Bb CLARINET ideal for beginners, good condition, £49.99 Telephone 01546 602819.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

HARD TRAVEL GOLF CASE, £20 Telephone 07828 730964.

PET ACCESSORIES

2 DOG KENNELS Vari kennel 100's, airline approved for small dogs and cats. Sold separately, £10 Telephone 07828 730964.  
 HAMSTER CAGE large size 72 x 42 x 43 cm with platform and many accessories, good condition, £20 Telephone 01546 600039.  
 LARGE DOG CRATE size 91cm length, 61cm deep x 70 cm high, zinc, good condition, two doors, £20 Telephone 01546 600039.

PHOTOGRAPHY

MONO POD, £10 Telephone 01631 710352.  
 TRI POD SLIK, £10 Telephone 01631 710352.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

LARGE A4 ENVELOPES 400, £10 Telephone 01631 710352.

MOVED HOME?

Sticky address labels to attach on all your correspondence. 500 labels from £20. Call Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

TOYS AND GAMES

50 GOGO'S includes some gold. Please call after 6pm, £10 Telephone 01631 750190.  
 BARBIE IN LINE SCOOTER pink, well used but hours of fun left in it, £4 Telephone 01631 770311.  
 CHILDS ELECTRIC GUITAR black and white, includes stand, amplifier and bag. Please call after 6pm, £30 Telephone 01631 750190.  
 DRAGON KRYSTAL KRYSTAL Wars lego, includes 4 dragons. Please call after 6pm, £15 Telephone 01631 750190.  
 K-NEX over 1500 pieces in Ikea box. Please call after 6pm, £20 Telephone 01631 750190.  
 MY LITTLE PONY CASTLE girls My Little Pony Castle and loads of little ponies, magnetic dancing ponies, hardly used, beautiful, £25 Telephone 07828 730964.  
 PLASTIC TRAIN SET WITH CONTROL fantastic train set with station and controls, £15 Telephone 07828 730964.  
 TECH DECK MEGA RAMP 1 ft high, 2 ft long includes 8 skate boards. Call after 6pm please, £10 Telephone 01631 750190.  
 WOODEN PRINCESS CASTLE pink wooden castle and characters, beautiful perfect condition, £25 Telephone 07828 730964.

WANTED

CANADIAN CANOE Telephone 01369 830576.  
 CLASSIC MINI PROJECT Old Classic Mini Project, anything considered. Estate, pickup, van, saloon. Non runner or needing work Telephone 07799 318316.  
 SCRAP METAL all types of scrap metal, we uplift scrap cars, call Mr Cook, West Coast Scrap Metals. Telephone 01499 500638 or 07787 991636.

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**BIRTHS**

**CAIN** - To Ruairadh and Kathryn, at Wishaw General Hospital on July 16, 2012, a baby daughter, Chloe, a little sister for Amelia.



**MACFARLANE**

Kenneth and Donna (née Greenhill), are delighted to announce the arrival of Harris Kenneth on July 19, 2012, a wee brother for Calum, another grandson for Airds Croft Taynuilt.

**WILLIS** - Neal and Katie (née Harper), are delighted to announce the birth of Juliet Rose on July 6. A little sister for Aidan and first grand-daughter for Margaret and Peter Harper, Taynuilt and Margaret and Ian Willis, Dalgety Bay.

**GOLDEN WEDDING**



**FRENCH - MUNRO**

On July 21, 1962, at Aberlour Parish Church by the late Rev W Gariner, Stuart to Gladys, Dalmailly.

**RUSSELL - SPROAT** - At Tobermory Parish Church on July 26, 1962, by Rev Macdonald, Hugh, eldest son of the late Hugh and Mary Russell of Ulva and Mull to Mary eldest daughter of the late Mary and George Sproat, Tobermory. Present address 83 Kilmallie Road, Caol, Fort William.

**DEATHS**

**MACCALLUM** - Peacefully at the North Argyll Care Home in Oban on July 23, 2012, Minnie (Marion) MacCallum aged 100 and 14 days of Rockfield Road, Tobermory. Beloved wife of the late Neil, much loved mother of Elma and Bill (Billy) and mother-in-law of Bill and Mary. Adored granny of Joanne and Helen, Iain and Stuart and great granny of Jude, Sol and Casper. Funeral service will be held in Tobermory Parish Church on Friday 27 at 12.30pm. Thereafter to Tobermory top cemetery.

**MACCORMICK** - Peacefully at home at Killandrist, Isle of Lismore on July 20, 2012, with his family by his side, James MacCormick in his 79th year, eldest son of the late John MacCormick and the late Mary Ann MacColl, beloved husband of Mary, much loved dad of Linda and Kate and Seanair to Jason, Cheryl, Lynsey, Jade and Ryan. Respected father-in-law to John and Robert and dear brother of Cathie, Donnie, Duncan, Gregor and Duggie.

**MCKEURTAN** It is with very heavy hearts that we intimate the passing, on July 3, 2012 of Lena McKeurtan, Ruadhphort Beag, Port Askaig, Islay. Loving wife of the late John McKeurtan, dearly loved and amazing mother of Deirdre, Leona, Mavis and the late Valetta and an inspiring Granny and Great Granny.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**HARRISON** - Dolly Harrison and family, Taynuilt, would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support to them following Arthur's death. Particular thanks to Rev Robert Brookes.

**Oban Times** BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS  
**Oban Times**

**JOHNSTONE** - The family of the late Jetta Johnstone would like to thank Rev Duncan MacDonald for such a comforting and caring service, to Billy MacClymont for his very professional funeral arrangements and to Douglas MacNeill MBE for all his help, to the pall bearers and to Park Lodge and MacDonald Arms Hotels, for all the flowers, cards and phone calls and to all who attended the funeral. Special thanks must be said for the wonderful kind and caring way Jetta was cared for in Dunaros Home for the last 21 months, how we are going to miss this special care home when it closes in the Autumn.

The retiring collection for Dunaros was £320. Thank you all.

**MEMORIAMS**

**ARCHIBALD** - In loving memory of our darling daughter, sister and niece Michelle, died July 25, 2002 and all those gone before.

We can't get over losing you, no matter how we try, You'll always be within our hearts, until the day we die.

- Your loving mum, dad, sister Lisa and uncle Angus xx.

**ARCHIBALD** - In loving memory of our best friend Michelle who passed away on July 25, 2002. Forever in our thoughts and hearts.

- Vivian, Gail, Sharon, Donna, Tammy, Mairi, Amy and Amanda.

**CARSWELL** - Precious memories of Nuala, passed away July 28, 2006. Remembered lovingly by Steven, Colin, Jill and Families at home and Ireland.

**DONALDSON** - Treasured memories of a dear mother, mother-in-law and nan, Lexy, who died July 27, 1989.

Always in our thoughts Forever in our hearts.

- Love Morven, DJ, Paul, Sean, Gavin and Kai xx

**DONALDSON** - In loving memory of our mother Lexy, who passed away July 27, 1989.

Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

- Iain and Maria.

**DONALDSON** - In loving memory of our dear sister, sister in law and auntie Lexy, who died July 27, 1989.

Sadly missed by all the family in Buessan, Mull and away.

**JONES** - In loving memory of Janet (née Grant), passed away August 1, 2011 aged 87, beloved mother of Jennifer, Glynis, Kenny and the late Eric (Ike), granny and great granny.

Forever in our thoughts.

**KERR** - Precious memories of Flora a dear mother, mother in-law and granny who died July 26, 2004.

- Love John, Morag, John, Amanda, Jamie, Jordan and Ashleigh.

**LIVINGSTON** - Treasured memories of Duncan, dearly loved husband, dad, father-in-law and granddad who passed away July 30, 2009.

Never more than a thought away, loved and remembered every day.

- Mary, Gregor, Stuart, Claire and baby Caya.

**MACCOLL** - In loving memory of Ronnie who passed away July 31 2009. Always remembered.

- Margaret & Family, Kilmore.

**MACPHEE** - In memory of my beloved grandson Scott who died suddenly on August 1 1993. Also my wife Ethel who passed away on August 13, 2009. Sadly missed.

- John Larbert.

**McCOMBIE** - In loving memory of a dear wife, mother, mother in-law and granny (Cathie), who died July 27, 1990.

Time slips by but memories stay Quietly remembered every day

- Bert and family.

**WEDDINGS**



**ANGOOD - MCLAUGHLIN**

Kirsty Angood and John McLaughlin were married at the Seamill Hydro, Ayrshire, on June 4th 2012. The happy couple also celebrated their marriage at this perfect location with many family and friends.

**ROBERTSON** - In loving memory of Marie, loving wife, mother and granny who passed away July 29 2007. Although we smile and make no fuss No one misses her more than us And when old times we oft recall That's when we miss her most of all.

Inserted by Chris, Kenneth, Marie Claire, Denise, Lesley, Ryan and grandchildren Dawn, Sarah and Nyah.

**CHARITY DONATIONS**

**WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT**

Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer.

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Tel 0808 100 6000  
In memory of Dawn Joyce

**MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE**

**Oban & Lorn Fundraising Branch**  
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CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation

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Donations always gratefully accepted

Please contact Jack Tollan Birch Hill Achnacreebeag North Connel, PA37 1RE

**Oban Times** BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

**Oban Times** BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

**Oban Times** BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

**STEWART** - Remembering with love a very dear wife, mum and nana, Hester, who passed away on July 22, 1992. We miss you more than words can say, Loved and remembered every day.

- Inserted by Angus and Family.

**ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES**

**ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN**

Campbell Street Church  
Sunday 29 July 2012  
11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.  
Phone-In 'Worship Link' available  
Rev. Archie McPhail MA, MTh  
(01631) 567076  
All welcome

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION**

Sunday 29 July 2012  
Trinity 8  
St John's Cathedral, Oban

Holy Communion..... 08.00  
Choral Mattins..... 10.15  
Parish Eucharist..... 11.30  
Loop System  
Large Print Hymn Books  
All Welcome  
St Columba, Gruline, Mull  
Holy Communion..... 11.00  
St Columba,  
Bishop's House, Iona  
Holy Eucharist..... 08.00  
Evensong..... 20.15  
Holy Eucharist.....  
..... Wed 1 August 14.30

**MEMORIALS**

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**Oban Times** BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

**Thought for the Week**

TOMORROW is the opening ceremony of the London Olympic Games.

An estimated audience of 4 billion people will watch this ceremony and 15,000 people will take part in making this show an occasion to remember.

Two-hundred and five able-bodied teams and 170 paralympic teams are expected to participate in the Games and each team will carry a different flag representing their particular country.

Each of the 18,000 (approx) athletes will compete and do their best to win a gold medal. They will have worked very hard and sacrificed much for this opportunity to be the best in the world in their event.

I think it's wonderful that Olympians and Paralympians are given this opportunity to show off their skills, to celebrate their talents... each person involved ought to be congratulated. So what if only one gold medal is awarded - that doesn't make the endeavours of all the other athletes any the less, for the very fact that they reached the Olympic and Paralympic Games means that they are winners. A cliché, I know - but it's true - and if we can transfer the hope and joy and team work of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to our every day lives imagine the difference we can make in the world around us?

Linda Pollock  
Church of Scotland Minister:  
Iona linked with the Kilfinchern, Kilvickeon and the Ross of Mull.

**Braving the rain in support of fish farm**

RESIDENTS on Mull and Ulva didn't let a rainy day put them off turning out in force to show their support for a proposed fish farm in the area.

BBC Radio 4's Costing the Earth programme visited the Boathouse on Ulva recently to interview local people about the proposed fish farm in Loch Tuath.

**Craobh's early Olympic treat**

BUDDING young sailors descended on Craobh Haven Watersports on Saturday for an Olympic-themed day.

Youngsters from Argyll and beyond took to the water for the Sailing for Gold event, taking part in fun events such as dinghy racing, kayaking and palate runs across the water.

Mark Hampton of Craobh Haven Watersports said: 'We had three groups out there at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels, with people who are learning to sail, people who are learning to race and people with experience who are learning new techniques.'

The day was one of several sailing events taking place across the UK, intended as a show of support for the British Olympic sailing team.

Tara MacLaine from Lunga and Oliver Summer of Crinan kayak their way through the water at Craobh Haven Watersports.



**Specsavers staff reacted in the blink of an eye**

AN OBAN holidaymaker has thanked quick-thinking staff at Specsavers for going beyond the call of duty to save her sight.

On arriving in Oban by train, en route to Iona, Kathie Schaafe, 60, noticed a black crescent-shaped shadow at the bottom of her field of vision and went to the opticians for help.

After an eye examination, Ken Macdonald, optometrist at Specsavers in Oban, quickly diagnosed a detached retina.

Californian Kathie was told she needed urgent hospital treatment but with the nearest eye specialist in Glasgow's Gartnavel Hospital, Karen Thomson, the store's assistant manager offered to drive her there. Mr Macdonald



Kathie Schaafe is recovering from a detached retina thanks to Specsavers staff in Oban.

said: 'We were able to transport Kathie to Glasgow that night to ensure she received the emergency treatment she so badly needed. It is so

important for us to highlight cases like Kathie's where a timely eye examination has identified a serious threat to vision. Speed is of the essence in a case like this, and I'm very glad she came to see us.'

Following surgery in the US Kathie has recovered most of her vision, though she may always have some distortion and gaps.

She said: 'I am so grateful to the Specsavers team for their amazing offering of both professional service and extraordinary human kindness.'

'When I tell people this story, they always gasp when I get to the part where a total stranger drove more than seven hours round trip to get me to Glasgow.'

**Passenger ferry comes to rescue of broken-down boat**

JURA Passenger Ferry skipper Nicol MacKinnon answered a mayday call from a stricken boat in the Sound of Jura.

The boat, with two men and a dog on board, lost power last Saturday near Skervuile lighthouse in the middle of the Sound.

The ferry towed the broken down boat to a safe haven on Loch Sween where local boatman and mechanic Sandy Campbell of Venture West got the engine going again.



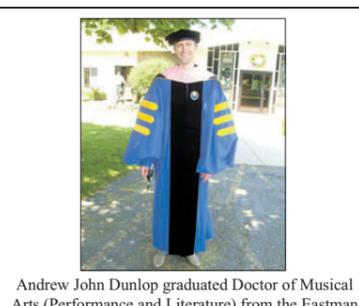
**GRADUATIONS**



Jade MacEwan graduated from Abertay University Dundee with BSc Honours Degree in Sport & Development. Jade is the daughter of Dougie & Janette MacEwan and Granddaughter of Betty & the late Duncan MacEwan.



Louise Wade graduated with a Degree of Bachelor of Nursing with Honours from the University of Edinburgh. Louise, a former pupil of Buessan Primary and Oban High School, is the daughter of Trevor and Mary Wade.



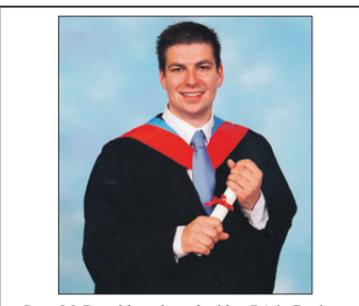
Andrew John Dunlop graduated Doctor of Musical Arts (Performance and Literature) from the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York. Andrew was educated at Achaleven Primary and Oban High schools before graduating from the Royal Northern School of Music in Manchester, where he now holds a Junior Fellowship.



Jonathan David Dunn graduated from the University of Glasgow with a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Earth Science (First Class). Jonathan is the son of Caroline Dunn and grandson of the late Margaret and George Erridge.



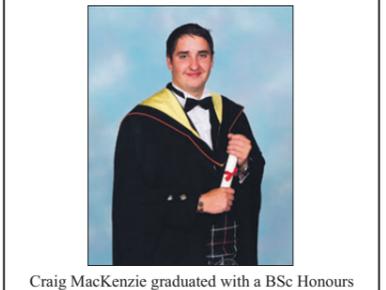
Erin Campbell-Smith MA Hons French, University of Glasgow, Daughter of Fiona and Tony and granddaughter of Colin & Lorna Oban. Erin is former pupil of Rockfield Primary and Oban High School.



Scott McDonald graduated with a BA in Business with Financial Management(Hons) from Glasgow Caledonian University. Scott is the son of Cameron and Nicola, brother of Rachael and Anna, grandson of Hector and Mairi Campbell and Lovat and Sheila McDonald.



Holly Martin, daughter of George and Andrea Martin, Penmore, Isle of Mull graduated from the University of Abertay, Dundee with a first class honours degree in Visual Communication and Media Design. Holly now works for Sumo Digital.



Craig MacKenzie graduated with a BSc Honours in Earth Science from Glasgow University. Craig is the son of Ken and Alison MacKenzie, Gallanach, Oban and eldest grandson of Jan and John McCowan, The Greens, Oban. Craig will be travelling to Australia to seek employment at the end of the summer.



Laurel Will graduated from Edinburgh University with Bachelor of Education (Hons), in Primary Education, she is the daughter of Kerry and Andrew, grand-daughter of Eddie and Elma Will (formerly of Inverness) and Margaret Wilson, Kinlochleven and the late John Brookes. Laurel goes on to take up a post in Aberdeen.

**The Oban Times**  
& West Highland Times  
THE REGIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE WEST HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS AND ARGYLL

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# Lochaber eye Newtonmore shock after cup victory

## 'More's win at Tighnabruaich a 'massive' boost in title race

NEWTONMORE go into this weekend's re-arranged Camanachd Cup quarter final with Lochaber on a high after defeating title rivals Kyles Athletic 5-2 in Tighnabruaich.

Kyles took an early lead, but a hat trick from Danny MacRae, a strike Calum Stewart from and an own goal by Calum Miller sealed the points for 'More. The win moved them two points clear of Kyles and one clear of Lovat, who have played a game more.

Manager Norman MacArthur described the win a 'massive' boost in the title race.

He told The Oban Times: 'We're top on our own now. We've got five games left - I think if we win four of them we will retain the league.'

'We deserved to win the game, but they did have a few chances. It's a hard place to go and get a result so it was a job well done.'

The Camanachd Cup tie will see a battle between Lochaber's free-scoring forwards and 'More's highly rated and in-form defensive line.

MacArthur said: 'Their confidence will be high after last weekend. They showed they can definitely play better than they did against us, they can play well and they can score goals.'

'But our defence is playing really well just now and I don't think we'll lose many goals.'

LOCHABER will be looking to build on their Balliemore Cup success last week when they take on Newtonmore in the Camanachd Cup quarter final this Saturday.

The Spean side downed Beauty 5-1 in the Balliemore last weekend to secure their first piece of silverware in 18 years, and will be looking to add the scalp of reigning Scottish cup champions Newtonmore.

The two sides met earlier in the season in the MacTavish Cup final with 'More winning 5-1. Lochaber will be hoping to put on a performance to show they can mix it with the top teams in the sport.

Manager Michael Delaney told The Oban Times: 'Newtonmore will be under no illusion that we can play better than that. As soon as the draw came up we were looking forward to it.'

The winners of the tie will face Kyles Athletic for a place in the final, while Kinlochshiel and Inveraray will go head-to-head in the other semi.

KINGUSSIE moved within touching distance of the top sides in the Orion Group Premiership after defeating bottom side Bute 5-0 last weekend.

The win saw Russell Jones' side consolidate their place in fourth, and Kings are now just two points behind Kyles Athletic with a game in hand.

Ronald Ross opened the scoring in the first minute of the game at The Dell, and by half time the home side had a three-goal lead thanks to strikes from Stuart Downie and Ryan Borthwick.

James Hutchison added a fourth in the 57th minute and Lee Bain rounded off the win with a fifth goal 10 minutes later.

Kings have a free weekend due to the rearranged Camanachd Cup quarter final between Newtonmore and Lochaber.

FORT WILLIAM travel to Bute on Saturday with their squad likely to be stronger than for last weekend's disappointing 3-1 loss at Lovat.

Coach Peter MacIntyre should be able to count on the services of Niall MacPhee, Gordie MacKinnon and Liam MacIntyre who were all missing for the game at Kiltarlity.

However, with Bryan Simpson on holiday, Alex Duncan still suspended and Gary Innes on work duties, Fort will once more not be at full strength - a situation which has plagued the team's search for consistency in a stop-start season.

MacIntyre recognises personnel changes have not been helpful, especially against the top teams.

He said: 'We have not been getting the results, but hopefully the young players we have coming through will stand us in good stead in the future.'

'We have not got the balance quite right, but when we have our seven or eight experienced players forming the backbone of the team the youngsters will click and we will not be far away.'

KYLES ATHLETIC have not given up on the league title race, following their home defeat at the hands of rivals Newtonmore.

After a good start to the match, Kyles faltered after a Calum Miller own goal and were eventually beaten 5-2.

Kyles trainer James Perlich told The Oban Times: 'A lot of people have asked me if the title race is over but it is definitely not.'

'There are five games to go yet and you can't forget Lovat, who are having a brilliant season.'

'Newtonmore still have to play Kingussie away and on-form Glenurquhart home and away.'

'From our point of view we now know we have to win every game and we tend to bounce back really well as a team.'

Duncan Kerr opened the scoring for Kyles last Saturday and his second goal came in the 80th minute, to give his side a glimmer of hope at 3-2 down.

This weekend Kyles face Glenurquhart in Tighnabruaich.

GLENURQUHART make the long journey south to take on Kyles Athletic this Saturday looking to continue their good recent form.

Kyles had a comfortable 6-1 win when the two sides in Drumadrochit back in March, but Glen manager Drew McNeil is expecting a closer game this time.

He said: 'I think it'll be a tighter contest than last time. There's been a number of close games we've lost that we could have won, and perhaps some of those close games are going our way now.'

'The boys are under no illusions now, they are all playing for places.'

'I want to get the same amount of points as last year, or even



Beaulieu keeper Murray MacKay and defender Scott MacLeod look on as Lochaber's Scott Paterson gets a shot on target during the Balliemore Cup final. The Spean Bridge side went on to lift the trophy by virtue of a 5-1 win. Photo: Donald Cameron

### SHINTY

more. If we can't get into the top four, we want fifth.'

The Drumadrochit side moved level on points with Fort William and Kinlochshiel after a 3-2 win against the Balmacara men last weekend.

McNeil said: 'I thought it was a really good game. It was hard fought and physical, but it wasn't a dirty game.'

'We got to 3-1, deservedly I thought, but then we scored an own goal. But we're in good form and that's what you want at this time in the season.'

LOVAT hit the road to Inveraray with the title hopes still very much intact after a fine 3-1 win

the long journey will have too much impact on us. When we have had problems this season it seems most of them have been at home.'

KINLOCHSHIEL have no game this weekend as they continue preparations for their Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-final against Inveraray next Saturday.

Anticipation is building in Lochalsh ahead of the big game, which is 'Shiel's first ever appearance in the Camanachd semis.'

Coach Johnston Gill told The Oban Times: 'Everybody is looking forward to it - it's going to be a big day out for the people here.'



Inveraray's Andrew McMurdo and John Stewart from Kilmallie tussle for the ball during the 7-1 win for the Royal Burgh side. Photo: John MacCavish

against Fort William at Kiltarlity on Saturday.

A Greg Matheson goal was all that separated the sides at the break but two goals inside a minute from Matheson and Owen Ferguson midway through the second half ensured Stevie Stewart's late strike was little more than a consolation.

Now Allan MacRae's men must overcome the Argyll side to keep the pressure on Newtonmore - no easy task as the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-finalists are themselves in a fine run of form.

MacRae said: 'Inveraray are going well just now.'

'They scored quite a few goals against Kilmallie and are a pretty strong team.'

'They are also in the semi-finals of the Scottish so they will be a hard test - this is the first time we have played them this season.'

They are climbing up the league but we have done well against most teams and look forward to playing them.'

'We have done well away from home this season so I don't think

'We will just have to keep ourselves fit until then and keep an eye on things but at least we won't have any more injuries or suspensions to worry about.'

'Shiel will be without keeper Graeme Kennedy, who was sent off in the 3-2 home loss to Glenurquhart on Saturday after an altercation with Glen forward David Smart.'

A deep leg injury sustained against Newtonmore could also keep wing back John Don MacKenzie out of the squad for the big game.

'Shiel can count themselves unlucky to lose to the Glen after laying siege to the visitors' goal for the last half hour.'

Finlay MacRae had levelled Neale Reid's opener but a second Reid strike before half-time and a 50th minute Fraser Heath goal put the away side 3-1 up.

An own goal by Andrew Corrigan was the cue for 'Shiel to go on the offensive, but they could find no way past international keeper Stuart MacIntosh, who was in inspired form.'

## Oban Camanachd player banned for two years

OBAN Camanachd player Matt Rippon has been suspended from playing for two years following the disciplinary hearing into his misconduct during a Balliemore Cup game against Lochaber on May 26.

Rippon confronted referee Innes Wood at the end of the match, during which he was sent off, and was immediately banned by the club until the end of the season.

The Camanachd Association Disciplinary Committee met on July 17 and imposed a suspension from participation in the sport until the beginning of the 2014 playing season. However, there is a right of appeal after one year.

INVERARAY manager John Smylie praised his formidable front four after they banged in seven goals between them against Kilmallie.

The Royal Burgh's clinical quartet of Garry MacPherson, Russell McKinlay, Euan McMurdo and Chris Crawford were again on sparkling form as Inveraray's firepower blew the opposition away.

Asked to explain his side's proficiency in front of goal that was so lacking last season, John replied: 'We have our four main forwards playing more regularly and that is paying off for us.'

'We got to 5-1 by half time, we had the game won, so I was able to rest a few guys who are nursing injuries ahead of the Scottish Cup semi-final.'

The 'Aray boys have a sterner test this weekend in the shape of title chasers Lovat, a team John does not know much about but is relishing adapting to their style of play.'

Captain Scott Robertson is still unavailable for Inveraray, who will welcome Ruairidh Graham back into the squad.

Miracles are thin on the ground in shinty - but that's exactly what KILMALLIE need to avoid an exit from the Orion Group Premiership into North Division One.

Many of the Caol side's defeats this season have been either narrow or tinged with bad luck and often both - but for Saturday's 7-1 humbling at the hands of Inveraray there were no excuses.

For a quarter of an hour after Mark Graham had equalised Chris Crawford's early penalty Kilmallie had a chance - then the roof fell in as Inveraray scored four more times before the interval through Crawford again, Garry MacPherson twice and Euan McMurdo.

A second half Russell McKinlay double only added insult to injury - and now Kilmallie must somehow conjure up wins in their last two games against Premiership title favourites Newtonmore and local rivals Fort William next month - but even if that were to happen it looks now as if it would be too little too late.

Club chairman Hugh MacIntyre told The Oban Times: 'We'll need to keep training - we have Newtonmore at home first and at the moment they are playing well, but we need two points from both games to give ourselves a chance.'

LOBHCARRON moved level on points with Beaulieu in fourth

## Oban Camanachd player banned for two years

Former Camanachd co-manager Diarmid MacMillan also appeared in front of the disciplinary committee on charges of misconduct, in relation to incidents during the same match, and was given a six-game suspension from participation in shinty.

The club was fined £150.

Oban Camanachd has declined to comment on the penalties and has not issued an appeal.

A spokesman for the Camanachd Association said: 'We will continue to rigorously deal with breaches of discipline and behaviour in our sport, which is fortunately mostly free from such incidents.'

## Oban Camanachd player banned for two years

place in the forthcoming Macaulay Cup final.

'We are playing Strachur again this weekend and I want to see a better display because places for the final are still up for grabs.'

TAYNULT kept their first clean sheet of the season in a victory over Kilmory on Saturday to boost confidence ahead of their derby meeting with Glenorchy and ease their relegation worries.

Veteran George Reid came in at full back and added stability to the team's faltering defence, while new signing Willie Irving, a former Kilmory player, scored a brace.

David Campbell also scored in Tainult's 3-0 win.

A delighted Tainult manager, Davy Thomson, said: 'For the first time this season, we played as a team. The defence was solid and our forwards were sharp.'

'We could have scored more goals but their goalkeeper pulled off some great saves.'

'We got a bit of stick after losing 14 goals in the Celtic Cup final, so it was good for the boys to keep a clean sheet on Saturday.'

Davy said his team was looking forward to this weekend's short trip to Dalnally, adding he would be happy with a point from the game.

'The boys see this match as the big derby, more so than the Oban teams, so they will be up for it.'

Willie Irving is likely to miss out on the rest of the season but Willie Neilson returns for this weekend.

GLENORCHY prepared for this weekend's Lorn derby by cementing their status as Oban Camanachd's main challengers for the Marine Harvest South Division One title.

The Dalnally men had an impressive 3-1 win at promotion rivals Glasgow, thanks to goals from Lorne Browne (2) and Sandy Leiper.

Glenorchy remain top of the division, by two points, but have played three games more than Oban Camanachd.

OBAN CELTIC are not scheduled to play a match this weekend, following their return from Northern Ireland.

The Oban side were comfortably beaten by an Antrim Select in the shinty/hurling challenge match, as part of the Dalriada Festival.

However, the club put the trip down to a good experience, with the players exchanging camans and hurleys for part of the game.



## Results

Tuesday 17 July  
Marine Harvest  
North Division 1  
Strathglass 1 - 4 Lochcarron

Saturday 21st July  
Balliemore Cup Final  
Beauty 1 - 5 Lochaber

Orion Group Premiership  
Inveraray 7 - 1 Kilmallie  
Kingussie 5 - 0 Bute  
Lovat 3 - 1 Fort William  
Kinlochshiel 2 - 3 Glenurquhart

Marine Harvest  
North Division 1  
Skye P - P Inverness  
Inverness unable to raise a team points to Skye

Marine Harvest  
South Division 1  
Oban Camanachd 6 - 1 Strachur  
Tainult 3 - 0 Kilmory  
Glasgow MA 1 - 3 Glenorchy

Marine Harvest  
North Division 2  
Fort William 3 - 4 Kingussie  
Glenurquhart 1 - 4 Skye  
Lovat 7 - 1 Kinlochshiel  
Newtonmore 2 - 0 Aberdeen Uni

Marine Harvest  
South Division 2  
Ballachulish P - P Inveraray  
Inveraray unable to raise a team points to Ballachulish  
Lochside Rovers P - P Col Glen  
Col Glen unable to raise a team points to Lochside  
Tayforth 12 - 0 Glasgow Mid Argyll

Marine Harvest  
North Division 3  
Boleskine 3 - 3 Lochbroom  
Strathspey 2 - 1 Inverness

Womens Camanachd Association  
Sunday 15 July  
Marine Harvest  
North Division 2  
Ardnamurchan 2 - 12 Skye

Valerie Fraser Cup Semi Finals  
Aberdour 10 - 2 Tir Connail Harps

Marine Harvest Challenge Cup  
Semi Finals  
Strathglass 6 - 2 Glasgow MA  
Lochaber 5 - 1 Cowal & Bute

## Fixtures

Saturday 28 July 2012

Aberdeen Considine Sutherland  
Cup Final  
at the Dell, Kingussie  
Kingussie v Newtonmore  
Graeme MacMillan - 4.05pm

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup  
Quarter Finals  
Newtonmore v Lochaber  
Graham Cameron - 12pm

Orion Group Premiership  
Inveraray v Lovat  
Dunkie Kerr  
Bute v Fort William  
Robert Baxter - 3pm  
Kyles Athletic v Glenurquhart  
Ted McDonald - 3pm

Marine Harvest  
North Division 1  
Skye v Caberfeidh  
Graham Irving - 1pm  
Strathglass v Inverness  
Evan MacRae

Marine Harvest  
South Division 1  
Strachur v Oban Camanachd  
Lachie Wood  
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Kilmory  
Colin MacDonald  
Glenorchy v Tainult  
Billy Wotherspoon

Marine Harvest  
North Division 2  
Fort William v Glenurquhart  
John Angus Gillies  
Lovat v Glangarry  
Innes Wood  
Skye v Aberdeen University  
Donald MacRae - 3.30pm

Marine Harvest  
South Division 2  
Aberdour v Lochside  
George O'Rourke  
Bute v Ardnamurchan  
Duncan Freshwater - 12pm  
Col Glen v Ballachulish  
Euan Pearson  
Kyles Athletic v Glasgow MA  
Douglas Ferguson - 12pm  
Tayforth v Inveraray  
David Mitchell

Marine Harvest  
North Division 3  
Caberfeidh v Kilmallie  
Ronnie Campbell - 12pm  
Lewis Camanachd v Boleskine  
Robert Morrison  
Strathglass v Beaulieu  
John Slaggie  
Strathspey v Lochcarron  
John Matheson  
(All throw ups 2.30 unless stated)



Newtonmore's Danny MacRae shields the ball from Kyles Athletic's Calum Miller during the Orion Premiership match at Tighnabruaich.

## League Tables

### The Orion Group Premiership

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	13	9	2	2	43	20	20
Lovat	14	8	3	3	33	20	19
Kyles Athletic	13	8	2	3	33	25	18
Kingussie	12	7	2	3	32	21	16
Fort William	13	5	2	6	23	24	12
Kinlochshiel	14	5	2	7	33	35	12
Glenurquhart	12	5	2	5	24	29	12
Inveraray	10	5	0	5	21	21	10
Kilmallie	16	3	2	11	27	44	8
Bute	13	0	3	10	7	37	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	14	4	3	7	21	34	11
Inverness	11	3	2	6	21	30	8
Strathglass	13	1	2	10	21	49	4

### Marine Harvest South Division 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glenorchy	11	9	0	2	27	11	18
Oban Camanachd	8	8	0	0	4	16	16
Glasgow MA	10	7	0	3	29	14	14
Oban Celtic	12	5	1	6	24	28	11
Strachur	13	3	3	7	17	27	9
Kilmory	12	3	2	7	22	29	8
Tainult	11	2	4	5	17	29	8
Aberdour	11	2	0	9	10	45	4

### Marine Harvest North Division 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	15	13	0	2	70	15	26
Kinlochshiel	15	7	4	4	30	37	18
Skye	13	6	2	5	31	22	14
Glenurquhart	12	6	2	4	25	23	14
Aberdeen Uni	14	5	2	7	27	28	12
Fort William	12	6	0	6	21	24	12
Glangarry	13	6	0	7	24	32	11
Kingussie	13	4	3	6	28	34	12
Lovat	15	5	1	9	28	38	11
Lochaber	14	2	2	10	32	63	6

### Marine Harvest South Division 2

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## Jarek's 'ground and pound' win

'It was my first fight at this level and I was pretty nervous'



Jarek Cimoszuk grounds his opponent.  
Photo: SJK Photography.

A FIGHTER from Oban Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) had a blistering win in the first ever fight the club has taken on. Jarek Cimoszuk, aged 29, dominated his opponent early on and won in the first round by a 'ground and pound', which involves grounding your opponent on his back and punching him until he submits and concedes a technical knock-out. Jarek, who beat Dundee fighter Billy Thomson at the professional Caledonian Combat event in Eden Court, Inverness last Saturday in front of around 500 spectators, said: 'It was the club's first fight but it was also my first fight at that level and I

was pretty nervous. I was hoping for a win but I wasn't sure what to expect. 'I was very happy to have won.' Jarek learned karate as a child but had no previous experience in mixed martial arts before he joined Oban MMA two years ago, when the club was forming. 'I had never done mixed martial arts until a couple of years ago, but I have been a fan for a long time.' Jarek was supported by coach Iain 'Coogie' Potter and cornermen Matthew Lane and Mateusz Grabiec. Coogie said: 'We are really pleased for Jarek because this

win is the result of years of dedication and hard work. 'For the club, it legitimises what we have been doing for the past two or three years. We have been working towards getting fights at these shows and Jarek's win has opened a few more doors within the MMA community around the country.' Jarek plans to next fight in Lanark on November 24 but Mateusz is due to be the club's next representative at the Vision Fighting Championship in Glasgow's Kelvin Hall at the beginning of September.

### MARTIAL ARTS

## Fastest ever time for Round Mull Race

THE FASTEST ever corrected time in the 27-year history of the Round Mull Race was achieved this year by Vailla. **Oban to Tobermory** First to break the finish line on Friday off Tobermory was Port Edgar Yacht Club commodore Terry Kirchin and his team on his First 40 CR The Black Prince but on corrected time in Class 1 it was Andrew and Anne Campbell's Oban based X-34 Ajax that took the win. Lochaber's Roddy Campbell on his Sun Odyssey 42 Windmark driven by Hamish Loudon finished second.

seas and winds peaking at 25 knots. The Black Prince took line honours in 3 hrs 30 mins for the 28 mile stretch and this time took the win from Windmark. Peter Watt's Vailla took Class 2 and the Bunnass Hall Trophy for the best performance on this leg with Bodach MacKenzie's team on Stoirm Mhor from Skye second. Class 3 was won by the Albin Cumulus Torranan skippered by Dave Crisp from Hot Toddy and Marisca. Mystic Sun again won restricted sail from CCC's John

Fraser on his Dufour 40 Wookie 2 and Blueberry of Lorne. Competitors enjoyed a buffet ceilidh hosted by the Ross of Mull Historical Society in Bunnassan village hall. Race officer Phil Preston raised a toast to the late Bill Taylor, a stalwart competitor of many Round Mull Races with his well known Contessa 26 Allegro. **Bunnassan to Tobermory** The Black Prince again took line honours (5hrs 50mins 42s) coming third on corrected time. Windmark won both Class and

the best overall time of the day with Scott Chalmers and family on Sunrise second. Vailla took a convincing win in Class 2 from Shadowfax and Sorr of Appin. It was Scintilla's day in Class 3 as she stormed through to win with Hot Toddy again finishing second from Marisca. In the Restricted Sail class, Mystic Sun won from Blueberry of Lorne. Full results and times on www.obansailingclub.org/roundmull

### SAILING



Robert Wilson in action during the Cock o' The North road race. Photo: Stephen Lawson.

## Personal best for Taynuilt road racer

TAYNUILT road racer Robert Wilson continued his good form this season by setting a personal best at the Cock o' The North race at Oliver's Mount, Scarborough. In fine weather conditions Robert competed in five races, finishing fifth in the 600cc class. The Stoddart Racing Kawasaki ZX600 rider's best finish was a third place during one of the heat races.

However, the highlight of his weekend was lapping the circuit in a personal best one minute and 49 seconds, two seconds quicker than his previous best. Robert thanked his sponsors and Billy Robertson and Gavin Harper, who assisted him over the weekend.

### MOTOR CYCLING

Brian Wiseman's Westerly Sorr of Appin with co-sponsor Ardfern Yacht Centre's Mark Cameron on board took the win from Glencoe Boat Club's BB10 Vailla in Class 2. Class 3 saw a well deserved victory for the Sadler 25 Hot Toddy team helmed by Findlay Clark. In the restricted sail class Steve William's Oceanis 440 Mystic Sun won from Andrew Mead of OSC on his Van de Stadt Seal. The prizegiving was held in The Mishnish courtesy of Robert MacLeod. **Tobermory to Bunnassan** A beat to Kilchoan was followed by a gusty reach with big



Gerry Davies, left, and Jim Livingstone with their final day prizes.

## Gerry retains Dalmally Scratch Championship

CONSISTENT scoring saw Gerry Davies retain Dalmally Golf Club's Scratch Championship when the Orchy club held its annual finals day last weekend. Entering the final round six strokes in front of nearest challenger Dale Robertson, the expected charge from the Oban man did not materialise and a closing round of 71 was enough for Davies to extend his lead to a comfortable 11 strokes. Shaun Squire was third a further four strokes back. With Davies ineligible for the

Handicap Championship, it was left to Jim Livingstone to claim this title, shooting the lowest net score of the day, 62. Livingstone also lifted the inaugural Seniors Handicap Championship, pipping the in-form John Malcolm by a single shot. There are still places available for this Sunday's Dalmally Gents Open, and late entries can be lodged up to noon on Saturday by phoning 07825823810.

### GOLF

## Skipness teenager sweeps the boards at riding club's open show

A SKIPNESS teenager swept the boards at this year's annual Argyll Riding Club Open Show. Tabby James and her pony, Jodie, took the Supreme title, beating some stiff competition along the way. Tabby, a member of South Argyll Pony Club was crowned champion in the utilities section of the show before going on to take the top spot. The annual open show was this year held on July 7 at Lunga Riding Stables, Craobh Haven, by kind permission of Miss Susan Wood. Thirty competitors from across Argyll, including Oban, Lochgilphead and Campbeltown took part in the event. Judges for the day were: Catherine Smith from Kilmichael Glassary, Trisha O'Reilly from Bute, Andrea Kyle from Paisley and Kate Bowie from Killearn. Riders were able to enjoy a range of classes for all shapes and sizes of horses and ponies. These included riding horse and pony classes, working hunter, mountain and moorland and show jumping, as well as coloured classes, family horse and veteran. The show's overall reserve champion title went to another South Pony Club member, Sarah Bateman from Southend, Kin-

tyre, riding Kangaroo Jack. Overall confined Argyll Riding Club champion was awarded to Julie Shaw from Barbreck, near Ardfern, riding Alsace, with the reserve title being scooped by Roanna Clark from Kilmelford riding Local Hero. The committee would like to thank everyone involved who made the day a success. Results: Overall Champion: Tabby James on Jodie; Overall Reserve Champion: Sarah Bateman on Kangaroo Jack; Argyll Riding Club Champion: Julie Shaw on Alsace; Argyll Riding Club Reserve Champion: Roanna Clark on Local Hero; Working Hunter Champion: Bethan Lemmon on Monkland Oliver; Ridden Champion: Julie Shaw on Alsace; Mountain and Moorland Champion: Nicola Gray-Stephens on Eilidh Bhan of Auchendarroch; Utilities Champion: Tabby James on Jodie; Tack & Turnout Winner: Julie Shaw on Alsace; Veteran Winner: Jane Mahmood on Polly. Showjumping results: Winners - Pre-Novice: Beth Qualter-Buncall on Barney; Novice: Beth Qualter-Buncall on Barney; Intermediate: Ashleigh Kilgour on Dafydd; Open: Rebecca Foster on Rattie.

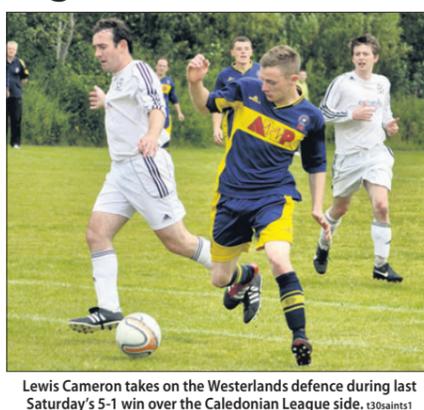
### HORSE RIDING

## Saints impress in pre-season match against Westerlands

Pre-season match **Oban Saints 5 Westerlands 1** AFTER their successful performances in the Keyline Cup tournament Oban Saints took on top Glasgow side Westerlands in a pre-season match at the rugby pitch last Saturday. Westerlands finished third in the Caledonian League last season so the Oban side thought they would be in for a tough game, but it didn't pan out that way as the local lads turned in a fine performance, netting five goals in the process. Both teams weren't at full-strength, due to holidays etc, but Saints manager Iain Jackson must have been delighted with the performance of his players on the day.

The teams played three half hour sessions which allowed the coaches to change tactics and personnel, give instructions and give all their players a good amount of game time. Saints took the lead in the fourth minute when PJ Sinclair was on hand to head the ball home. The local side doubled their advantage ten minutes later when Donald Campbell set up Lewis Cameron who fired the ball home. The second period was only two minutes old when Willie Gemmill killed the game off when he fired a tremendous 30-yarder high into the net. Westies threw themselves a lifeline when they were awarded a penalty after Marc MacCallum handled the ball in the box. Joe

Watson netted the spot kick. However the three goal advantage was restored just two minutes later when Donald Campbell slotted the ball home. The icing on the cake of a good afternoon's performance saw Lewis Cameron send a great pass through for Donald Campbell who took the ball in his stride before despatching it past the helpless Westerlands' keeper to make the final score 5-1. The game was well handled by referee Alan MacGregor. This Saturday Saints are at home again in a pre-season match when they take on Central Scottish league side East Kilbride at the rugby pitch, kick-off 1.30pm.



Lewis Cameron takes on the Westerlands defence during last Saturday's 5-1 win over the Caledonian League side. ©Sainsts1

### FOOTBALL

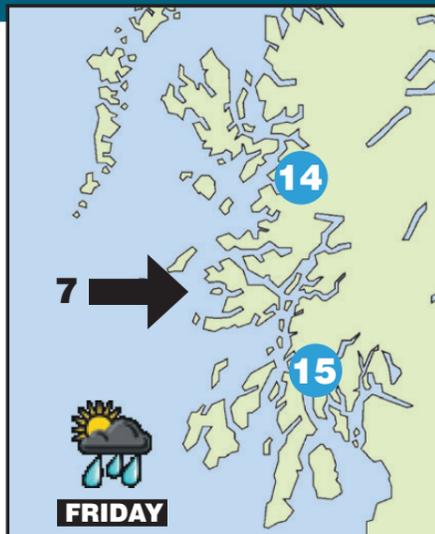
## Weather

**Thursday** Sunny intervals  
Winds light west, south westerly  
Temperatures 11°C to 16°C

**Friday** Heavy rain showers  
Winds light westerly  
Temperatures 11°C to 15°C.

**Weekend** Heavy rain showers  
**Outlook** Winds moderate westerly  
Temperatures 10°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 26, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur 04.28	1.4 10.21 3.2 16.48 1.2 22.43 3.2	
Fri 05.39	1.5 11.35 3.0 17.59 1.4 *** **	
Sat 00.07	3.1 07.00 1.6 13.30 3.0 19.17 1.4	
Sun 02.02	3.1 08.20 1.5 14.59 3.3 20.38 1.4	
Mon 03.28	3.2 09.31 1.3 15.58 3.5 21.52 1.2	
Tues 04.26	3.4 10.27 1.0 16.45 3.8 22.51 1.0	
Wed 05.10	3.6 11.15 0.8 17.25 4.0 23.40 0.8	

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		

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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.



# West Highland Yachting Week

Your four page guide starts on page 19.

**FORT WILLIAM & LOCHABER EDITION**

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8105

Thursday 26 July, 2012

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### Police forensics team search in Fort William

A POLICE forensics team carried out searches outside properties on Middle Street in Fort William on the early hours of Sunday morning.

A Northern Constabulary spokesperson confirmed to *The Oban Times* the Crime Investigation Department was conducting the enquiry and said it was related to an ongoing matter.

### Skye 'school' for 'silver surfers'



IT'S NEVER too late to learn: Effie Campbell dropped in to Glendale Village Hall in north-west Skye on Tuesday to learn more about internet technologies.

Dozens of local people attended the special event at the venue, which now has a wi-fi service.

Glendale Trust local development officer Elgar Finlay said Effie came in and 'asked for a go' of an i-Pad.

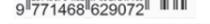
See full story, page 5.

### Fort's search for players continues

FORT William FC manager Danny Conlon is desperate to add to a threadbare squad before his side kicks off the new season under way at home to Lossiemouth this Saturday.

Conlon lost a number of players from last season and currently has no goalkeeper, although ex-St Johnstone midfielder Gary Farquhar has joined.

Fort are due play against a Lochaber Welfare League select side tonight (Thursday).



## New Gaelic school site sparks heated council debate

### Spending 'massive amounts of cash' at Blar Mhor is 'madness' claims councillor



Councillor Bill Clark is against spending 'massive amounts of cash'

LOCHABER councillors will be briefed on Monday on site development costs for Fort William's Gaelic medium primary school – as the debate on where the £4million facility should go intensifies.

As *The Oban Times* revealed in March, the council-owned former BMX track on Ardgour Road in Caol is now a major rival to the preferred site at nearby Blar Mhor, where work is under way on a £50million retail, business and community facilities hub.

**Closed-doors meeting**  
At the closed-doors meeting in Lochaber House, Ron Mackenzie, Highland Council's head of support services, will give councillors costings for both sites.

The information will have a major bearing on which location officials will recommend for approval to the adult and children's services committee, which is due to make a decision on August 23.

A council spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'There are significant additional costs of peat extraction at Blar Mhor. I am sure this figure will be confirmed when the members are briefed on Monday.'

The council is due £500,000 community benefit cash from the Blar development – but whether that will cover peat clearance for the school is unclear.

Peat has been removed from

the Ardgour Road site.

Councillor Bill Clark said spending 'massive amounts of cash' at the Blar was 'madness'.

**'Against Gaelic'**

He added: 'I just can't believe officials will put forward a recommendation that we will find money to clear a bog at a time when we are cutting services and staff are having to reapply for their own jobs.'

'They are getting a Gaelic school but do they want us to spend over £1million preparing the ground for it? We can't be seen to be throwing money about.'

'It would turn people against Gaelic.'

'I would want to see a recommendation for the Gaelic school to go on the former BMX track.'

'Why these councillors like Eddie [Hunter] and Allan [Henderson] are digging their heels in wanting to spend large amounts of money in digging peat away is beyond me.'

'You are talking £736,000 for peat clearance. Putting in roads and services takes that figure up to £1.2million – and that's before you start.'

Councillor Eddie Hunter questioned those figures, claiming they were based on a survey from the A830 access part of the site, where peat is much deeper. He said: 'To base site preparation costs on a desktop study seems to be rather unusual.'

'The council has commissioned test bores at the site of the planned campus at Caol – what's to stop them going across to the planning gain area [the Gaelic school site on the Blar] and dropping boreholes into the peat, which everybody knows is a lot less than where Miller is clearing just now.'

'I remain to be convinced that the site is not viable until such time as test bores have been done and prices [for peat removal] obtained from several contractors.'

'The best place for the new Gaelic school and the 3G community facility would be on the Blar adjacent to Lochaber High School and other facilities.'

'It would be a terrible shame and lack of vision if a wonderful opportunity like this to create an educational and community hub was lost to Lochaber.'

### Success at West Ardnamurchan Show



The Curtis family from Kilchoan scooped an armful of trophies at West Ardnamurchan Show and Sports on Friday after their Blackface sheep impressed the judges. Local crofter Rosie, pictured above with children Megan, Allan and Chloe, claimed the overall champion sheep title and several other cups. The event yet again struck it lucky with the weather as hundreds enjoyed a day out in Kilchoan. Show and sports chairman Gus MacLean said to the *Oban Times*: 'Once again the day allowed exiles to come home and catch up on news, families to mix and take part in the varied events, and visitors to enjoy West Highland hospitality in glorious surroundings.'

See our exclusive show report and photos on page 9. - 20\_13041006.

### New land reform group welcomed

CAMPAIGNERS have hailed First Minister Alex Salmond's announcement in Skye that a new body has been set up to deliver big changes on land reform.

**Improvements**  
The Land Reform Review Group will assess existing legislation – seen as far too cumbersome for small community land buyouts – draw up improvements and report back to ministers by the end of next year.

Dr Alison Elliot, who has extensive experience working in the community and voluntary sector, will chair the group. Professor James Hunter and Dr Sarah Skerratt, who have huge experience of Highlands and Islands rural development, have been named as vice chairs. A further 10 experts will be appointed to the group shortly. Community Land Scotland, the body representing community landowners across the country, welcomed the appointment of 'three strong independent thinkers' to head the review.

**'The review can learn from the success of the land reform that has already taken place and help plan how to accelerate that.'**

**Chairman**  
David Cameron

Chairman David Cameron said: 'It is also welcome that the terms of reference appear to be broad as this will allow scope for the group to examine radical action that will help advance the cause of securing further change in land ownership across Scotland.'

'The review can learn from the success of the land reform that has already taken place over recent decades and help plan how to accelerate that.'

'Community Land Scotland will play an active part in

presenting evidence for further reforms to promote an ever greater role for communities in the ownership and management of their land and look forward to contributing actively to the work now getting underway.'

Mr Salmond revealed the shake up ahead of the summer cabinet meeting in the Aros Centre Portree on Tuesday.

The review, he said, should deliver radical change for rural and urban areas, improve current legislation and come up with even more innovative proposals.

He said: 'Land reform is an important part of Scotland's story. From the Crofting Acts of the 1880s and 1890s to the more recent right-to-buy legislation and support for community land purchase, significant progress has been made.'

'We cannot underestimate the crucial part land reform will play in contributing to the future success of Scotland for the next generation.'

'By improving the relationship between our land and people, we

can create stronger communities and deliver the economic growth and fairer society that the people of Scotland quite rightly expect.'

At the public question time following its meeting, the cabinet fielded questions from the packed audience in the 170-seat auditorium.

Hottest political issue was the government's imminent decision on whether to bring forward legislation on same sex marriage.

Questions from the floor were generally hostile, but a government spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'When ministers were mingling at the end there were people saying 'you are doing the right thing' - but they weren't standing up in the hall during the debate.'

During the session, Infrastructure Secretary Alex Neil's announced a feasibility study was under way into the resumption of air services to and from Ashaig Airfield near Broadford. Commercial flights from the airstrip ended in 1988.

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### 'Viking' team return

THE TEAM who discovered the UK mainland's first fully intact Viking boat burial is to return next month to the Lochaber site where it was found.

The Ardnamurchan Transitions Project found the 1,000 year-old remains in west Ardnamurchan last August and are returning in hope of finding further evidence of Viking occupation on the peninsula.

The team will also be looking out for evidence of domestic occupation during all periods up to the 19th century.

Two open days will be held at the Sworle Bay site as the digging resumes.

Local people can find out more about the project at a talk entitled 'The Ardnamurchan Viking and other discoveries: recent finds from Sworle Bay' at Kilchoan Community Centre on Thursday August 9.

The free event will discuss last year's find - a five-metre long grave containing a high status Viking who was buried in a ship.

He was also buried with an axe, a sword, a spear, and a shield on land on Ardnamurchan Estate.

Viking specialist Dr Colleen Batey from the University of Glasgow said the boat is likely to be from the 10th century AD.

The team previously found a knife, a whetstone from Norway, a ring pin from Ireland and Viking pottery in other parts of Ardnamurchan and are awaiting identification of dozens of other pieces of iron found at the site.

The project is led by experts from the universities of Manchester and Leicester, CFA Archaeology Ltd and Archaeology Scotland, and has been excavating land in the area for the past six years.

### Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team have busy weekend

GLENCOE Mountain Rescue Team had a busy weekend with call outs on Friday and Saturday.

The team was called to the aid of two Dutch brothers who took the wrong path while walking the West Highland Way through Rannoch Moor near the King's House Hotel at around 11pm on Saturday night.

Team members on a quad bike were able to locate the pair, one of whom had injured his leg, and took them to

Glencoe village.

On Friday evening a husband and wife returning from the summit of Coire Gabhail needed assistance after she tripped and injured her ankle. The woman was stretchered back to her car and her husband drove her to Belford Hospital in Fort William.

Team Leader John Grieve told *The Oban Times*: 'It's quite rough ground because it's not walked on very much, so it's pretty easy to lose your footing.'

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For further information, please contact Amanda Burt on 01463 227913 or [a.burt@highlandhospice.org.uk](mailto:a.burt@highlandhospice.org.uk) [www.highlandhospice.org/skyesthelimit](http://www.highlandhospice.org/skyesthelimit)

**Sport Ecosse Events**

FW

**Police appeal after car damaged on Isle of Skye**

POLICE in Portree are appealing for any witnesses after a Silver Toyota Avenis car was badly damaged while parked on the A855 at The Old Man Storr. The vehicle's nearside was extensively damaged while the owners were walking on the hill between 12.15pm and 2pm on July 17.

Anyone with information regarding the car can contact Portree Police Station on 01478 612888 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

**Corpach man admits reckless use of airgun**

A CORPACH man has admitted firing an airgun from his home in the direction of a man and children in the garden of a nearby house.

Alexander Dunbar, of 32 Clerk Drive, pled guilty to culpably and recklessly firing a pellet in the direction of the man who was with children in the garden of a house on Lady Margaret Drive on March 20.

Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentencing the 25-year-old until August 15, saying: 'I'll need to get reports, standing the nature of the charges.'

**Shopmobility needs volunteers**

SHOPMOBILITY Lochaber has issued an appeal for volunteers to help collect donations during its annual flag week from August 13-18.

The group, which helps local people with mobility problems access shops and services, will also hold a sponsored scooter run and wheelchair push on August 18, leaving its office at An Aird around 11am.

The party will go along the High Street to Seafeld Gardens and back, or the West End Hotel if it is raining, with a picnic along the way.

Co-ordinator Billy Ward said: 'This is our only week where we can go out and collect from the general public and we need to make it count. Without fundraisers like this, we would struggle to exist.'

'We are looking for people to spare an hour or two during the week who are willing to collect in the street and from friends on our behalf. Let's make 2012 the best ever!'

Anyone wishing to help with collecting or take part in the August 18 event can contact 01397 700051. Sponsorship forms are available in the office.

**Cancelled Lochaber Highland Games pledge return in 2013**

LOCHABER Games organisers have pledged the event will return in 2013 for the first time since 2010, but are calling on more local volunteers to come forward and help out.

The showpiece event, which would have been held this

Saturday, was cancelled due to ongoing work to improve drainage at the An Aird shinty pitch, which doubles as the games' arena. But the organising committee have been told the ground should be available by mid-September, meaning

there should be no problems for hosting the 2013 event. Committee member Allan Lyndsay told *The Oban Times* the Games, which regularly drew crowds of over 3,000, would return next year, but said the committee were hoping to

add new members. He said: 'There should be no problem next year, but we need to try and attract more people to the committee. We've got a core of around five, with a larger group of around eight. But we would like to bring in people

with certain skills, like publicity, marketing, sponsorship and advertising. 'It would help ease the work on the small number of volunteers we've got if we could get more people on board.'

The committee held talks about whether to move to show to another event in Fort William for one year, but decided the costs and amount of work needed were too prohibitive. Mr Lyndsay said: 'There's a lot of work involved in moving. All over our stuff is at An Aird,

and aside from physically moving it, our signs and banners all say An Aird. 'The timing is just really unfortunate for us. 'We didn't want to cancel it last year and we didn't want to cancel it this year.'

**Summer fèis at Fort Augustus celebrates 10-year success**

'It is one of the main reasons why the Scottish traditional music scene is vibrant'

FÈIS GLEANN Albainn marked its tenth annual summer fèis at Kilchuimen Academy in Fort Augustus last week with a birthday celebration.

Fiddle tutor Rona Cooper turned 21 on Thursday - and spent much of her big day handing on her skills to eager youngsters.

Rona, who was born and brought up in the village, is herself a product of the fèisean movement and attended the first ever summer fèis back in 2003 at the age of 11.

She learned at the feet of some of the giants of the Scottish fiddle scene including Aonghas Grant of Lochyside, and Charlie McKerron of Capercaillie and Session A9.

Now the talented Edinburgh-based musician, who amongst her credits includes tours of Scotland, England and Germany as a member of Salsa Celtica, is helping to bring forward the next generation of fiddlers.

Rona told *The Oban Times*: 'I have been tutoring here since I was 16 but only after I had a lot of practice with Charlie and Aonghas. Now I mostly do performing but quite a bit of private tutoring as well.'

'It's nice to see the kids coming on. I have seen some of them right from when they first started.

**EXCLUSIVE REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS**

snorris@obantimes.co.uk

'There's a whole lot of young musicians coming through, which is really nice because I can think back to when I was at that stage.'

Around 50 youngsters aged between five and 18 attended the summer fèis, which is run by a group of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers from Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Invergarry.

Shinty, Celtic art, Gaelic and tuition from top class musicians in a variety of traditional instruments make up the programme.

A concert involving both tutors and pupils was held in the school on Thursday night. Co-organiser Tracey MacCallum told *The Oban Times*: 'Everybody seems to have enjoyed it. The fèis is so important to traditional music, the Gaelic movement and our history and heritage.'

Chanter and whistle tutor Heather Forbes added: 'It is one of the main reasons why the Scottish traditional music scene is so vibrant. The standard over the past 20 years has gone up hugely - and it keeps Gaelic going as well.'



Fort Augustus fiddler Rona Cooper, behind, celebrated her 21st birthday at the summer fèis 20. f30feis03



Thirteen-year old Hugh Brown from Westhill, Aberdeen picks a tune under the watchful eye of tutor Martin MacDonald from Point, Lewis 20. f30feis06



Fort Augustus boy Cameron Bremner, second left, joins Drummadrochit pals Alexander Webster, and Ruaridh and Finlay George Ralston at Heather Forbes' chanter class 20. f30feis01



Great Glen children Rachel Allan, Josie Bloom, Katie Walker, Rhianna MacCallum and Cameron Fraser got creative in the art class. Their tutor was Tiina Heinonen from Morar. 20. f30feis05



Accordion tutor at the fèis was Fiona Young from Roy Bridge 20. f30feis04



Rebecca Johnstone from Glen Moriston is a study in concentration in Rebecca Skeoch's keyboards tutorial 20. f30feis02



The 5-7 year-old Gaelic group, tutored by Ann Stewart from Invergarry, line up at their dress rehearsal for the concert. 20. f30feis07

**Isles councillors highlight housing concerns**

COMHAIRLE nan Eilean Siar representatives briefed housing and transport minister Keith Brown last week on the critical housing situation in the Western Isles.

Problems facing the council include severe difficulties in developing more affordable housing, growing homelessness, a housing waiting list of over 700 and the highest levels of fuel poverty in Scotland.

Comhairle leader Angus Campbell said: 'More houses have to be built to allow more young people a chance to live here.'

'The meeting provided us with an opportunity to outline to the Minister the issues we face, in particular the additional cost of building housing on the islands, and the Minister agreed to consider the proposals if we brought forward a model for how housing could be better funded in the Western Isles.'

**Caol man admits assaulting wife**

A CAOL man has admitted twice attacking his wife after an argument about him going fishing.

South African Reinhard Du Plessis, of 3 Olwyn Courtyard, pled guilty to assaulting the woman by repeatedly slapping her on the head and face.

Fort William Sheriff Court heard the unemployed 28-year-old returned from a fishing trip on July 1 and the pair got into an argument. The fight continued the next morning, with Du Plessis again hitting the woman.

Deferring sentence for six months for good behaviour, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'It is quite unacceptable for you to assault your wife.'

**Highland Council retains customer service award**

HIGHLAND Council has been rewarded for its customer service skills by retaining a national award it won last year.

The Customer Service Excellence Standard was given to the council for the service it provides through Service points, telephone utility and its Registration Service.

The award follows an annual inspection from the licensed certification body, which has been approved by the Cabinet Office.

Highland Council chief executive Alistair Dodds said: 'Improving customer care is a priority in the Council. Retaining this award reflects tremendously well on our staff, who deserve the highest praise for maintaining high standards of customer care.'

**Leverburgh lifeboat comes to yacht's aid**

LEVERBURGH Lifeboat team was called into action on Sunday after a yacht broke free of its moorings near Dunvegan on Skye during gale force winds with two people on board.

The 14metre vessel, 'Mrs Muir', broke free from moorings near Stein, Loch Bay at around 1pm. The lifeboat crew established a towline and to the yacht to a nearby safe mooring.

Stornoway Coastguard helicopter and Dunvegan Mobile Coastguard Unit also provided assistance.

The callout was the fifth for the Leverburgh team since the station opened in May.

Meanwhile, Stornoway Coastguard assisted Skye Mountain Rescue Team last Friday after a man fell 30 feet while walking in the Cuillins.

The 54 year-old was airlifted from Sgurr Dubh Mor to Broadford Hospital where he was kept in overnight. He suffered slight head injuries and some soft tissue damage.

**Police appeal as Fort William house window smashed**

THE LIVING room window of a house on Banff Crescent, Fort William was smashed between 4pm and 6.30pm on Saturday July 21.

Anyone who has any information is asked to contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702 361, Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or the confidential line on 01397 702 000.

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**Skid prevention surface at Corran Ferry accident hotspot**

WORK TO improve grip on a danger bend near Corran Ferry got underway last week and is expected to last a number of weeks.

After receiving a number of reports of accidents at the A82/Birchbrae corner, Transport Scotland carried out a survey on the bend which showed there was a problem with traction.

The *Oban Times* understand more than 20 cars have gone off the road at the corner, around 10 miles south of Fort William, since the start of the year.

The road is being closed to one lane overnight to allow the work to be carried out.

The installation of the skid prevention surfacing started last Tuesday, with Scotland TransServ contracted to carry out the improvements. TransServ customer service manager Cathel MacAskill said the timetable for the work was 'weather dependant'. He added: 'The work is being done overnight to minimise disruption. It could take quite some time but we'll be working on it as often as weather permits.'

**Lochaber guides lead on West Highland Way**

TWO LOCHABER men guided a trio of celebrities on the final leg of their charity fundraising West Highland Way challenge on Saturday afternoon.

Children's charity Ian Sykes and Jamie Smith helped Fred MacAulay, Claire Grogan and Nick Nairn as they made their way from Kinlochleven to Fort William in aid of Scottish children living in poverty.

Mr Smith, who owns the Ice Factor in Kinlochleven, said: 'It was a simply great day. 'The stars were all very fit and moved at a cracking pace. 'Fred deserves special praise as he did a gig every night along the five day challenge.'

'Anyone who has walked 21 miles over the mountains, and is then able to get up and perform on stage all evening is showing enormous grit.'

Nevis Range founder Mr Sykes said: 'Clare is a runner and Nick is pretty active in the hills, so our day was easy.'

'We watched Nick conjure up a smoked salmon and chanterelle mushroom lunch, much better than our standard pieces.'

Mr MacAulay performed a stand-up gig in the Tailrace Inn in Kinlochleven on Friday night.

The challenge was part of STV's appeal to raise money and awareness of poverty in Scotland.

## Former council leader claims survey tipped against Blar Mhor

FORMER Highland Council leader Michael Foxley has criticised a questionnaire on potential sites for an indoor training centre and '3G' sports pitch in Fort William.

The ex-Fort William and Ardnachan councillor claims the survey is slanted against the Blar Mhor, which as council head he strongly pushed as the best place for community facilities including a new Gaelic

primary school.

Work to remove peat and install access roads at the huge Miller Developments site is already well underway.

Work on a 60,000 sqft Tesco superstore is expected to start early in the New Year, with a retail park, business and industrial units to follow. An ambulance and police HQ and new Belford Hospital are also planned on the 107-acre site.

However, the new SNP-led Highland Council is weighing up whether to stick by proposals to site the school and sports pitch on the Blar.

Up to three metres of peat will need to be removed at great cost before construction could start. Community benefit cash from Miller and longer term planning gain would offset those costs to a degree, but financial constraints mean cheaper to

develop sites elsewhere are actively being considered.

The questionnaire, part of a joint Lochaber Sports Association (LSA)/Highland Council feasibility study, invites respondents to rank three of six sites - Canal Parks, An Aird, Black Parks, Blar Mhor, Claggan Park and Lochaber High School - in order of preference as the best location for a new pitch, indoor training centre

- or both.

Blar Mhor is described as 'a standalone facility' - a description which angered Dr Foxley. He said: 'As a councillor I was directly involved in the funding and construction of five new playing fields in Lochaber and also with the plans and funding for a further four playing fields.'

'I do not understand why ... the Blar Mor is described as a stand alone facility.'

'It is the preferred location for the Gaelic School for greater Fort William as both resources and staff can be shared with the nearby Lochaber High School and is a desired location by many for the G3 shinty/football pitch on the community site, so that again this facility can be shared with the Gaelic School and LHS.'

'Parking will be readily available in the future. This im-

portant point about co-location and shared facilities needs to be made clear as [the] consultation continues.'

LSA chair Jane Blanchard felt unable to comment on Dr Foxley's views but said the public would be able to see how feasibility study is progressing in Morrison's store, Fort William on August 8 between 12.30pm and 6.30pm. Deadline for responses is August 23.

## Kilchoan annual watersports start today

WEST ARDNAMURCHAN Regatta Club kicks off two days of watersports at Kilchoan at 11am today (Thursday) with sailing and windsurfing races.

The main competition day tomorrow sees sailing, rowing, canoe, raft, outboard and powerboat races held every 10 or 15 minutes from 10am.

The presentation of prizes at 4.30pm will be followed by the regatta prize draw at 5.15pm.

A regatta dance in Kilchoan Community Centre tomorrow evening at 8pm will round off the annual event. Tickets will be on sale at the door.

**Entries invited for Acharacle mini-triathlon**

ENTRIES are now being taken for a mini-triathlon being staged in aid of Fèis na Garbh Cricochan (Fèis of the Rough Bounds) funds at Acharacle on Sunday, September 29.

The event comprises a 1.5 mile run from Acharacle Primary School to Cliff Park, a cycle to the old pier and a one mile swim to Castle Tioram and back to Dorlin beach, where participants and supporters will enjoy a barbecue and tunes from fèis musicians.

For details contact Lyndsay Bradley at lynzbrad@aol.com.

## 'Brave' comes early to Eilean Donan

EILEAN Donan Castle in Lochalsh is to screen Disney Pixar's 'Brave' a week before it goes on general release across Scotland.

Local children and parents have been invited to a special showing of the new animated film in Screen Machine - the 80-seat mobile cinema which bringing the latest films to remote areas - on Saturday.

The film, which is set in Scotland, is expected to give a major boost to the tourism industry.

Iain MacColl, Screen Machine senior operator, said: 'We'll follow Eilean Donan with summer screenings throughout the Highlands and Islands.'

## 4.4 x 3.9 20\_f30eilean01

Eilean Donan Castle is to host a screening of Brave

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# Fort William man who threatened court witness is jailed

### Wife also fined £400 after threats to witness's mother

A FORT William man who told a witness he was a 'dead man' for giving evidence against him at the town's sheriff court has been jailed.

Stuart Crichton, aged 42, of 26 Grange Road, was found guilty of uttering threats to William Stewart outside the court building.

Crichton's wife, Theresa, was also convicted of behaving in a threatening and abusive manner towards Mr Stewart's mother who was also due to appear as a witness at the June 20 trial.

The intimidation took place as 36-year old Mr Stewart and his mother were sitting outside after the court had adjourned for lunch during Mr Stewart's evidence.

The Crichtons made the threatening remarks as they walked past, Mr Stewart told Fort William Sheriff Court.

He said: 'I heard a comment from Stuart, "Now you're a dead man". I took it as a threat.'

**"Now you're a dead man."**

**I took it as a threat."**

**Court witness**

'She commented as well saying "You too missus". I assumed that was meant to my mum.'

Mrs Stewart said the comments had been made in a 'very aggressive tone'.

In her evidence, Mrs Crichton, aged 52, claimed she and her husband had been discussing online comments which had been made towards her son.

'I could have said those words, but not when they said I did. Those words were used when we were discussing our son. I didn't look at Mr and Mrs Stewart and I didn't speak to them.'

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie said the Crichtons' claims were not believable.

'It makes no sense whatsoever,' she said. 'They just happened to be talking about something else and these people just happened to misunderstand it.'

Stewart's solicitor Ms Chapman said: 'It is accepted that words like that were used, but they were not directed towards the Stewarts - they were having a conversation about their son.'

But Sheriff Douglas Small agreed with Ms Wylie and jailed Crichton for eight months.

He said: 'In my opinion the defence position is untenable. It is far too much of a coincidence.'

'This is an extremely serious offence. You have threatened a witness who was in the course of giving evidence against you.'

Fining Crichton's wife £400, Sheriff Small told her: 'I accept you probably tagged on to what your husband was saying to Mr Stewart.'



From front, Glengarry children Evie Kocjan-Briggs, Eleanor Littlewood, Joseph Kocjan-Briggs and Lucy Bloom are impressed by the crofting display 20\_f30garry01

## First Minister announces £130,000 boost for Skye projects

SOUND archiving and film-making projects based on Skye have £130,000 from the Scottish Government.

First Minister Alex Salmond announced the cash support on Monday during a visit with Education Secretary Michael Russell to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college on Sleat.

**National Sound Archive**

The bulk of the money, £100,000, will allow the National Library of Scotland to pilot a National Sound Archive with Tobar an Dualchais (Kist o' Riches in the Scots language).

The project digitises, catalogues and preserves Gaelic and Scots songs and stories collected over the past 80 years.

Thousands of recordings - many made on old tape recorders - have already been saved for the nation.

A further £30,000 goes to MGA/Alba to encourage young Gaelic filmmakers take part in its annual FilmG project, delivered by creative multimedia company Cànán.

Both Tobar an Dualchais and

Cànán are based at Sabhal Mòr.

The announcement, according to the First Minister, demonstrated the government's 'strong commitment' to the cultural economy and creative activity.

He said: 'Through its work to collect, preserve and provide access to more than 11,500 hours of Scotland's sound heritage, Tobar an Dualchais has potential to play a key role in our long term ambitions to create a National Sound Archive for Scotland.'

'Today's funding will extend this excellent work, supporting employment and skills development for the digitisers, cataloguers, data editors and copyright officers who are involved - many of who are working from some of Scotland's most economically fragile areas.'

'By allocating a further £30,000 to the FilmG project, we're demonstrating our firm commitment to fostering a sustainable future for Gaelic in Scotland. I hope that this additional support will mean

next year's FilmG project will return an even bigger showcase from Scotland's talented young Gaelic filmmakers.'

Donnie Munro, Chairman of Tobar an Dualchais, said: 'This represents a further and much appreciated commitment by the Scottish Government to our national cultural heritage through supporting the excellent work being carried out by the Tobar an Dualchais-Kist O' Riches team.'

Praising the extra funding, MG ALBA chief executive Donald Campbell said Film G was 'a vital strand' in helping Gaelic usage among young people.

Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson welcomed the announcement, which came hours before the Scottish Cabinet's meeting and question and public answer session in the Aros Centre in Portree on Tuesday.

Mr Thompson said: 'These significant investments demonstrate the SNP Government's commitment to fostering Scotland's creative industries.'

## Glengarry's four-day flower festival receives rave reviews

A FOUR-DAY flower festival in Glengarry Parish Church of Scotland came to an end on Sunday amid rave reviews from locals and visitors.

The donations only exhibition comprised 21 beautifully composed flower displays around the church interior, sited to make best use of sunlight flooding through the windows.

Under the general theme of 'with these hands' eight arrangements celebrated 'giving' and the work of charities such as the British Heart Foundation Water for Africa and Highland Hospice.

Six displays portrayed 'work' in many forms, including The Glengarry Hydro Scheme, gamekeeping and

crofting.

Seven flower compositions highlighted the 'talents' of artisans such as beekeepers, dressmakers, artists and bakers.

The festival was the second to be held in the church, the first being held seven years ago. All monies raised went to church funds.

Helper Belle Henderson told *The Oban Times*: 'The festival has brought people together from throughout the whole community - it is a real community effort.'

Fellow Helper Helen Allen added: 'We are just a group of volunteers who came together for this - everybody pitches in.'

## Morvern exhibition lands windfall

AN EXHIBITION of days gone by in Morvern has provided an unexpected financial windfall for Kiel Parish Church in Lochaline.

The 114 year-old building above the village hosted 12 colourful exhibition stands depicting life and work in the parish over the ages during Morvern Gala Week.

The displays were only up for four days, but they attracted a constant stream of visitors from all over Scotland, who also enjoyed teas and homebaking.

No entry fee was charged - but a pleasant surprise awaited organiser Creina Jackson as she packed away the stands. She told *The Oban Times*: 'We had no intention of making it a fund-raising event.'



Creina Jackson

'But we were astounded at the end to find over £250 had been left as donations for church funds. We might think of having it again next year.'

Creina added: 'I was delighted so many friends and neighbours rallied round to make the church such a welcome venue for our many visitors who come here at this time of the year.'

The exhibitions themes included The Diamond

Jubilee (Helen Watt); Colours of the Rainbow (Kate Cruickshank); MacMillan Nurses (Anna Strachan and Lesley Smart); Jubilee Street Party (Jayne Kennedy); Seascope (Sheila and Amanda Fergusson); Crofting (Morag Barnes); St Columba's Tableaux (Barbara and Fiona Christian); Mermaid's Garden Under the Sea (Annabel Lawrence); Defending the Faith (Creina Jackson); Gone Fishing (Theresa Bolton); Country Garden (Joanne Henderson and Trina MacCush); Play Park Update (Veronique Walraven and Nikki Burnham); Old Morvern Photographs (Alastair Scoular, Robert Laurie and Creina Jackson) and Miniature Gardens by local children.

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**Police charge two with fire-raising**

FOLLOWING police investigations into the fire at the Harbour Bowl in Oban's Shore Street, two teenage boys, aged 13 and 14, have been charged with wilful fire-raising.

Oban Police say they are also following a positive line of enquiry with regards to a third suspect.

The former ten-pin bowling premises caught fire on Sunday, July 15.

**Loch Lomond road night closures**

THE MAIN road route from Oban to Glasgow will be closed for four nights from Monday, July 30.

The A82 from Crianlarich to Tarbet will close between 10pm and 6am for four consecutive nights with traffic being allowed through every two hours.

Access will be maintained for local traffic and there will be a 15 minute opportunity to pass through at midnight, 2am and 4am. There will also be a signed diversion in place via the A83.

The closure is to allow ground investigations on the carriageway as part of Transport Scotland's improvement scheme on the A82.

**Mull man charged with passing counterfeit cash**

A19-YEAR-old Mull man has been charged following the discovery of counterfeit £20 notes being circulated on the island.

Between July 14 and 15 the teenager is alleged to have presented the fake notes at three business premises in Tobermory.

**New Bishop of Glasgow appointed**

BISHOP Philip Tartaglia of Paisley has been appointed Archbishop of Glasgow by Pope Benedict XVI.

Archbishop-elect Tartaglia, who has served as Bishop of Paisley since 2005, will replace Archbishop Conti when he steps down in the coming weeks.

The Archbishop-elect said: 'I know I can only be a good bishop with help from above, so I ask everyone to pray for me.'

**NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING**



Oban Pipe Band joined 300 pipers from different nations for the traditional march through the Spanish town of Ortigueira.

**Oban pipers take Ortigueira festival by storm**

PLAYING in front of a crowd of 10,000 people in the hot weather and stunning setting of north-west Spain was in stark contrast to Oban Pipe Band's usual performances.

More used to a wet games field in the Scottish west Highlands, the band was one of three Scottish acts to perform at this year's Festival Internacional do Mundo Celta in Ortigueira between July 12 - 15, and played the main stage on the Saturday night to the huge crowd.

Lochaber-based Blazin' Fiddles headlined the Friday night of the Celtic festival, while the Rua Macmillan band, which also played on Saturday, featured Oban's Tia Files on guitar.

'Great experience' 'We have never played at anything like it,' said Oban pipe major Euan Dewar. 'As a pipe band, playing in front of 10,000 festival-goers was the strangest thing I have ever seen but it was a great experience.'

'We had a 45-minute slot and after we finished we were walking off the stage to the crowd chanting 'Oban!' over and over again. It was surreal.'

Oban Pipe Band's place in the festival line-up only happened after organisers asked Three band Skerryvore to recommend a pipe band and, as Oban had just been named world champions in grade 3A, Skerryvore piper Martin Gillespie put them forward.

The pipe band took part in various parades and marches through the streets of Ortigueira, playing alongside local pipe bands and a Bagad band from France.

Euan said: 'It was great fun to play with those bands, who were well aware of the Scottish pipes thanks to [South Uist piper] Fred Morrison, who plays out here a lot. 'We hope we will be able to come back, because it was a really big thing for the band.'

**Championship golf course for Jura**

THE SMALL Hebridean island of Jura could soon boast a world-class 18-hole championship golf course as part of a major investment in Ardfin Estate.

**Finest in Scotland** Greg Coffey, the Australian hedge fund manager who owns the estate, has drawn up the ambitious plans in a bid to make Ardfin one of the finest estates in Scotland.

The plan also aims to encourage more shooting trips and to renovate the dilapidated farm steading and other properties in need of attention on the 14,000-acre estate.

The development of Ardfin, which incorporates the main settlement of Craighouse, has been described by estate man-

ager Willie MacDonald as the most significant since the island distillery opened in 1963.

Two employees have been added to the payroll in the past three weeks, as the general improvements to the estate begin.

And, should the golf course plan go ahead, as many as nine people could be employed full time by the estate.

**Employment**

Mr MacDonald, who has worked on the estate for 34 years and is also chairman of the island community council, said: 'I have seen the estate go through different phases but this type of investment goes way beyond anything I've ever seen. It is more than just the golf course, it will have a big

impact on Jura from the point of view of employment.

'It is incredible that someone could contemplate this type of investment in the island.'

**Positive reaction**

Asked what budget had been set aside for the project, Mr MacDonald replied: 'There is no budget. How could you budget for it?'

The golf course plan has had a positive reaction from the vast majority of islanders, who had been concerned about the environmental impact it would have.

The course would be built on the site of Ardfin Farm, which is no longer in agricultural use, but there are no new buildings outlined in the golf course plan.

The estate is in consultation with environmental groups, including Scottish Natural Heritage, and has this week begun a three-month consultation period before submitting a planning application.

Jura Community Council treasurer Alex Dunnachie said: 'I think this estate owner could be one of the best things to happen to the island, if he is left alone to do what he wants to do.'

'It is his land and he is spending money on it and that will improve infrastructure and employment on Jura.'

'We were shown the plans at the service point and I didn't hear one negative comment about it.'

**'Spygate' cost cash-strapped council £30,000**

Councillors question appointment of investigator outwith tender process

JOHN Clayton, the man hired by Argyll and Bute Council to investigate claims of press office 'spying', was paid nearly £30,000 for 14 days of work.

The Oban Times obtained figures under the Freedom of Information Act that the former Audit Scotland chief earned £29,121.88 over the course of his investigation, which was completed mid-May.

It is understood he billed for 14 days of work, taking his daily fee to more than £2,080.

With communications manager, Jo Smith, suspended on full pay for six months, the minimum cost of the investigation is £50,000. The total cost of investigation, however, will have to take account of the fallout that saw press officers Janet West and Dinah MacKay resigning and short-term replacements brought in.

Meanwhile, The Oban Times has obtained information indicating Mr Clayton's report clears the press office of spying.

It is understood Ms Smith will attend a disciplinary hearing at Kilmory next month, facing a

*"It's a lot of money for nothing at the end of the day."*

**Councillor Alistair MacDougall**

lesser charge of bringing the council into disrepute for using the word 'spy' in a presentation.

Councillors are now calling for an internal investigation into how Mr Clayton came to sign a contract with the authority, with question marks raised over chief executive, Sally Loudon's role in his appointment.

John McAlpine, of the Argyll First group of councillors, said: 'My major concern with this is that in most circumstances we have to go through the tender process to appoint someone.'

'What gave Sally Loudon - if it was her - the right to just appoint someone of her own choice? Someone she had obviously known beforehand in a previous

employment? 'If it was not her, then who was it and who authorised it?'

'Even then, was this the best person to go to? We have our own HR department - could they have done it at a fraction of the cost?'

Independent Oban South and Isles councillor Alistair MacDougall said: 'I don't know who authorised this in the first place. That's something I will be digging into. It's a lot of money for nothing at the end of the day.'

'I would have said this should have been an internal investigation with councillor involvement - that would also have got to the bottom of it.'

Mr MacDougall questioned the wisdom of spending so much money on the investigation when there was reduced spend in the community on care packages and similar services.

The leader and deputy leader of both the administration and opposition were unavailable for comment. Argyll and Bute Council was contacted for comment but did not respond at the time of going to press.

**Argylls sent 'mixed message' as they are called to guard Olympics**

JUST one week after being informed of their downgrading to company status, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders has been sent an SOS by the UK Government after the botched security arrangement for the Olympic Games.

**Redeployment** The battalion of Scottish troops has been told it is to be drafted in to provide extra security for the Olympics.

Some soldiers from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders - the 5th Battalion The Royal

Regiment of Scotland - have already taken up their new duties.

The redeployment came just a week after the unit was told it was effectively being disbanded because of defence cuts and would be given ceremonial duties.

Former Argyll and Sutherland Highlander Alex Sloss, from Oban, said the move was a slap in the face for the regiment.

He added: 'The government is sending out a mixed message to these troops. If they are good

enough to guard the Olympics, they are good enough to continue as a regiment.'

'The Argylls can do the security work but they are a fighting regiment.'

Extra defence personnel have been drafted in after the private contractor, G4S, failed to recruit and train enough staff to secure Olympic venues.

The additional military deployment will take the total number of servicemen and women involved in the Olympic Games to 17,000.

25 Years Ago

Those Were The Days

The Oban Times

Thursday, July 30, 1987

**Aonach Mor lobby meet Highlands minister today**

AN ATTEMPT will be made today to sway the Government's mind over their decision not to back the £7 million Aonach Mor ski project.

Representatives of Lochaber District Council, Highland Regional Council, the HIBD and MP Sir Russell Johnston - along with more private businessmen - will meet with Lord Sanderson, Minister for the Highlands to ask for a rethink.

They will also be pressing the government - who said the cost per job of the project was too high - to lay their cards on the table and outline under what circumstances they would give their blessing to the project.

A Scottish Office spokesman stressed that today's meeting did not mean that the Government's decision would be the subject of a rethink.

The spokesman said: 'The decision as far as the Scottish Office are concerned has been made.'

But he added that Lord Sanderson had agreed to meet local representatives to discuss any points they wanted to make.

'He is going along to listen to anything that the councils want to say on the matter,' he added. Those in favour of the ski project are determined to get the Government on their side. Sir Russell Johnston is pressing for a go ahead.

He said: 'I have said to Lord Sanderson that I believe that it would be constructive if he could give a clearer indication of the proportion of private capital which the Government feels it would be necessary as a sign of private confidence and profitability.'



**Mull Highland Games - MULL Games was blessed with one of the warmer days this past week and it brought the holiday and local crowds out in full force to fill the natural amphitheatre of the Tobermory Golf Course. The boys under 10s race was won by Martin Pottinger.**

**Housewife wins fitness title**

AT 40 years old, housewife Mrs Eva May certainly proved that she is a super-fit lady when she was voted 'keep fit personality of the week' whilst on holiday at Butlin's Ayr Holiday World recently.

Mrs May, of Keeper's Cottage, Skipness, by Tarbet, was on holiday at the Ayrshire coast centre with children Bertie, 10 and John, eight, when she decided to take part in a 'get trim with meat' session of keep fit exercises, sponsored by British meat.

Resident instructor Liz Carr had no hesitation in voting the attractive gamekeeper's wife the weekly winner.



**Taynuilt Games**

TAYNUILT Games was blessed with almost perfect weather conditions, a slight breeze for the athletes and plenty of sun for the spectators who packed the small playing field area.

A quick check on the number plates showed an overwhelming number of Continental visitors - so many in fact that during the afternoon an unscheduled race for 'foreigners' gained entries from Sweden, Holland, America, Australia, Japan - and Lewis.

Another familiar visitor to this year's games was the 'Green London Bus' driven by Hugh Taylor with 20 youngsters aboard who spent their day working their way through the many side-shows and novelty sections - with some serious competition for the track and field events. Steven King impressed the crowds.



**Kilchoan proves champion event for local man**

FOR THE first time in the history of Kilchoan annual show the same competitor took both the Championship and the reserve Championship title.

John Alex Cameron of Portuairk, Kilchoan, who has been competing for 15 years scored success after success in the sheep classes and was a worthy winner.

Sheep judge Mr Neil MacKechnie of Mull said that although there was a very good entry, John Alex was the clear cut winner. Show committee chairman Mr Gillespie MacMillan said: 'There were more sheep entries this year and it has all went very well indeed. It's been a very successful show.'

**Lawyers ban residents from Tralee Beach**

THE SAGA of Tralee Beach took another turn on Tuesday when several Benderloch residents received letters from a firm of Glasgow solicitors requesting them to refrain from entering the property.

The letter from McClure, Naismith, Anderson and Gardiner, St Vincent Street, Glasgow reads: 'Hugh MacColl, for the Executors of Mrs Marjorie v MacColl, Ardmucknish Bay Quarry (sometimes known as Tralee Beach).

'We have been requested by our above named clients who are the owners of the above property, to request you to refrain from entering that property at any time and also not to interfere with the legitimate quarrying operations being carried out there.'

Mr Robin Shaw, Rahoy lodge, Oban, chairman of the Tralee Bay Action Group (T-Bag) also received a letter requesting him to refrain from entering the property. Mr Shaw said: 'I intend to write to Mr MacColl's legal advisers thanking them for their letter and informing them that I do intend to walk on Tralee Beach on a certain day at a certain time.'

Argyll and Bute MP Mrs Ray Michie said on Wednesday that she very much regretted the whole situation but she was hopeful that she could help to try and solve the problem and reach an amicable settlement to suit both parties.

'I have already had a meeting with Lord Sanderson of Bowden, Minister of State at the Scottish Office on the subject,' Mrs Michie added.



**Oban Times plays host to Kilmore the hedgehog**

HERE'S the reason for all those performances in a tea bag. Kilmore the hedgehog who recently joined the staff of The Oban Times after being spotted ambling along the centre of the road near Soroba - in broad daylight - obviously the worse for lack of food and drink. He is now being weaned ready for return to the wild.



# No through road for HGVs on Rest and Be Thankful option

A SOLUTION that will allow heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) to travel along the Old Military Road when landslides close the A83 Rest and Be Thankful route has not been yet identified, Transport Scotland has confirmed.

## August start

The announcement comes one week after the Minister for Transport Keith Brown told

MSPs that work to upgrade the road would commence in August.

Explaining the Old Military Road was deemed a safer option than the Glen Croe forestry track - the original diversion route - the minister said the Old Military Road upgrade was due to be 'completed by November'.

But engineers are yet to find a

way of allowing HGVs to travel along the old road, which has a very steep incline out of the glen.

## 'Ridiculous'

A spokeswoman for the Transport Scotland said: 'We are looking at a solution for HGVs but the design of the road is still being finalised. Details regarding the diversion route should be confirmed in the

coming weeks.'

Although Mr Brown outlined a timescale for works to commence, Transport Scotland said the company that would carry out the works was yet 'to be confirmed', whilst the cost of the project 'will be known once we have the final details'.

The possibility of having a diversion route that does not cater for large vehicles has been

branded 'ridiculous' by one Argyll haulier who asked not to be named.

Speaking on Monday, he said: 'I am horrified to think they are thinking about starting work when they are not sure if it is suitable for heavy goods vehicles or not.'

He added: 'No one has been consulted; if they are struggling to come up with a solution you

would think they would come to us to discuss it; perhaps we could do a trial run on the road to see how it is.'

'Maybe we should take a closer look at it ourselves.'

Argyll and Bute councillor Donald Kelly, who along with his Argyll First colleagues launched a petition calling for improvements along the A83, said large vehicles bring 'eve-

rything' into Argyll.

Mr Kelly said: 'I would hate to think that only small vehicles could access the route and that heavy goods vehicles would still have to go the alternative route via the A82; as far as I am concerned that's a waste of time.'

'It is the heavy goods vehicles that keep Argyll moving and the economy running'

## Stolen charity cash replaced by horrified readers

A COUPLE who had their charity collection stolen from a shinty match in Oban have received donations from people horrified at the incident.

A report in *The Oban Times* earlier this month highlighted the theft of gate and tea money from Mossfield on July 7.

But Oban Celtic supporters Jim and June Pearson, who take donations at every home game at Mossfield Stadium, have been able to boost their takings, thanks to donors disgusted with the theft of cash that was due to be given to Cancer Research and Motor Neurone Disease Scotland.

Both charities will now receive £460 each.

Oban Celtic Shinty Club appealed to the culprit(s) to hand the money back and did not report the incident to the police to make it easier for the money to be returned.

The money has not been handed back.

## Oban man denies heroin charges

AN OBAN man who allegedly concealed a package of powder in his body before trying to dispose of it in a police cell appeared at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday.

Angus MacDougall, 40, of Dunmore Lodge, Albany Street, Oban is also accused of possessing heroin with intent to supply.

He denies the charges and will stand trial on August 22. MacDougall will appear at court next on August 9.

## Pay rates 'or else' say Council debt recovery team

BUSINESS owners on the west coast are being warned about the dangers of not paying their rates by Argyll and Bute Council.

The authority says it will take 'vigorous' action to recover rates and other debts from those who are able to pay but fail to do so.

Last month, sheriff officers instructed by the council recovered a four-figure sum from an Argyll business which failed to pay rates and reneged on a previously negotiated instalment agreement.

Both the council and sheriff officers, if instructed, will make attempts to agree a suitable payment arrangement first - but those who persistently refuse to pay face more serious action.

Any company concerned about unpaid rates or debt can contact Argyll and Bute Council's debt recovery team on 01586 555248.

## Mull man on driving charges

POLICE have charged a 19-year-old on Mull with a series of alleged driving offences.

The driver was stopped on the A849 at 12.40am last Saturday. He has been accused of drink driving, driving without a licence and without insurance.

# Islay 'Laddich sells for cool £58 million

## French drinks giant invests heavily in Islay distillery's future

BRUICHLADDICH Distillery has become a major player in the malt whisky industry after shareholders agreed to sell the business to Rémy Cointreau for the sum of £58m.

It is the first distillery the French drinks giant has acquired but it has no immediate plans to change operations at the Islay site.

## Investment

However, Bruichladdich has indicated there will be investment in the plant and equipment, some of which dates back to 1881 when the distillery was built.

Last week, managing director Mark Reynier, speaking ahead of the deal being finalised, said a takeover would move Bruichladdich into the 'premier league' of malt whiskies.

Mr Reynier headed up a team, including production manager Jim McEwan, that has helped to oversee the successful revival of the distillery since it re-opened just 11 years ago.

Speaking after the deal was finalised on Monday, Mr McEwan said: 'Remy love what we do, and how we do it, and that is

*"I am filled with confidence and excitement. This Cinderella will go to the ball."*

*This Cinderella will go to the ball.*

*"I am filled with confidence and excitement about what is about to be a beautiful chapter in the life of a distillery that never gained the accolades it deserved."*

*"This Cinderella will go to the ball."*

*"The distillery is a major island employer, with 55 staff on the books and the new owners have*

what attracted them in the first place.

'Under their ownership we can invest money in the plant and increase production, which is brilliant news.'

## Very bright future

'We felt we had taken the distillery as far as we could but I see a very bright future ahead.'

'I am filled with confidence and excitement about what is about to be a beautiful chapter in the life of a distillery that never gained the accolades it deserved.'

'This Cinderella will go to the ball.'

no plans to cut down the pay roll, instead intimating it was logical to consider employing more people as a plan to increase production is formulated.

Bruichladdich chairman Sir John Mactaggart said: 'It has been an exciting and demanding eleven and a half years breathing life back into Bruichladdich.'

'The sale of the company clearly induces several mixed emotions, which I am sure will be widely shared.'

'But one needs to remember that we succeeded in saving, building and establishing - once and for all - the worldwide renown of Bruichladdich.'

'As with any business expanding at such a rapid rate, there comes a time when further substantial capital investment will be required to support long-term growth, and this cannot easily be generated by the business itself, or without significant extra shareholder funds.'

'It is of great comfort that Rémy Cointreau truly appreciate the very special nature of Bruichladdich - the place, the brand, the spirit and our people.'

## Mull road closed

FERRY passengers travelling to Mull are being warned that the B8035 Gribun Road is still closed to through traffic due to storm damage.

The road remains open either side of the closure near Derryguig and Dhiseig and more information can be found in advice leaflets which are available at Oban and Craignure ferry terminals and on board ferries to and from the island.

## Racist remarks lead to £430 fine

A YOUNG Oban man who threatened a member of bar staff and made racial remarks towards him has been fined £430 at the town's Sheriff Court on Tuesday.

Ian Maclean, 20, of 15 Lismore Crescent, Oban admitted carrying out the offence at a town centre bar on July 16.

## Coll votes against wind turbine plan

A PLAN to build a wind turbine at An Cridhe on the Isle of Coll won't go ahead after islanders overwhelmingly rejected the scheme.

Of those responding to the vote, 84 voted against the turbine, 27 for and three spoilt papers.

## Belgian driver in three-car Appin road accident

A BELGIAN driver is accused of causing a three-car road crash on Sunday on the A828 by Stalker Cafe, near Appin, after turning onto the wrong carriageway.

The 34-year woman, who was driving a black Audi car, allegedly turned right onto the northbound carriageway, causing a head-on collision with a blue Ford Focus.

As a result, another car, a red Volkswagen Polo, was also involved in the collision.

The 63-year-old female passenger in the Ford Focus was taken to the Belford Hospital but none of the people involved sustained serious injuries.

The road was closed for a few hours, while the casualty was assessed at hospital and police investigations got underway.

## Teenager charged with firing gun

A TEENAGE boy has been charged after discharging a ball-bearing gun outside an Oban superstore last week.

A 16-year-old girl was injured in the incident.

## Doctor urges action on Isle of Coll roads

COLL'S doctor has urged Argyll and Bute Council to take action to repair the island's roads now before more people are hurt.

## Victims

Dr Celine O'Neill this week told *The Oban Times* that she is becoming increasingly concerned by the deteriorating routes around the island, which in some places are so bad they are impossible to negotiate faster than 15mph without a 4x4 vehicle.

Cyclists are regularly victims to potholes and undulations in the road too, many suffering injuries requiring treatment at the island surgery.

One of the biggest concerns for Dr O'Neill though is that the road makes travelling to emergency situations hazard-

ous at best, particularly from Sorisdale - where she lives - to the surgery in Arinaigour.

She pointed to the significant degradation in the roads in the past two years and say another year of inactivity by Argyll and Bute Council could cause even bigger problems.

Dr O'Neill said: 'The roads are in such a condition you cannot go over them fast. It is unsafe.'

'If you need to go somewhere, you cannot go in a hurry.'

'The road has crumbled rapidly over the past two winters and we anticipate it will get worse this winter unless something is done.'

Argyll and Bute Council were contacted for comment but did not respond at the time of going to press.

## Mull viewpoints project progresses

PLANS for viewing points in key areas around the Isle of Mull to relieve traffic congestion are progressing.

A study has shown up a number of issues with facilities that exist at present, including the lack of visitor information, poor provision of toilets and the lack of safe car parking along key viewpoint roads.

The project is being taken forward by the Mull and Iona Community Trust.

The provision of facilities is aimed at wildlife watchers, families, first-time visitors,

repeat visitors and day trippers in the hope it will boost the island's economy and encourage repeat tourism.

Moray Finch, general manager of MICT, told a recent meeting of Mull Community Council that there would be 'a cost associated with maintaining bins and toilets' but that MICT were in the process of finding grant funding to apply to.

The project would see signs posted throughout the island identifying passing places in comparison to areas where motorists can enjoy the view.



Rail workers were quick to remove fallen debris from the track after heavy rain caused a landslide near the Falls of Cruachan

## Network Rail come under pressure following another Loch Awe side landslide

FALLING rocks halted the progress of the Oban to Glasgow train, just one mile from the scene of a derailment caused by a landslide just two years earlier.

The afternoon Oban to Glasgow train had to be sent back to Oban last Wednesday after rocks fell onto the line near the Falls of Cruachan.

None of the 66 passengers were injured and they were returned to Oban where they were eventually taken to Glasgow by bus while the rail line was cleared the same day.

However, Network Rail has been criticised for not identifying the landslide, which was only one mile east of a more serious incident in June 2010,

when the leading carriage derailed and caught on fire after hitting a boulder on the track.

Thompsons Solicitors, which is representing passengers from the 2010 incident and pursuing Network Rail for negligence, said the most recent incident was preventable.

Thompsons Solicitors partner Patrick McGuire, said: 'This latest incident shows that lessons still haven't been learned despite the terrifying ordeal endured by passengers and crew during the 2010 accident.'

'Network Rail has responsibility for maintaining a robust system to ensure their tracks are safe from foreseeable hazards. What happened on Wednesday was predictable

and therefore preventable.'

Peter MacFarlane, a passenger on the train last Wednesday, told *The Oban Times*: 'The first thing we knew something was wrong was when the emergency brakes were applied. It was a feeling like the one you get at the end of a rollercoaster.'

'Then I saw water gushing down the hill - it was quite a force - and one of the train staff jumped out to see what had happened. He was up to his ankles in water.'

The blockage was caused by a small amount of rock and mud that had washed onto the line.

Network Rail said its warning system did not come into play because the stones did not fall from high enough on the moun-

tainside above the track and that the geography of the area made preventing landslides difficult.

A spokesman for the company said: 'We work hard to reduce the impact of severe weather on our infrastructure.'

'Between 2008 and 2014 we will invest more than £90m across Scotland on projects designed to limit the potential for rockfalls and landslips on the railway. Since 2008 we have invested more than £7m on projects on the Glasgow-Oban line alone.'

Network Rail's insurers deny liability for the 2010 derailment on the basis that the boulders dislodged as a result of natural processes.

## Lorne Games organiser 'gutted' at cancellation

THE ORGANISER of the Lorne Highland Games says he was 'gutted' to have to cancel the inaugural event on Sunday because of bad weather.

Highland games stalwart Duncan MacIntyre said he had received warnings about high winds forecast on Sunday and made a call early in the morning to postpone the event.

The games had been scheduled to take place at Mossfield and have a similar layout to the Argyllshire Gathering's Oban Highland Games.

However, the new event was formed to fill a gap left by Highland games that had folded, including the Kilmore Highland Games, and had therefore received backing from the Scottish Highland Games Association.

Mr MacIntyre said heavyweight competitors and athletes from as far as Fife were committed to attending, while there had been a lot of local interest from Oban sports' clubs and

'local' heavyweight competitors.

A small group of hardy local athletes made sure the hill race went ahead.

Mr MacIntyre told *The Oban Times*: 'I was gutted when I had to make the decision but there were competitors from Fife coming and I had to give them enough notice.'

'I had been told to expect high winds and heavy showers in the afternoon and I knew tents had been flattened by the wind at the Treet Music Festival.'

Asked what his expectations were for his maiden games, Mr MacIntyre said he had hoped for at least 1,000 people and enough competitors to justify the prize fund of £3,000.

Mr MacIntyre said he had been buoyed by the enthusiasm for another Highland games in Oban, which is on a time more convenient to locals.

He added: 'I am optimistic that this could be a great set-up, so I am planning to organise a games next year.'

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## Lochaber's win was well worth the 18-year wait

'We hit the post a couple of times and their keeper made some good saves'

**REPORT BY RICHARD HADDOCK**  
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

SPEAN Bridge welcomed home its first trophy winning side in 18 years last weekend after Lochaber triumphed against Beaulieu in the Balliemore Cup final in Strathpeffer.

Buses and cars full of fans headed up the A82 as around 200 fans travelled up to Castle Leod from Spean to cheer their side, and their efforts were rewarded with an impressive Lochaber performance and a 5-1 win.

The club's last trophy win was in 1994 when they won the Balliemore after a 4-2 win over Kinlochshiel.

Saturday's final started with Lochaber on top, but it was Beaulieu who took the lead through Jack MacDonald after 10 minutes. Lochaber had chances to equalise but were not able to take them until manager Michael Delaney brought on speedy forward Stuart Callison.

The injection of pace caused trouble immediately for the Beaulieu defence. Scotland international Shaun Nicolson

### SHINTY

equalised in the 33rd minute, with Callison himself putting Lochaber 2-1 up four minutes before halftime.

Lochaber came out in the second half hungry for more goals and full forward Ben Delaney was able to supply them. The 20 year-old scored within 60 seconds of the restart and made the score 4-1 with another strike three minutes later.

Lochaber continued to control the game and when Callison popped up to make the score 5-1



Champions! Lochaber players with the Balliemore Cup after their 5-1 win over Beaulieu in the final. Photo: Neil G Paterson

in the 63rd minute, the game was effectively won.

Cheers greeted the final whistle, and the fans watched Camanachd Association President Archie Robertson present the trophy to winning captain Hugh Innes.

Delaney praised the efforts

of his players in the final in light of their recent 5-1 loss to Newtonmore in the MacTavish Cup final.

He told The Oban Times: 'We didn't do ourselves justice the last time we were in a final but to a man we were much better on Saturday. The midfield was really important; they supplied quality balls into the forwards and they did the rest.'

'We played well in the first half. We hit the post a couple of times and their keeper made some good saves. He was probably the man of the match actually.'

'Although they went 1-0 up it

was against the run of play and we always knew the goals would come. It was a matter of being confident and holding on.'

Lochaber will continue their quest for silverware when they take on Newtonmore in the quarter final of the Camanachd Cup at The Eilan this Saturday.

## Better inward half gives Ally the title

### GOLF

ISLE OF Skye Golf Club's Open competition saw Ally Grant win a close fight with Sandy Ross after both locals shot rounds of 70.

Grant's better inward half gave him the win in the scratch competition.

The 0-12 handicap event saw an equally tight finish, with John Finlayson taking the win from Traigh Golf Club's Ian Wilkie after both shot net rounds of 64.

Martin Baird finished first in the 13-28 handicap event with a net round of 61.

In the ladies event, Karen Starr of Lochcarron won the scratch with a round of 82, while Donalda Johnston was the handicap winner after her net round of 72.

Results - Isle of Skye Open: Scratch - 1, Ally Grant 70 (BIH); 2, Sandy Ross 70; 3, Thomas Marr (St Andrew's) 71. Category one (0-12

handicaps) - 1, John Finlayson 74-10=64 (BIH); 2, Ian Wilkie (Traigh) 75-11=64; 3, John MacMillan (Traigh) 78-12=66. Category two (13-28 handicaps) - 1, Martin Baird 77-16=61; 2, Ian Marr 76-14=62 (BIH); 3, Willie Cowie 76-14=62. Ladies Open: Scratch 1, Karen Starr (Lochcarron) 82. Handicap - 1, Donalda Johnston 95-23=72

## Fort ready for the big kick-off, but finding a top class goalkeeper is still a problem

FORT William FC are gearing up for their first game of the 2012/13 season as they welcome Lossiemouth to Claggan Park for a North of Scotland Cup tie on Saturday.

After a summer of turmoil over the club's future, manager Danny Conlon is now trying to pull together a squad for the year ahead.

The biggest problem is between the sticks after John Campbell's departure to

Clachnacuddin and Robbie Donaldson's decision to sign for Strathspey.

The club is in talks with a couple of goalkeeping targets and are hopeful of taking on local stopper Jay Smith.

Conlon told The Oban Times he was 'spreading the net far and wide' in his search for new players but admitted things were moving 'slowly'.

He said: 'I'm still looking about, and there are one or

two options we're still talking to, but it's not easy. My sole concern has been trying to get a squad together for the start of the season.'

Conlon has managed to sign up ex St Johnstone and Inverness Caley Thistle midfielder Gary Farquhar.

'He's in his late 30s and his fitness is a slight concern,' said Conlon. 'But he looked really good in the game he played for us and his overall contribution will be really good.'

'If we can get the young boys to do some of the work for him, he can certainly see a pass. I think the others enjoyed playing with him.'

As well as Campbell and Donaldson, Fort have lost a number of players for this season. Mark Gillespie and Jonathon Hewitt are not expected to play due to work commitments, while Sean MacDonald, Danny MacIntosh and Farquhar Macrae are also

### FOOTBALL

expected not to be involved.

Captain Andy Martin and defender Darren Quigg will miss the Lossie game this weekend.

A decent crowd turned up at Claggan to see Fort play host to SPL newcomers Ross County last weekend.

The visitors boasted a strong line up and took the lead through Kurtis Bryne.

Former Hibs striker Byrne scored his and County's second of the game after 21 minutes, and Alex Cooper made it 3-0 seconds later.

But Fort pulled one back when Callum Brewett finished at the back post, only to see Cooper and Byrne score again before half time.

Chances were fewer and further between in the second half, with County scoring once through the aptly-named Tony Dingwall to make the final score 6-1.



John Baird Trophy champions Caol Cosmos, with captain Damian MacDonald holding the trophy.

## Double reason for Cosmos to celebrate

CAOL Cosmos had two reasons to celebrate last week after winning the John Baird Trophy and moving to the top of the Lochaber Welfare League.

Caol defeated Mallaig 7-4 in the final at the BA Club on Friday night with goals from Scott Hunter (4), Brian MacKay, Stevie Pearson and David Neil. The team were presented with the trophy after the match by Sterling Cairns.

The two sides met in league action earlier in the week with Caol winning 6-2 in Mallaig to move above the BA Club on goal difference.

Ballachulish moved off the bottom of the league

### WELFARE FOOTBALL

with a 2-1 win over Celtic, who slip to the foot of the table, and Lundavra and Lochaber played out a 4-4 draw to stay fourth and fifth respectively.

Meanwhile, Balla Utd and Ballachulish FC moved into the Uisdean MacDonal Memorial Cup semi-finals.

Balla defeated Lundavra 5-4 on penalties after a 1-1 draw at Canal Parks last Monday night, while Ballachulish FC went through without kicking a ball after the BA Club failed to raise a team.



Fort attacker Andrew Mclean tries to escape the attentions of the Ross County defence during Saturday's defeat. 20 1306101

## Maclennan family triumph

A FORT William father and son have been crowned national downhill mountain bike champions.

The Scottish National Championships Downhill were held at Nevis Range recently, with Alastair Maclennan and his son Alastair junior both taking first place in their categories.

West Highland Wheelers (WHW) rider Alastair, aged 48, held off competition from 11 other competitors from across Scotland to take the win in the veterans category. He finished the challenging Anach Mor course in a time of 5 minutes and 17 seconds, nine seconds faster than his nearest rival.

His son Alastair, aged 13, was competing for the first time in a national competition after only taking up the sport a matter of months ago. A natural, he took the win in the juvenile section with a time 6m 12s, some 24 seconds faster than the second placed man.

Fellow WHW rider Tom Macmahon finished sixth in the juvenile section with a time of 6m 43s.

Benderloch man Ben Cathro finished a close second in the elite seniors race with a time of 4m 57s, just four seconds behind winner Greg Williamson.

### CYCLING

## Fun week at Fort William Golf Club

FORT William Golf Club's fun week, sponsored by Ben Nevis Distillery, saw different competitions held throughout the week.

The event was mostly played in dry, sunny conditions. The first event was a par competition on Monday, with Stuart Duncan's score of 4up giving him a comfortable win.

The following day saw a stroke play competition with Neil Young and David Matheson both shooting net 64s. Young better inward half gave him the win.

Young won again on Thursday, scoring 42 points in a stableford competition.

A 12 hole greensome stableford on Friday was won by Alistair

and Jack Matheson, with a score of 30 points.

On Saturday, Gail Anderson, Rosemary Macintyre and Catriona Drain won the ladies three person Texas scramble, while Cal Brown, Neil Feggans and Brian Gillespie won the men's event.

Results: Par competition - 1, Stuart Duncan, 4 up; 2, Brian O'Neill, all square; 3, Stephen Howden, 2 down.

Stroke play competition - 1, Neil Young 80-16=64 (BIH); 2, David Matheson 70-6=64; 3, John Cameron 86-19=67. Stableford competition - 1, Neil Young 42 points; 2, Lorne Ross, 41; 3, David Matheson, 40.

12 hole greensome stableford

### GOLF

- 1, Alistair and Jack Matheson, 30 points; 2, Kay and Ken Jerram, 29; 3, Kathleen Leitch and Ann Lovatt, 26.

Ladies three person Texas scramble - 1, Gail Anderson, Rosemary Macintyre and Catriona Drain, 67-83=58.7; 2, Iona Cameron, Kay Jerram and Kim Topping, 70-85=61.5; 3, Helen Brian, Kathleen Leitch and Ann Lovatt, 72-95=62.5.

Men's three person Texas scramble - 1, Cal Brown, Neil Feggans and Brian Gillespie, 66-8=58; 2, Peter Hamling, Ken Jerram and Ian Mackie, 70-10=60 (BIH); 3, Dougie Duncan, John Ferguson and David Laing 68-8=60.

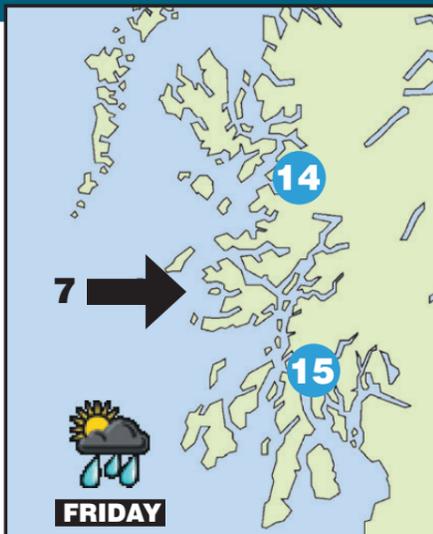
## Weather

**Thursday** Sunny intervals  
Winds light west, south westerly  
Temperatures 11°C to 16°C

**Friday** Heavy rain showers  
Winds light westerly  
Temperatures 11°C to 15°C.

**Weekend** Heavy rain showers  
**Outlook** Winds moderate westerly  
Temperatures 10°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 26, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	10.21	3.2	16.48	1.2	22.43	3.2
Thur	04.28	1.4	10.21	3.2	16.48	1.2	22.43
Fri	05.39	1.5	11.35	3.0	17.59	1.4	*** **
Sat	00.07	3.1	07.00	1.6	13.30	3.0	19.17
Sun	02.02	3.1	08.20	1.5	14.59	3.3	20.38
Mon	03.28	3.2	09.31	1.3	15.58	3.5	21.52
Tues	04.26	3.4	10.27	1.0	16.45	3.8	22.51
Wed	05.10	3.6	11.15	0.8	17.25	4.0	23.40

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		

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