

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

A HAYTER LAWN MOWER! PLUS **TAYNULT HIGHLAND GAMES COVERAGE**

WIN WORTH £359

Established 1861 No 8209

Thursday 24 July, 2014

www.obantimes.co.uk

80 pence

CHORD bill hits £750,000

COUNCILLOR DEFENDS CONSULTANTS' BILLS

COUNCILLORS in Oban have agreed more than £750,000 in spending on consultants and consultants for designs and feasibility studies and so on, my understanding that any project being brought forward will likely carry a 10-15 per cent charge for design fees.

It is understood that most of the money has come out of the Argyll and Bute council budget, and not from the original £6.9million earmarked for CHORD.

The CHORD project (Campbeltown, Helensburgh, Oban, Rothesay and Dunoon) was set up in 2008 to rejuvenate the seafronts of Argyll and Bute.

To date, the project has delivered lights around McCaig's Tower in Oban and employed a project manager.

The original plan for Oban was to build pontoons in the bay and to deliver a new transport hub.

But a number of plans remain in the pipeline, including a performance space at the North Pier's white building, a pedestrianised Stafford Street and the pontoons.

The money spent by Argyll and Bute council totals £785,451.84.

So far townfolk have been written to, telephoned and surveyed in the street on no fewer than 18 times. People were invited to take part in a perception study and visit displays about the future of Oban.

Reports and draft reports have been compiled on at least 11 occasions.

During Christmas 2013, coloured lights were fitted around McCaig Tower as the outcome of one of the consultations.

Almost half a million, £496,000, was spent on designing plans for the white building - with a survey and questionnaire costing £7,000.

However, one senior Argyll and Bute councillor argued it was money well spent.

Councillor Ellen Morton, who is in charge of policy for the CHORD projects, said: 'Don't let's get consultation and consultants mixed up. They perform very different roles for the local authority.'

'We want to know what people think about their town, and the plans that we put forward and the council would

be criticised for not talking to people and business about these plans.

'In terms of consultants for designs and feasibility studies and so on, my understanding that any project being brought forward will likely carry a 10-15 per cent charge for design fees.

'Anyone who has built an extension will be aware of the architect costs and so on.

'It would be unrealistic to expect the council to have experts on hand to deal with design projects.

'An awful lot of the fees are front loaded - meaning before you even put a brick in the ground you must know every detail of the project.

'I am confident that Oban CHORD will deliver on time.

'It is now at the planning stage, after years of not making any progress at all.

'That can only be a good thing for Oban.'

An Argyll and Bute council spokesman said: 'The council's regeneration project in Oban will

deliver long-lasting benefits to the waterfront area of this key coastal town.

'To date, the project has delivered the lighting improvements to McCaig's Tower and concept designs for the public realm enhancements and the North Pier.

'This has required undertaking extensive preparatory work to take the projects to the implementation stage.

'This preparatory work requires expertise which organisations do not always have; sometimes it is necessary to use outside consultants to ensure the project is delivered to a high standard, which is what we have done.

'The council is pleased with the progress of its regeneration project in Oban - things are on course. The project is moving forward at pace, with the full business cases expected to go before the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee and the full council in September.'

WATER MUSIC: dancing on the waves at Tiree



JUMPING FOR JOY: around 1,500 people converged on Tiree for the annual music festival last weekend. Headline acts such as Eddi Reader and Skipinnish thrilled the ever-growing crowds. For our special review of the festival, turn to pages 14-15

Neglect led to dog's painful death

A WOMAN who admitted neglecting a dog to the extent it had to be put down has received hate mail since appearing in Oban sheriff court.

Frances Cooke, 29, was sentenced on Tuesday to 160 hours of unpaid work in the community and received a lifetime ban on owning a dog.

The court heard previously that Cooke, of Scalpay Terrace, had contacted Oban veterinary surgery last December to say she had found a stray dog 'in a state of collapse' in the Soroba area of the town.

When she took the five-year-old black Labrador to the surgery, vets noted that the dog was crying in pain and distress and was semi-conscious.

The dog's kidneys had ceased to function and it had to be put down.

Cooke pleaded guilty at a previous



REMORSEFUL: Frances Cooke was suffering from depression following the break-up of her relationship. Her pet dog was taken to the vet (pictured above right)



hearing to causing the dog unnecessary suffering between August 1, 2013 and December 6, 2013, failing to provide adequate food and water, leading to its collapse.

Defence solicitor Jane Thomson told the court that Cooke, her partner and family, had the dog from a puppy.

When the 11-year relationship with her partner broke down, she had failed to cope with looking after the dog as she spent as little time as possible in

the property she had shared with her partner.

'Ms Cooke is suffering from depression,' said Miss Thomson.

'She has shown significant remorse on every occasion we have met and is extremely upset because of what has happened.'

'Did that affect her feeding herself or her family?' asked Sheriff Douglas Small. 'No,' said Miss Thomson.

'Why did it stop her from feeding her dog?'

'She essentially lived in a bubble,' said Miss Thomson, 'to get her family through this difficult time and over the break-up.'

The court heard Cooke had consulted a doctor following the incident and had been diagnosed as being 'profoundly depressed', and

had probably been suffering for some time.

'She can't have been unaware of the distress the dog was going through,' said Sheriff Small. 'How could she be unaware of it, as the vets say it was crying with pain?'

Miss Thomson said: 'Her focus was very much on her family. She has had a difficult time over the last few months. She has received hate mail and she is on anti-depressants but that is not getting her through this.'

Sheriff Small told Cooke: 'This is an extremely distressing case and it has caused considerable outrage in the local community as I am sure you are aware.'

'There are a number of people who have written into the sheriff clerk's office to express their outrage.'

Cellmate accused of prison murder

THE MAN accused of murdering Oban man Colin Penrose in a cell at Barlinnie Prison is to stand trial in November.

John Clark, 21, is charged with strangling the 22-year-old fellow prisoner between March 19 and 20 this year within a cell in the Glasgow prison's E-block.

Colin Penrose had been sent back to Barlinnie prison to serve the remainder of his sentence after he committed an offence while out on licence.



A Tough Dependable and Sustainable Solution

Memorial Benches, Benches, Picnic Tables, Fencing, Decking and Much More

View the Whole Range Online

Marine Resource Centre Baracaldine, By Oban, PA37 5SE

Fusion RECYCLED PLASTIC PRODUCTS

Tel: 01631 720730
fusionrecycled
www.fusionrecycledplastic.com

Islanders learn of GP cover crisis from The Oban Times - not NHS

ISLANDERS claim to have discovered about an impending crisis in an out-of-hours GP service through the pages of *The Oban Times*, while NHS Highland says it sent a letter to every household affected on Mull.

Last week the newspaper revealed that doctors in Tobermory have given notice of pulling out of a 24-hour service for emergency patients on the island.

Vice-chairman of the community council, Calum Maclachlainn, said: 'It is simply unacceptable. Yet again we get a second class service on Mull.'

'The thing is this: everyone on the island mucks in. We live in a beautiful place with wonderful opportunities for families and those who come

need to realise that it cannot be considered as a nine to five job.

'People have contacted me and they are very worried about what will happen in the long run. Families and elderly people are particularly worried.'

'I have done all I can to reassure them that we will do everything we can as a community council to fight this.'

'Any new GPs coming to the island have to be appointed on the basis that they have to take part in the out-of-hours service.'

'It won't work otherwise.'

A spokesman for NHS Highland said: 'If a GP practice decides to opt out of providing out-of-hours services then the local health board has

a statutory obligation to provide alternative arrangements.'

'We are therefore working closely with GP practices on the island and partner organisations such as the Scottish Ambulance Service and NHS 24 to ensure that we have these arrangements in place for patients served by the Tobermory practice.'

'We are also holding drop-in sessions in August to provide members of the local community with an opportunity to speak to local health professionals about our plans and to raise any other concerns they have as well.'

The drop-in sessions will take place on August 21 from 12.30pm - 2.30pm and again from 3pm - 5pm in the Aros Hall, Main Street, Tobermory.

LORN SHOW SATURDAY 2ND AUGUST 2014 TRALEE, BENDERLOCH

Lorn Agricultural Society (Instituted 1848)

The reintroduction of the Horse Show at nearby Dalintober. Childrens tug of war, throwing the Wellie Boot and a wool bag race if plenty volunteers!

Sheep and Cattle Classes
Poultry Classes
Quad Pods
Terrier Race

Tossing the sheaf
Handicrafts and much more.
Dog show at 12.30pm
Baby Show at approx. 2pm

THE LORN SHOW IS A FAMILY DAY OUT AND FUN FOR EVERYONE

Admission - Adults £5, Children £2, Family £12.
Show field open to public at 9am and judging to commence at 10am.

NEW IMPROVED PARKING

CONTACT LENSES FOR ACTIVE TEENS

BACK TO SCHOOL COOL

ASK FOR A FREE TRIAL

WALLACE optometrists | Kodak LENS VISION CENTRE

11-12 Argyll Square, Oban, Argyll PA34 4AZ
01631 563170

Cannot be used with any other offer. Kodak and the Kodak trade dress are trademarks of Kodak used under licence by Signet Armortite, Inc.

Return to the village that saved him from Nazi raids

A WARTIME evacuee made a poignant return after 73 years to the childhood home that had kept him safe from Nazi bombs, writes Louise Lee.

Willie Park, now 84, was 11 when he was sent for two years to Balvicar on the Isle of Seil to escape the bombing raids on the Clydeside during the Second World War.

Willie, who lived in a tenement block in Glasgow's Kinning Park, described how during bombing raids he and the other children in the building would take shelter in a ground floor flat while the adults would take cover in the hallways.

He explained: It was a terrible time. As children, we probably didn't understand the real danger we were in.

The return to Balvicar was organised by his grandson, Gregor. Willie, a painter and decorator, said: 'It was a chance to look back in time to when war meant getting a label pinned to your jacket and a gas mask put over your shoulder and being sent to another part of the country for your safety. Thankfully, it turned out to be a very happy time.'

He continued: 'Only five kids lived in Balvicar - myself and four girls, two of whom were my cousins.'

'The slate quarries were abandoned leaving huge areas of broken slates on which we played. The row of six cottages used by the slaters are now being used as holiday homes.'

'I stayed with my aunt Lizzie who had three daughters, Betty the oldest worked in the Easdale Hotel, Mona and Ruth.'

'Ruth and I were the same age, and



HAPPY REUNION: Willie Park, right, a wartime evacuee, returns to Balvicar after a gap of 73 years. He was joined by friend, John Herson

war and stayed in one of the cottages. When I told them which one, it was a surprise to discover the lady I was talking to owned that very house.

'I was invited in and found an amazing transformation. Instead of the two basic rooms, it now had three bedrooms, kitchen, dining room, sitting room, toilet, conservatory and a lovely garden.'

'We had a right good chat about the old village and how we managed without all the things we now take for granted.'

'Back then water had to be collected from a pipe in a field, candles provided the light during the winter months along with a Tilly lamp, cooking was done on paraffin stoves, and you collected your own water to get washed, and yet looking back I cannot recall us not being able to cope.'

'A special treat was getting the service bus to Easdale to go to the bakers and get a pastry, or a day trip to Oban once a month.'

Married with three grandsons, Willie looked back with great warmth and affection about his time spent in the 'safe haven' of Balvicar: 'I was told that our school at Clachan bridge had burned down some years ago. It was a wonderful experience seeing the changes.'

we went to school on the service bus which was the sole means of transport on the island.

'There were no cars, telephone or even fences. The cottages had no water, electricity or gas, and the communal toilet was a small brick building down at the edge of the sea.'

'I was able to chase rabbits, fish for crabs, explore the hazelnut forest and on occasion pinch apples from the doctor's house, the only other building with the exception of the store.'

'That was the Balvicar I left all those years ago.'

National Service in Korea, arrived back at Balvicar earlier this month, he found the mobile library van parked at the cottages.

He said: 'Two elderly ladies were just leaving having just collected their books and videos. I mentioned to them that I was evacuated during the

Skye's tall order

THE HEIGHTS of two wind turbines are set to almost double as a new planning application has been lodged with Highland council.

The machinery was originally planned for 45.7 metres. After an application for a material change from developers Intelligent Land Investments in Hamilton, Skye councillors have been asked to consider two 80-metre high turbines.

The developments are at land south of Beinn Bheag near Earlish and land south of Caberfeidh near Uig.

Milestone for Lily and for the island

PIPER, painter, poet and crack shot with a rifle and shotgun Lily MacDougall, Islay's oldest resident, celebrated her 100th birthday in the island hospital, writes Euan Paterson.

She took ill in her home at Yellow Rock near Caolila just days before her birthday last Thursday and was unable to attend a party in her honour at the Ballygrant village hall.

But her centenary did not go unmarked as family and friends met in the island hospital to celebrate the milestone.

Lily, a skilled embroiderer, was one of ten siblings born at Heather Houses

on the outskirts of Caolila. She has one surviving sister, Isa.

She worked as a door-to-door saleswoman, an office worker at Caol Ila distillery and most notably in fish retailing. This earned her the sobriquet 'Lily Fish' by which she is known to everyone on the island and far beyond.

She also had a long association with the Islay lifeboat where her two brothers Donald and Willie were crew members. It was fitting that she officially opened the island's new lifeboat station at Port Askaig on June 29. The telegram from the Queen greatly pleased her as did



REAL CHARACTER: Lily MacDougall wonders what all the fuss is about

greetings from the Commissioners of the Northern Lighthouse Board as her husband Dugie, who died in 2004, was the lighthouse boatman on the Sound of Islay for 45 years.

Since Dugie's death, Lily has lived alone in her idyllic home with her two cats Sophie and Sushi. Her birthday celebrations were masterminded by her only daughter Christine who runs a personalised tour service on Islay.

And what did Lily think about the big day: 'I'm looking forward to my birthday party but part of me wonders what all the fuss is about. After all, I'm only going to be a 100.'

See Islay Letter, page 12.

MULLlines



AT THE WHEEL: a youngster takes control of the lifeboat shortly before it was called into action at Morvern

Two callouts and a gala

TOBERMORY Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) volunteer crew responded to two callouts and attended a gala day in Lochaline in the space of six hours last Friday (July 18).

A Mayday call from a yacht with two people on board which had run aground on the Red Rocks in the Sound of Mull at the mouth of Loch Sunart saw the lifeboat launched shortly after 10.30am.

As the Severn class lifeboat, *Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey*, sped to the scene, the yacht's skipper reported to the coastguard at Stornoway that he had managed to refloat the boat and was heading towards Tobermory.

The lifeboat escorted the yacht to the pontoons in Tobermory where a local diver inspected the vessel's hull.

The lifeboat returned briefly to the station at 12.30pm before heading back out into the Sound of Mull, this time at a more leisurely speed, to Lochaline for the annual gala day where islanders and visitors had the chance to look around the lifeboat and meet the volunteer crew.

The afternoon was interrupted, however, when the lifeboat was called into action again at 16.20pm to respond to a 20-metre commercial work boat with four persons on board which had run aground on the Morvern shoreline.

On reaching the scene 20 minutes later, the stricken vessel had been refloated with the assistance of another vessel.

Tobermory RNLI Coxswain Andrew McHaffie said: 'The quick response of both skippers in making a distress call ensured that help was very quickly on the scene.'

'I'd like to thank all the vessels which responded to the two Maydays, particularly the RIB *Flower of Scotland* and the vessel *Sally Anne*.'



STAFFA BOUND: TV presenter Claire Balding

Claire's Staffa adventure

TV SPORTS presenter and popular personality Claire Balding took part in a television show from the uninhabited Isle of Staffa, which was broadcast last Sunday evening on BBC1.

The programme was based on the National Trust for Scotland's nature reserve on the island as part of a one-off special to herald the start of the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Keeping drivers on track

A LOCAL police officer is trying to keep island drivers on the straight and narrow.

PC Claire Chalmers will be promoting the safe and lawful use of single track roads throughout the summer. Police have the powers to issue on-the-spot fines to drivers who fail to observe the Highway Code. Mull community councillors agreed that the police approach of educating drivers rather than fining them was a good move. It was also agreed that better road signs would help to improve driving.

Getting ready for show

COMPETITION is gearing up for the Bunesan show, which will be held on Friday August 1.

This year the competition will include all the usual features of cattle and sheep shows, plus games. The grand finale to the day's events is a show dance in the village hall from 9pm.



GREEN CREDENTIALS: The Iona Hostel at Lagadorain

Businesses vie for award

TWO environmentally-conscious businesses are in line to win a top award from Green Tourism for their commitment to sustainability.

The Iona Hostel at Lagadorain has been shortlisted for the category of best hostel while Sea Life Surveys, based at Tobermory, is in the running for best tour operator.

Both are up against 36 businesses from England, 20 others from Scotland, one from Wales and one from Northern Ireland. All were nominated after being assessed for their innovation, cost savings and green ambassadorship.

Andrea Nicholas, director of Green Tourism, said: 'A total of 60 green tourism businesses from across the UK have been shortlisted for the awards this year out of more than 2,400 entries. These finalists represent the best of the best, the top three per cent of green tourism businesses in the UK.'

The organisation has become a world leader in highlighting the importance of protecting environments, promoting local cultures and supporting local businesses.

No bids on the table for Kilbowie - despite talk

OWNERS of an outdoor activity centre next door to Kilbowie House dismissed rumours they are poised to buy the building.

North Lanarkshire council says it is not involved in talks with owners Argyll and Bute council over the purchase of the Victorian B-listed building on Oban's Gallanach Road.

Kilbowie House has been on the market for several years, despite a number of marketing campaigns.

A spokesman for North Lanarkshire council said: 'While we have had discussions with Argyll and Bute council in recent years concerning the development potential of Kilbowie House, we have had no further dialogue with them recently.'

Last month, children's book publisher Bombadil made an offer for Kilbowie House which was rejected.

Bombadil spokeswoman Marianne Rugard said: 'We are still waiting on feedback from the council as to why our offer for the building was turned down.'

She continued: 'We are now in negotiation with Highland council for a site in Inverness. Argyll and Bute council had agreed to look for other venues for us but to date we have not had that discussion.'

An Argyll and Bute council spokeswoman said: 'The property is currently advertised for sale on the open market.'

'No closing date has been set as yet.'

Parents say they were railroaded over train

A COMMUNITY activist has accused Argyll and Bute council of railroading through a scheme to transport high school pupils by train without consulting parents.

The controversial school transport programme introduced by the council just before the school holidays, included travel by train for pupils journeying to Oban high school.

John Kerr, secretary of Glenorchy and Innishail community council, hit out last week at the new travel arrangements: 'The way it was handled is a very poor

example of how things should be done. For parents to be told it was a 'operational issue' and therefore didn't have to be discussed with them, is disgraceful.'

'People are now feeling like it is a done deal. This is despite the fact that they do not want their children to travel an extra eight hours a week by train.'

Councillor Elaine Robertson, vice chairwoman of the council's area committee, agreed with John Kerr that the situation had been handled badly. She said: 'The issue could have been dealt with much more sensitivity.'

Author says he's saving islands for the country

WELL-known Scottish writer Alexander McCall Smith has revealed he bought an idyllic chain of islands off Coll to protect them for the people of Scotland.

The Cairns of Coll sit to the north east of the island and were purchased by the author for £300,000 in June last year.

But the keen sailor recently revealed the reasoning behind his investment, saying he fell in love with the outpost after dropping anchor there to enjoy a picnic.

Embarrassed by the term 'owner', the author of the popular Ladies Detective Agency series, described himself as merely the custodian of the islands.

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

UNLIMITED
— BROADBAND FROM —
£2.50 A MONTH

For 12 months, then £9.99 a month, when you take £15.95 monthly line rental

was £9.99 now £2.50

www.plus.net

plusnet
We'll do you proud

uSwitch.com WINNER 2014
Best Customer Service

uSwitch.com WINNER 2014
Best Value Home Broadband

New customers only. £10.00/month for customers in certain areas, then £17.49/month from month 13; elsewhere £9.99 from month 13. 12 month minimum term. Subject to availability. Payment by Direct Debit. £5.99 router delivery. Offer ends 02/09/2014. Terms apply. Plusnet plc, Registered Office: The Balance, 2 Pinfold Street, Sheffield, S1 2GU. Registered in England no: 3279013. ©Plusnet plc. All rights reserved.

Crianlarich still on schedule but Pulpit delayed

TRANSPORT Scotland says it's on track with one of two major roadworks due for completion in Argyll this year.

The A82 Pulpit Rock was due to be completed by late spring, and the Crianlarich bypass was to be completed by late summer.

While the bypass is still on schedule, the Pulpit Rock works have suffered set-backs and will be delayed.

A spokesman for Transport Scotland said: "Transport Scotland is continuing to work closely with its contractor McLaughlin and Harvey to complete the works on the site as soon as is practically possible."

"Completion of the construction programme at Pulpit Rock is anticipated this winter."

The work on the A82 was halted because of exceptionally bad weather and emergency interventions, which affected progress. The road was closed following a military vehicle accident and storm damage on a number of occasions during November, December 2013, and January 2014.

The roads agency was optimistic about the Crianlarich bypass: "In spite of the unfavourable weather conditions earlier this year, R J McLeod is continuing to progress the Crianlarich bypass towards a completion in late summer 2014."

Police appeal for more information

CAR VANDALS are on the radar of Oban police after enquiries into two recent incidents revealed the problem could be more widespread.

The police are currently investigating reports of vandalism to two vehicles both parked behind St Columba's Cathedral in Oban.

But they also believe more vehicles have been damaged in that area and have urged owners to come forward.

Oban police inspector Julie McLeish said: "This apparent increase in cars being vandalised is an area of particular concern for us."

Stornoway ferry to begin trials

A NEW CalMac ferry for the Ullapool to Stornoway route is in the final stages of construction in Germany.

The final fit-out and commissioning plans are now under way, with the vessel expected to undergo sea trials by the end of August.

The vessel, known as the MV Loch Seaforth, will undergo statutory inspections and vessel performance trials before being handed over to CalMac in late September for familiarisation trials and training for the local crew.



COST CONTROL: Marion MacPherson, whose Poppies tearoom is typically a hive of activity at this time of year, had to send home three members of staff on Tuesday after roadworks near to her business's entrance put off would-be customers



Lack of notice drives up costs, say fed-up owners

AN award-winning tearoom and garden centre had to send staff home as their customers were driven away by roadworks, which the owners say they were not told about, writes Euan Paterson.

A week after Gary and Marion MacPherson's Poppies garden centre was highly commended at the Greatest Garden Centre awards, their tearoom lay empty on Tuesday lunchtime.

BEAR Scotland was undertaking resurfacing work on the A85 between Connel and Saulmore at the beginning of this week but the traffic build-up at times blocked the entrance to the popular garden centre.

It was a case of history repeating

itself for the Connel couple who, in May 2012, had to contend with roadworks, with the driveway into their garden centre being used as a turning circle for a convoy vehicle.

Back then they were told by the previous trunk roads authority, Scotland Transerv, that they would be notified of all future work that could affect their business.

A frustrated Gary said on Tuesday: "Yesterday, we were full all day, you couldn't get a seat in the place, and today we had three people over lunchtime."

"My main issues are why did we not receive the minimum of two weeks' notice we had been promised and

why this time of year? This is peak season for us and right at the start of the Commonwealth Games.

"If tourists see there are roadworks here, they will not come."

"We know that roadworks have to happen, but if we know about it we can prepare for it by changing staff rotas, ordering less stock and producing less baking."

The couple say, from experience, takings can be down by 45 to 80 per cent when roadworks are taking place near to the business.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Argyll and Bute council's transport spokesman, agreed the timing of the work was not ideal.

He pointed out that contractor Breendon Aggregates was limited in the amount of work it could do at night because of an agreement with the North Connel and Ardchattan communities, where its quarry and tar-production site is based.

He said: "It is only right this business should have been consulted about the work, but I think the work will be finished by tomorrow (Wednesday), a day ahead of schedule."

A spokeswoman for BEAR Scotland said a consultation letter had been sent out in advance of the work to the council, councillors and 'businesses within the immediate vicinity'.

The forthcoming roadworks were

also reported in last week's edition of *The Oban Times*.

The BEAR spokeswoman said: "When preparing this consultation exercise, we were not aware of any special arrangements made by our predecessors, Scotland Transerv, to notify Poppies garden centre of future works in the area."

"Given the nature of the works, some short-term disruption is to be expected."

"The convoy system will be removed after day two of works and the road markings and studs will be installed under 'stop, go' board traffic control. This will help to lessen any disruption to the travelling public."

Pacifist film-maker's knife guilt

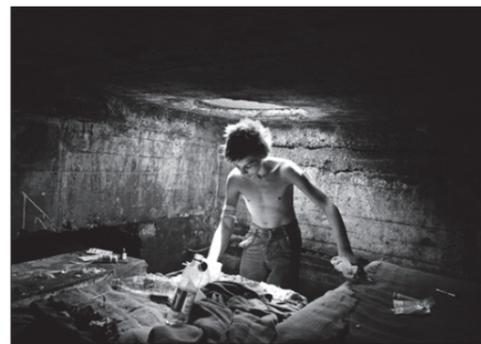
A MAN who has spent many hours documenting the devastating effects of knife crime in Glasgow through film and photos has admitting having a knife in a public place.

Photojournalist and document-maker David Gillanders, 43, had pleaded guilty at a previous hearing in Oban sheriff court to having an offensive weapon at Station Square in the town on January 24.

He was sentenced on Tuesday to carry out 100 hours of unpaid work in the community within three months.

The court previously heard Gillanders, while drunk, approached two men and a woman in an Oban pub and challenged one of the men to a fight.

After the three complainers left the pub, Gillanders approached two of them and took out what was described as 'a folding pocket knife'



SEARING IMAGE: One of the photographs taken by documentary film-maker David Gillanders during his travels in eastern Europe

with a blade of about two or three inches in length. The woman took the knife from him, with no resistance, and threw it in the sea.

"He had not gone out that night looking for trouble, but got himself drunk as his way of self medicating to deal with his troubles and nightmares," said defence lawyer John John Scott Gillanders, of Houstonfield Quadrant, Houston, Renfrewshire, had been in Oban as part of a trip round Scotland taking photos of the "victims of modern-day slavery".

Mr Scott said Gillanders had been suffering from the trauma of what he had witnessed in previous years while photographing street children in the Ukraine and Romania.

This included the harrowing experience of having a gun held to his head for half an hour.

He had sought counselling but had

been advised to wait until sentence was passed.

The lawyer said: "Of all people, David Gillanders should know better than to involve himself in an offence with a knife because of the considerable work he has done in relation to publicising the pernicious effects of knife crime."

Character statements referring to Gillanders anti-violence stance included a letter from the Violence Reduction Unit in Scotland.

Mr Scott said it was Gillanders' work to show socially deprived areas in documentaries and photos that had put his own physical and mental health at risk.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: "Considering the background report and exemplary references presented to the court, I don't intend to impose a custodial sentence."

Pretended to be qualified nurse to get position

A WOMAN pretended to be a registered nurse in order to gain employment as a carer for an 82-year-old man in Appin.

Lisa Grant, 54, had replied to an advert placed by the man's partner, who employed Grant on the basis that she provided an identity badge showing she was a registered nurse.

At Oban sheriff court on Tuesday, district procurator fiscal John Service said: "She accepted the information by the accused as proof that she was a qualified nurse and therefore an appropriate carer."

Grant, of Dalchork Farm Cottages, Dalchork, Lairg, pleaded guilty in June to providing a forged identity badge, stating that she was a registered nurse, providing a false national insurance number and so obtaining pay of £688.40 and the sole use of a cottage in Appin by fraud between December 9 2013 and January 14 this year.



FAKE: Linda Grant

Suspicion was aroused when her tax and national insurance details were examined.

Defence lawyer Stephen Macleod said his client had five years of previous experience as an auxiliary nurse and 10 years as a carer.

"To describe herself as a registered nurse was perhaps wishful thinking on her part," he said.

"She is deeply ashamed of herself and to have it hanging over her has been a significant worry to her."

Grant was fined £600 and ordered to pay £300 in compensation.

Not playing fair over taxi service

AN OPPORTUNISTIC driver on the Isle of Tiree has found himself on the wrong side of the law after being accused of operating a makeshift taxi service during the island's music festival.

Police received reports of a man allegedly driving with a taxi sign on his windscreen, picking up passengers and dropping them off in various parts of the island last Saturday.

The man is now subject of a report to the procurator fiscal for operating a taxi without a licence and insurance.

CLARINS

Great Skin Gift

Take home your free skin care collection in this stylish beauty bag!

Available until 2 August 2014.

GORDONS CHEMISTS
www.gordonsdirect.com
16 GEORGE STREET, OBAN

Yours when you buy two or more recommended Clarins products, one to be skin care. One collection per customer while stocks last, subject to availability. Not to be used in conjunction with any other Clarins offer. Gift not available online.



A WATCHFUL EYE: Oban lifeboat deputy coxswain Finlo Cottier checks the Kommandoren as the lifeboat tows the vessel to safety

Summer season sunshine keeps lifeboat crews busy

WITH the west coast of Scotland experiencing some of the hottest temperatures of the year and the number of visitors hitting its peak, the area's lifeboat crews have been kept on high alert, writes Euan Paterson.

A 70-ton sailing boat had to be taken under tow by Oban lifeboat when it lost power on Sunday evening in the Firth of Lorne.

The power of the Trent class lifeboat came into its own as the Kommandoren was towed towards

Oban Bay at around 6.30pm. During the short trip, the sailing boat managed to regain power and was able to berth under her own steam at the North Pier.

Oban lifeboat, one of the busiest on the west coast, was recently launched on its 2,000th 'shout'.

Last week, a yacht undertaking a transatlantic crossing from Bermuda to Largs had to call on Islay lifeboat for help after breaking down just short of its final destination.

The 31-foot yacht *Tribulation* developed engine and rudder problems on July 15 near to Dubh Artach skerry, 18 miles west of Colonsay. The yacht, with a lone sailor on board, was attached to the lifeboat by a tow rope and taken to Port Askaig for repairs. The island lifeboat was relaunched three days later to assist the 10-metre yacht Nautilus and its two-man crew after it fouled its anchor off Carsaig Island in the Sound of Jura.

Get The Oban Times 40p for only

Subscribe to our digital edition for one year

and save 50%

Delivered straight to your inbox

Subscribe today!

Visit www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

We will make you smile

The Denture Designers @ Argyll and Bute Cosmetic Dentures have over 40 years experience in hand crafting cosmetic dentures.

Postal service available.

As mouth cancer is a serious issue in the West of Scotland, please come into our studio to pick up a leaflet on detecting mouth cancer.

We are not dentists.

We have hundreds of testimonials from satisfied clients from all over Scotland and from countries as far a field as Russia, Argentina, USA, South Africa and most of the Commonwealth countries.

Most importantly we listen to what the client wants

We can provide Dentures on the same day and also a half hour Denture repair service

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

1b Combie Street, Oban
01631 566 631

A heady collection from Appin artists

A MIXTURE of media was on display in Port Appin village hall at the 19th annual exhibition of the village's art group, writes Euan Paterson.

The exhibition, which is running until this Saturday (July 26), opened last Wednesday and displayed a range of styles from watercolour, acrylic and pastel to glasswork and gouache.

Items from well-known west Highland artists Phoebe Barrow and Gloria Young were among the 176 pieces, most of which were supplied by members of Appin Art Group.

As well as the abundance of landscape paintings - including the ubiquitous, almost obligatory views of Castle Stalker - a diverse range of exhibits extended to a striking freestanding glass mosaic and mixed media from Lochaber artist Jean Campbell.

With contributions from Lancashire's Moira Veevers and from a number of artists from south of Oban to north of Fort William, many visitors remarked upon the increasingly high standard of the work and the diverse and eclectic range of the exhibition.

Geoff Fairbairn, deputy chairman of Appin Art Group, said many of the artists have been

inspired by seeing this exhibition in previous years.

He added: 'The key words to sum up this exhibition are 'enthusiasm' and 'generosity'. That's what makes the club and our exhibition so popular.

'A lot of people put in a lot of work, people who haven't been able to submit work but maybe come to invigilate, or help out another way.'

Explaining that the Appin group has nearly 100 members, many of whom have items as part of the display, Mr Fairbairn said: 'Throughout the autumn and the winter we have weekly sessions on a Monday and we have a programme of specialist tuition for our members with some really excellent artists.

'This exhibition represents the talents of the group and beginners are just as welcome to exhibit.'

Donations from the exhibition will go towards Appin Art Group.

HEDONISTIC:
This freestanding glass mosaic and mixed media from Lochaber artist Jean Campbell was one of the more striking pieces in this year's Appin Art Group exhibition
16_t30appinart01



Warning over pole dancer

BRITISH Telecom engineers have issued an alarm call over the damage being done to telegraph poles in Glenborodale on Skye by lovesick birds, writes Steven Rae.

The pneumatic mating cry of the great spotted woodpecker (pictured) as it drills holes in telegraph poles to attract the attention of the opposite sex is making them unsafe for the BT engineers to climb.

A spokesman for BT said: 'BT has replaced a small number of poles in the Argyll and Lochaber area as a result of woodpeckers damaging them.

'BT poles are chemically treated to protect them but woodpeckers'



damage can allow water to seep inside the pole which can cause the pole to become rotten.

'BT Openreach engineers are required to test poles before climbing them to make sure they are safe.

'In most cases, phone services are not affected by the damage which is most common during the mating season.'

Keith Morton of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said that while the behaviour is known, it was relatively unusual.

He said: 'Telegraph poles tend to be highly treated, meaning no insects are in them, so mostly woodpeckers tend not to pay any attention to them.

'In spring, when the birds start breeding, they hammer rapidly, making a loud drumming sound as a mating call. It looks like some birds have chosen poles for this rather than trees.

'Although this behaviour is known, it's relatively unusual.

'It could be that it is just one or two individual birds doing this.'

The number of great spotted woodpeckers in Britain has increased by over 300 per cent over the past 15 years, and the growing population has pushed many of them north into the Highlands.

The great spotted woodpecker is protected by law in the UK.

Drop of the folding stuff for islanders

ISLAY and Jura's contribution to the Scotch whisky industry has been rewarded as it receives a share of £100,000 from the Scottish Whisky Association.

Islay and Jura Community Enterprise has secured an award from the Scottish Whisky Association's Action Fund, which was set up to promote responsible drinking.

The fund allocates £100,000 each year from 2014 to 2018 to projects in Scotland meeting this criteria.

MSPs Michael Russell and Jamie McGrigor have welcomed the announcement, with Mr Russell adding: 'This is a positive step amongst a number of measures both nationally and locally in helping to tackle the scourge of alcohol related harms.'

Hague backs MP's mast action call

ARGYLL'S MP Alan Reid has called on the government to tighten licensing of mobile phone masts after it took nearly three weeks to repair a mast on Islay.

The mobile phone mast at Keills on the island was out of action for 18 days from the end of June to mid July.

Speaking in the House of Commons this week, Mr Reid said: 'It has just taken 18 days to repair a mobile phone mast on the island of Islay. That is completely unacceptable, and it is not an isolated incident.'

The new Leader of the House of Commons William Hague agreed to ask the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to respond to Mr Reid directly.

A new village 'bus' service

A SERVICE providing vehicles for people in rural areas has been welcomed by residents and politicians in Killin and Strathfillan, writes Steven Rae.

The Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) is organised in areas where commercial or conventional bus operators are unable to provide services.

Users are picked up in a vehicle and taken to their destination for the price of an equivalent bus fare, with bus passes and travel cards also accepted.

Martin Earl, councillor for Trossachs and Teith, said: 'The hybrid DRT scheme that will serve both the Strathfillan and Killin areas is to be welcomed.

'I would like to acknowledge the very positive contributions made by both community councils

and officers at Stirling council. These proposals will maintain a meaningful service to both communities, and, in this difficult financial climate, that is a real achievement.'

A pick-up point and time are agreed when users pre-book and the journey may be shared with other passengers with similar requests.

The boundaries of the service are: the Ardeonaig hotel, the junction of the A85 and A827 at Lix Toll, the council boundary at A82 at Inverardan, the council boundary at A85 west of Tyndrum, the council boundary at A82 north of Tyndrum and the A827 at Bridge of Lochay, north of Killin.

The journeys can either connect with existing public transport or simply another destination within the DRT area, offering greater

flexibility to cope with local people's appointments and work schedules, and connections with bus services.

A spokeswoman for Stirling council said: 'DRT Services can be very valuable to those living in rural areas without their own vehicles or easy access to conventional bus services.'

'We are pleased to be able to work with the local communities and local services to help deliver this provision in response to the demand that exists in certain areas.'

Bookings should be made 24 hours in advance and every effort will be made to accommodate passengers making bookings at shorter notice.

Further information and a map of the routes can be viewed at the Stirling council website.

Grants available

THE DEADLINE for community groups to get their hands on much needed cash is fast approaching.

Applications to this year's Lochaber Housing Association (LHA) Community Fund will close on July 31.

Grants of up to £200 are available to groups such as community councils, residents' associations, clubs and sports groups. The fund is part of LHA's commitment to reinvest profits in the community.

Contact the association on 01397 702530 for more details or to obtain an application form.

Application forms can also be downloaded from the Lochaber Housing Association website.

Builders serve up real treat for Oban charity shop

AN OBAN charity shop has received a massive boost, after renovation work was carried out free of charge.

The Mary's Meals store on Stevenson Street now has extra space for storage, a renovated kitchen area and running water.

The work, which was completed last week, was carried out by Graham Construction.

Marie Rowan, manager at the shop, said: 'I'm absolutely ecstatic - the difference it has made is phenomenal.'

'When donations arrive we now have enough space to store things.

'If this hadn't been done I don't know if we could have carried on, we were so restricted for space.

'Having running hot water is also fantastic, it makes such a difference.'

Kevin Cunningham, general foreman for Graham Construction, said: 'It's great to be able to help such worthy causes as Mary's Meals.'



SERVING THE COMMUNITY: Marie Brown, manager at the Mary's Meals shop in Oban, with Kevin Cunningham of Graham Construction



It's our birthday

25% off glasses and 10 pairs of designer glasses to be won



Oban
70 George Street
Tel 01631 567 770



25% off: Between 19 July and 26 July 2014 only. From £25 - £149 ranges, including all lenses and Extra Options. One pair of complete glasses only. Excludes sunglasses, safety eyewear, contact lens products, non-prescription sunglasses. Cannot be exchanged for cash or used with other offers. Designer glasses competition: To enter, visit the Oban store and complete the entry form by 3.30pm on 26 July 2014. See in store for terms and conditions. ©2014 Specsavers. All rights reserved.

Heartless thief stole cash from OAP

AN ELDERLY Port Appin woman had cash stolen from a table and from a handbag in her home.

Police say they are following a positive line of enquiry into the theft, which happened between 5.30pm last Friday and 7.30am the following day.

However, anyone who saw any suspicious activity in the area around the time of the offence, is encouraged to contact Oban police on 01631 510500.

A straightforward case of speeding

A VAN driver was stopped by police at the Arrivain straights near Tyndrum last Saturday after being clocked travelling at 87mph in a 50mph zone.

The motorist was the latest driver to be detected by Oban-based officers who are targeting speeding motorists this summer in a bid to reduce road accidents.

The Vauxhall Vivaro driver was charged with speeding at around 10.40am.

Community comes forward following thefts in orchard

THE COMMUNITY orchard in Dalmally was targeted by thieves last week when a picnic table and chair were stolen. A few days later a tonne of wood went missing.

The furniture was later discovered by a volunteer to have been burned and used for a bonfire. The wood has not been recovered.

While police said they were investigating the crimes, community councillors complained about the length of time it took for officers to respond to their calls.

One councillor said: 'I tried to get someone to come and see us. But it wasn't until the following Tuesday that an officer talked to me about it.'

During a discussion on the thefts at Glenorchy and Innishail community council last week, it came to light that Dalmally residents had more information about the incidents than was previously known.

This led them to believe that it was not a 'transient theft' as officers had originally believed.

Residents believed culprits may be a bit closer to home.

Community officer police constable Jeremy Moore said he was keen to speak to colleagues and put all the information together.

Scheme proud to be wild at heart

SCOTTISH wildcats could be saved from extinction, thanks to a scheme carried out in Ardnarnachan.

The Wildcat Haven project attempts to protect the species by preventing them breeding with feral cats.

The Scottish Wildcat Association believes there are less than 35 pure breeds left but hopes that will rise following the introduction of a programme to neuter feral cats in the area.

Dr Paul O'Donoghue of Wildcat Haven, said: 'Our goal is to establish populations of genetically pure wildcats. We are determined not to settle for second best or to settle for a bunch of tabbies that bear a resemblance to wildcats. Protecting anything less than the pure Scottish wildcat will condemn the species to extinction.'

Loch gets all-clear

MONITORING work undertaken on behalf of the Food Standards Agency has identified that the high levels of shellfish toxins identified in Loch Erisort - Gob Glas, Lewis, on July 15 have returned to safe levels.

MacGregor bounces back and vows to restore trust and faith

BUSINESSMAN'S VICTORY IN OBAN BY-ELECTION PROVIDES PLATFORM FOR 'INNOVATION' AS HE CALLS FOR ACTION

OBAN'S newest politician has vowed to 'restore trust and faith' in Argyll and Bute council after winning the Oban North and Lorn by-election, writes Euan Paterson.

Straight-talking businessman John MacGregor, running as an Independent, won at stage five of the count when Labour candidate Kieron Green was the last of the other four candidates to be eliminated.

Returning officer Sally Loudon announced the result just before midnight last Thursday, declaring there had been a turnout of 30.88 per cent (2,415 votes) with 28 rejected papers.

Following the result, councillor MacGregor said: 'I want to thank the voters for putting their trust in me. I also thank the people that helped me, encouraged me and showed faith in me. I will return that faith as well as I can.'

Speaking to *The Oban Times* after the result was announced, councillor MacGregor, who campaigned for

pontoons to be installed in Oban Bay, a playpark for Oban and the implementation of CHORD, said there were many other smaller issues that could be easily solved.

He said: 'I have learnt from going around the communities in this ward that there are issues like grass cutting, run-of-the-mill things, that we need to get a grip on in order to concentrate on the wider issues.'

'It is difficult to prioritise; we have to attack on many fronts.'

In the build-up to the election, councillor MacGregor was critical of the current Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee and, as its newest member, pledged to provide 'innovation' within the committee.

He added: 'We have had eight years of not much happening here and we need to bring the trust and faith back. Our communities have definitely lost faith.'

'There are many great stories from Argyll and Bute council but we need



STANDING COUNT: returning officer Sally Loudon explains the final voting to the candidates battling it out for the Oban North and Lorn ward

to lead from the front, not push from behind. If you want to steer the boat, you need a hand on the tiller and that is why I stood to become a councillor.

'I will work with councillors to produce a platform from which to expand and develop Oban and put it in its rightful place as the main tourist destination on the west of Scotland.'

Councillor MacGregor said he had not yet been asked to join any political group within the council.

He added he had learnt a lot from defeat to councillor Neil MacIntyre in the ward four by-election in May this year, admitting he had been naive in calculating how many votes he could have expected.

The SNP candidate Gerry Fisher polled the highest number of first preference votes with 595, 47 more than councillor MacGregor, but under the single transferable vote system he was out of the running at the third stage.

All four defeated candidates thanked their campaign teams, with Mr Fisher adding: 'It's a pity the best man didn't win.'

The Oban North and Lorn ward takes in the majority of Oban and extends to Kilmelford, Appin and Bridge of Orchy.



LAST MAN STANDING: Victorious John MacGregor (right) with defeated Labour candidate Keiron Green

Joined-up care policy will deliver improved services

A MAJOR step forward to share council and NHS services for adults and children in Argyll and Bute is taking shape.

The plan is to reduce the number of agencies involved in a person's life, while saving costs in the re-organisation of the services.

The plan is a joint venture of NHS Highland and Argyll and Bute council.

Services will now be known as Argyll and Bute's Health and Social Care Partnership.

From 1 April 2015, all NHS services in Argyll and Bute and the council's social work services for adults, children and families will become a single, integrated service.

Sally Loudon, chief executive of Argyll and Bute council, said: 'This approach means that we maintain the benefits of one unified social work service, which is regarded as the best model of care.'

'Our focus is on developing a single service with the people who need support at its heart. This is another important step forward.'

Elaine Mead, chief executive of NHS Highland, said: 'This combination of services has been assessed as the best fit between NHS Highland and council services because this will place people firmly at the centre of their care.'

'It will also ensure our teams deliver flexible and responsive care, which is streamlined and simple.'

'A lot of people are working extremely hard to deliver a successful partnership for the people of Argyll and Bute.'

In Argyll, staff who work for NHS Highland will remain NHS employees and council staff will remain with the local authority.

The partnership's budget will be pooled from both the council and NHS Highland and will be accountable to both agencies.

Fingal's Cave stars in Commonwealth TV celebrations

FINGAL'S Cave on Staffa has been highlighted as one of the Commonwealth's seven wonders in a BBC One Scotland programme broadcast on Sunday.

The volcanic basalt rock cave featured along with the Fjordland of New Zealand's South Island, the Namib desert, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, the Sundarban forest of Bangladesh and Victoria Falls in Zambia.

As part of the lead-up to the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, which started this week, the programme on Sunday night explored these 'wonders'.

Presenter Clare Balding took a sailing boat out to Fingal's Cave where she said she felt like she was following in the footsteps of writers such as Tennyson, Wordsworth and Keats, who fell in love with the place and composer Mendelssohn who was inspired to write the Hebrides Overture.



CHEERS: Mary MacDonald toasts her competition win with a glass of sparkling water as staff of sponsors Tesco help deliver the prize haul

Mary thanks grandsons for her sunshine prize victory

A GRANDMOTHER who entered an *Oban Times* competition on the advice of her grandsons, was delighted to have won a prize worth £250 from Tesco Oban.

Mary MacDonald, of Scarba Terrace, Soroba, Oban, is regularly encouraged by her grandchildren to enter the newspaper's Spot the Ball competition.

But after they saw the prizes on offer, courtesy of Tesco Oban, they

insisted she enter that competition too.

All Mary had to do was answer the simple question: Which season would you normally associate barbecues with? The answer was (b) summer.

And as the lucky winner she is the new owner of a Masterchef Kettle barbecue, barbecue briquettes, a cool bag and picnic tableware, a bottle of sparkling wine, a case of Budweiser,

a swingball and food to the value of £75.

The 70-year-old retired hospital worker said: 'My stomach has been churning since I was told I had won. I've never won anything like this before. My teenage grandsons like me to do the shinty ball competition and told me to do this as well.'

'They said they would keep me right with the barbecue - I hope they're true to their word.'

An encouraging signal for Coll

THE ISLE of Coll is to benefit from a £165,000 partnership project which will bring mobile phone coverage to the island.

The partnership between community-run organisation Development Coll, the Scottish government and Vodafone, is part of the Holyrood administration's *Demonstrating Digital* programme.

As well as extending the coverage, the project will examine how well community ownership of the phone mast operates.

The construction phase of the mobile phone mast has now begun on the island, with the mast due to be operational by the end of this summer.

Father pulls son from river

A BOY has been airlifted to Glasgow's Yorkhill Children's hospital after falling into an Argyll river.

The 10-year-old boy was discovered by his mother in the water on Tuesday, after he had arrived with his family to camp near the River Orchy. The boy's father pulled him from the water, although it is not known for how long he was submerged.

His mother flagged down a passing car, which happened to be driven by a doctor, who provided emergency medical assistance.

Police, the coastguard, mountain rescue and the air ambulance service rushed to the scene. The boy was airlifted to Yorkhill, where he is in a serious condition.

MORE FREE CHILDCARE HOURS WILL GIVE WEE TOTS A BIG BOOST

THIS WILL BENEFIT CHILDREN, PARENTS AND CARERS.

We're making changes to childcare provision. From the new school term the number of hours of free early learning and childcare for children aged three and four, and some two-year olds*, will increase from 12.5 to almost 16 hours a week. This will help young children develop vital language, learning and social skills, helping them to do better at school. With more flexibility for mums and dads, it will be good for pockets too.

For more info or to see if your child is eligible visit www.scottishfamilies.gov.uk or contact your local authority.

smarter scotland
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

*Those in care or whose parents or carers receive specific qualifying benefits.

SEIL ISLAND

POPPIES have been planted in Ellenabeich Square, Seil Island, by Mary and Peter Withall of the Slate Islands Heritage Centre.

The beautiful red plants were planted in memory of the fallen of World War One. Jean Alexander of the Royal British Legion's Seil branch, said: 'It is a very moving sight.'

DALAVICH

A COMMUNITY group in Dalavich has applied to lease Forestry Commission land to build a run-of-the-river hydro scheme.

Dalavich Improvement Group (DIG) has applied to the commission's National Forest Land Scheme (NFLS) to lease 4.5 hectares of land in Dalavich Oakwoods.

The land DIG has applied to lease includes, and is adjacent to, the River Avich, where a run-of-river hydro scheme would allow the community to generate low carbon electricity to fund projects and initiatives in the area.

Administered by Forestry Commission Scotland, the NFLS gives communities the opportunity to bid to buy or lease national forest land on the basis it provides increased public benefits. A 28-day open consultation period is required by the scheme and public comments on any aspect of the proposal are welcome.

Details of the application can be viewed online at forestry.gov.uk/nfls and all comments on the proposals detailed in the application must be submitted by Thursday August 14.

Responses and comments should be addressed to Malcolm Wield, Forestry Commission Scotland, Highland Conservancy, 'Woodlands', Fodderty Way, Dingwall, Ross-shire, IV15 9XB or to malcolm.wield@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

CRIANLARICH

ROAD safety in Crianlarich has been improved, following the repainting of a pedestrian crossing.

Strathfillan Community Council raised concerns with BEAR Scotland in June that cars were failing to stop as a result of faint road markings at the crossing, situated outside the village hall and the Londis shop. The community council thanked MSP Bruce Crawford for his help in speeding up action from BEAR.

GLENORCHY

A TIMBER route to extract forestry from Glenorchy will see Argyll and Bute council build a road around the Och Estate.

Glenorchy and Innishail community council heard there were problems getting rights to the land in the past, but there are ongoing conversations about providing a route between Noxi's Hole to Black Duncan's Corner.

Councillor Elaine Robertson told the meeting she had not had any involvement but she understood a senior officer was working on the plan.

LUING

OH NO it isn't... oh yes it is - the Luing Panto DVD is on sale at the Luing store and Balvicar shop for everyone who missed the 'live' performance earlier this year.



Dunbeg primary school pupils recently visited The Oban Times as part of a project on newspapers. 15_127dunbeg01

Dunbeg primary prize pupils celebrate at end of term

A SCOTTISH country dancer who has taught a generation of pupils was invited to hand out the prizes at the Dunbeg primary school closing service and presentation of prizes.

Sue Porter, who has been actively involved in the life of the school for the last 16 years, handed out the prizes at the service in Dunbeg church, conducted by the Rev George Cringles.

The following primary seven pupils received, along with their leavers 'hoodies' and primary seven photograph, parent council gift tokens, records of achievement, citizenship shields presented by their peer supporters, a photographic CD of their primary years and their HeartStart Certificate: Duncan Blainey, Alistair Bryce, Erin Byars, Imogen Carnie, Tierney Dornan, Michael Drummond, Ryan Guild, Fraser Inglis, Adam MacLean, Ross MacCaskill, Ailie Munro, Lexi Sloan, Anna Wright.

Prizewinners: Fifth Eco Flag and photograph - Ruari Cottier, Mya MacCormick, Tayler Robinson, Cara Duncan, Rosie Dairon, Jason Carroll, Emily MacIntyre, Rachel Sinclair, Craig Sinclair, Finley Watson, Ailie Munro, Michael Drummond. Special Award from Mr S Morley - Jack Watson; James Johnston Quach for Art - Lexi Sloan and Anna Wright; Gordon MacPherson Memorial Shield for Best Beginner Swimmer - Holly Bryce; Swimming Cup - Imogen Carnie; Gordon MacPherson Memorial Cup for Clan Football - Linnhe; Sports Shield - Linnhe; MacLean Family Shield for Musical Achievement - Erin Byars, Imogen Carnie, Tierney Dornan, Ailie Munro, Highlands and Islands Folk Group Competition - Dunbeg Folk Group; Agnes Connelly Shield for Recorder - Dunbeg Recorder Group, Highlands and Islands Duet Competition - Erin Byars and Ailie Munro; Margaret Watson Cup for Gardening - Beckie MacAulay, Emily MacIntyre, Rachel Sinclair, Beckie MacAulay, Emily MacIntyre, Rachel Sinclair. Jordan Family Cup for Caring - Erin Byars; Mary Graham Cup for Citizenship - Tierney Dornan; Helen Paton Cup for Endeavour - Michael Drummond.

Presentations were also made to Michael Wright for his commitment as chairman of the parent council and Elaine Carroll for her outstanding contribution to art across the school, especially the recent Lion King Parade.

MORVERN
lines

A FEW weeks ago, an RAF blue ensign was flown publicly in Morvern, probably for the first time in the history of the parish.

The venue was Lochaline Dive Centre on the occasion of a visit by a team of recreational divers from RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire who were in the vicinity as part of the RAF's Adventurous Training Programme. The purpose of their visit was to investigate the wreck sites of two aeroplanes, a Catalina and a Sunderland flying boat, both believed to be returning to Oban's RAF Flying Boat Station at Ganavan during the Second World War when they crashed into the sea.

Military aircraft wrecks are automatically designated as war graves so special permission was required through Wessex Archaeology's 'Sapphire' project for the dive team to make preliminary investigations.

Team leader, Flight Lieutenant Christopher Knight, said: 'For my team, comprising current RAF air and ground crew, the dives were some of the most poignant of our careers, particularly so on Armed Forces Day. We went ashore at the site of the station in Ganavan bay to pay tribute to the crews. Further exploratory dives with Wessex Archaeology, which is one of the world's leading heritage and rescue charities, are being discussed. Hopefully we will be able to offer further information on these and other wreck sites in the area as and when it becomes available.'



RESPECT: the RAF dive team from Brize Norton pay their respects at the Ganavan War Memorial

HERRING are not as plentiful in the Sound of Mull and Loch Sunart as they were in the days when the local lairds made use of the following grace: 'Lord! Turn the world upside down, that Christians may make bread out of it.'

Two 18th century travellers to the Highlands, Thomas Pennant and Robert Knox, described how some of the local lochs were literally alive with fish.

Loch Hourn, a 14 mile sea loch to the north of Knoydart, was famous for the quality and quantity of its herring. So great were the catches and so numerous the fisher-folk camping along its sides, that once a sheriff had to come down from Inverness to read the official Riot Act to allow the police to break up a drunken brawl which had raged there for days.

There is no doubt it was the oil-rich herring which helped to sustain a high human population in Morvern and elsewhere up and down the west coast.

Its failure resulted in famine, death and the removal of many people.

The Russians, Faroese and Icelanders are blamed for reducing fish stocks these days but long ago it was the Dutch who plundered Scottish waters.

In 1618 they sent out 3,000 ships with 50,000 men to catch the herring and 9,000 more vessels to transport them back home.

All this happened under our noses because we were too busy catching whales in distant waters.

THE ROYAL Highland Yacht Club, one of Scotland's oldest yacht clubs, held its midsummer muster in Loch Aline on July 5 this year.

Some say Loch Aline means, 'the beautiful loch' and on a fine summer's evening who could disagree? Since its foundation in 1881, the RHYC has mustered in many inland sea lochs but not, I think, in Loch Teacuis which is even more spectacular.

Although narrow and challenging, its twin entrance channels on either side of the island of Carna are by no means impossible, especially on a rising tide.

After passing Barr and its famous waterfall on the starboard bow and the vitrified fort above Rahoy House to port, it is plain sailing all the way to the head of the inner loch which must be one of the most idyllic anchorages in the Hebrides.

The late Commander Archibald Colville, resident owner of Rahoy and Kinlochteacuis Estate in the 1960s, was an active member of the Royal Highland Yacht Club.

He owned a magnificent trimaran called the 'Victress of Rahoy' in which he and his family used to regularly negotiate the Carna Narrows.

That, of course, was in the days before satellite navigation and chart plotters, yet this 40 ft x 21 ft beauty, drawing 3'-6" and with no reverse gearbox, came and went without misadventure.

Commander Colville's family owned David Colville & Sons Ltd, the well-known Scottish iron and steel company. Through this association, innovative metal fluorescent road-signs, which swivelled with the currents, were named and fixed to many of the rocks and skerries in the neighbourhood to determine the vessel's exact position, even in the dark.

Tom, Archie Colville's son, tells me he spent many hours at low tide armed with a hammer and chisel attempting to create holes into which the poles could be fastened.

'Victress of Rahoy' was designed by an American, Arthur Piver, who became world renowned in the late 1950s for his trimaran designs. She was built by Contour Craft in Great Yarmouth in 1965/6 to Lloyds 100 A1 specification and was the only Piver trimaran certified to that exacting standard.

When not taking part in RHYC events, Commander Colville, who had a distinguished war career, unselfishly made the 'Victress' available to sea cadets and local school children to enable them to go to sea in a proper yacht.

It would be fitting in more ways than one for the RHYC to hold a muster in Loch Teacuis.

Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com



Classic cars in the spotlight

STEP BACK IN TIME: nine members of Oban and District Classic Vehicle Club visited Dunbeg primary school recently to show pupils around some of its classic cars. The pupils enjoyed sitting in the cars, trying to find which car had the loudest horn and asking the owners various questions. The visit was arranged after one of the teachers won it as a prize at the recent fundraising treasure hunt to raise funds for Dunbeg and Lochnell schools



Youngsters plant new trees

GREEN FINGERS: An area of Glencoe wood has new trees thanks to Ballachulish primary school pupils. The children spent an afternoon putting the young plants in the nature reserve with the help of volunteers from Highland Titles



FUN AND GAMES: children at Lochside Roman Catholic primary school took part in a mosaic workshop as part of activities to celebrate the Commonwealth Games

Fun focus on games

LOCHYSIDE

LOCHYSIDE Roman Catholic primary school, Fort William, held a host of activities to mark the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Children learned about Commonwealth countries and followed up with research on specific aspects of the some of the culture and traditions in these lands.

Music, food tasting, art work and a week dedicated to different sports enjoyed across the Commonwealth were popular highlights.

'This kind of integrated and active learning provides the pupils with varied and challenging experiences and encourages them to lead a healthy, active life-style,' said head teacher Violet Smith.

'We would like to thank everyone who kindly led the sports and arts workshops. Their help is much appreciated.'

DALMALLY

THE ROYAL Botanical Gardens at Kew have an outpost in Dalmally.

Dalmally, Glenorchy and Innishail community orchard allows gardeners in North Argyll to take part in the Let's Grow Wild campaign.

The project aims to inspire people across the UK to get together to transform unloved spaces with native wild flowers, creating new habitats for wildlife.

Since receiving their award, Glenorchy and Innishail community orchard has recruited members of the local community to bring a large area of wood and scrub back to life for the benefit of both local people and indigenous wildlife.

Kate Craig, secretary of the presentation on Tuesday night at Kilchoan Learning Centre.

The event starts at 7pm and advanced booking is recommended.

Contact Pat Glenday on 01397 874260 or pat.glenday.whc@uhi.ac.uk

agreed to allow neighbours to use the boxes as libraries or for other uses.

DALMALLY saw 60 people charged with road traffic offences in the last month.

Ranging from speeding drivers to faulty cars, police have stopped more than 100 people in the same area.

Police Scotland advise: 'don't speed. Don't break the law.'

KILCHOAN

A LEADING historian is to visit Kilchoan to give a talk about Vikings in Scotland.

Community research group the Ardnamurchan Transitions Team recently excavated a buried Viking boat which appeared at an exhibition in London and details of the findings will be included in the presentation on Tuesday night at Kilchoan Learning Centre.

The event starts at 7pm and advanced booking is recommended.

Contact Pat Glenday on 01397 874260 or pat.glenday.whc@uhi.ac.uk

PORTREE

AN EXHIBITION on the artwork of a Skye family who travelled the world will be displayed at Skye and Lochalsh Archive Centre in Portree.

The display will explore the work of Catriona and Mairead, daughters of Dugald and Maggie MacDonald, who lived on Skye before travelling to Pakistan, South Africa, Malta and England.

Anne MacLeod of Skye and Lochalsh Archive Centre, said: 'The MacDonald family travelled extensively throughout the world but retained their native Gaelic and links with Skye relatives.'

'This multi-cultural flavour is reflected in the sisters' artwork, which includes cartoons, wallpaper designs, textiles and ceramic studies.'

'The surviving collection was discovered by a relative, Murdoch Mackenzie, following Catriona's death and was deposited with the Skye and Lochalsh Archive Centre in 2010.'

The exhibition opens to the public at 4pm today (Thursday). Everyone welcome.

BRIDGE OF ORCHY

A COMMUNITY council asked 'which year' when it was confirmed work may finally get underway in July or August, after a solution was found to a long-term water problem.

For more than 20 years the small community of Bridge of Orchy has been trying to find a long-term supply of water for its village.

Despite many years of negotiations with Argyll and Bute council and Scottish Water committing to a multi-million upgrade in time, the work was never started.

However, Glenorchy and Innishail community council heard from councillor Elaine Robertson that work was almost



RIGHT NOTES: Pipers from schools all over the region took part in a piping competition at the end of June

Young pipers compete for new trust title

THE ARGYLLSHIRE Gathering Piping Trust, which supports the teaching of the bagpipe in Argyll schools, organised a new piping competition at the end of June.

The youth piping competition was held at Mossfield, Oban, with 47 pipers competing over three levels in five competitions. Six schools were represented.

The event took place at the county sports day and introduced many to solo competing for the first time, although there is a strong competing youth pipe band presence in the county.

As a result it is hoped that numbers competing in solos around the Highland Games circuit will increase.

The trust acknowledged the generous sponsorship from the Scots Guards Association and Pipe Major Jimmy Banks who arranged prizes, judges and stewards.

Piping results

Results from piping competition which was run alongside Argyll Youth Games. The competition was sponsored by Argyllshire Gathering and Scots Guards.

Novice March: 1 Drew Aitken, Hermitage Academy; 2 Lewis Sutcliffe, Hermitage Academy; 3 Ruairidh Sutcliffe, Hermitage Academy; 4 Neil MacLean, Oban High School.

Under 15 March: Jamie Campbell, Dunoon Grammar; 2 Rebecca Patterson, Dunoon Grammar; 3 Harry Adair, Lochgilphead; 4 Alexander Anderson, Tobermory High School. Strathspey and Reel: Jamie Campbell, Dunoon Grammar and Rebecca Patterson, Dunoon Grammar; 3 Harry Adair, Lochgilphead High School; 4 Rory Monaghan, Hermitage Academy. Under 18 March: Cambel Walker, Dunoon Grammar; 2 Alastair MacLean, Oban High School; 3 Sean Candy, Dunoon Grammar; 4 Aaron Hossain, Oban High School. Strathspey and Reel: Cambel Walker, Dunoon Grammar; 2 Sean Candy, Dunoon Grammar; 3 Alastair MacLean, Oban High School; 4 Jamie MacGregor, Oban High School.

DESERTED phone boxes in Glenorchy, Portsonachan and Dalmally may soon have a new lease of life.

Community councillors have



Katie steps out to more success

Award-winning Oban Highland dancer Katie MacPherson, left, added more accolades to her trophy cabinet by winning five first places and a second place at this year's Lorne Highland Games. Katie won both the Highland and national trophies in the premier section at the games. Katie, the current Argyll champion, is a pupil of the Eilidh MacInnes School of Dance.

New Fort training college planned

FORT William might already be the outdoor capital of the UK, but a new training college will see students being trained in Lochaber as well.

A planning application lodged with Highland council will see West Highland College in conjunction with the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) build an Outdoor Activity Centre.

Using land, 70 metres north east of the Lidl Food Store on Camanachd Crescent, the college hopes to build the centre and an equipment storage base for the use of the UHI.

The college hopes to run an Adventure Tourism Management Course from the base.

The need for the degree qualification was driven by the local adventure industry and is delivered in partnership with local businesses.

Lochaber video an instant hit

A VIDEO released last week has already been viewed 13,500 times, as Guest TV is launched in Lochaber.

The programme, a 30-minute film, informs visitors of attractions and activities as well the history of the area. Frazier Coupland, Lochaber Chamber of Commerce's destination manager, said: 'Video provides the opportunity to make an instant impact and to reach a global audience.'

Hotel under offer

A HOTEL in Onich that has been boarded up is currently under offer with estate agents.

Confirming the property, the former Alt-nan-Ros Hotel, was not yet sold, agents Colliers International said they hoped the matter would be completed over the coming weeks.

Alt-nan-Ros is a 21-bedroom hotel in 2.5 acres of land, on the banks of Loch Linnhe and has been vacant since September 2013.

Highlanders at commemoration

ONE hundred and fifty people will represent the Highlands at a major event marking the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War in Edinburgh next month.

Signalling the start of the five-year Scottish Commemorations Programme, a Drumhead Service will be held at Edinburgh Castle on August 10 before a congregation of people from all parts of Scotland.

Kept in the dark: no going back over new school gym

Angry residents told seven-metre 'single-storey' building will go ahead in Caol

FORT William planning department is the 'worst in Highland', it was claimed at a community council meeting in Caol.

The claim on Tuesday night came after pensioners told a packed meeting they will have the sun blocked out of their homes as a seven-metre 'single-storey' school gym building is being built.

But officers from Highland council say a games hall for a new school can not be stopped, despite the community not receiving neighbour notification letters or being part of the working group that put together the plans.

A special meeting of the newly-formed Caol community council hosted the meeting on Tuesday night to air concerns of lack of transparency from the council.

Council officers, including Ron MacKenzie, head of resources and Gary Westwater, head of property, told a packed meeting that there was no going back on the school building. Mr MacKenzie said officers were there to learn, in order that the council did not make similar mistakes in future.

However, Sheonagh Robertson, who lives in Upper Achintore, stopped the meeting to say that she and her neighbours had also suffered at the hands of the council's planning department.

The former primary school teacher said both an MSP and a senior council officer had raised concerns about the planning department, calling it 'the worst in Highland'.

She said: 'This is not the first time they have made a mistake with a building. They make the plans, they pass the plans and when they make a mistake they say they will learn from

it next time. 'There is crass incompetence in all areas of planning in Fort William and we are not putting up with it any longer.'

Ron MacKenzie, from Highland council, said he had 'serious concerns' about a perceived lack of neighbourhood notification. But there was very little 'at this stage' that could be done about the gym hall.

An argument ensued in the meeting over the cost of stopping the work and starting again. Community councillors claimed it would be around £30,000 to start again, while officers said it would be hundreds of thousands to resolve the situation.

Councillor Bill Clark told the meeting that officers would need to write a report to come back to the full council in Inverness. But he pointed out that any measure would need to be appropriate.

Someone in the community council meeting shouted: 'Do you realise what you are doing to these vulnerable people - they will have no sunlight?' Mr Westwater said: 'It is distinctly not true that these people will not have sunlight. We have projected the sunlight through the year. Between December and March these houses will get at least two hours of sunshine a day.'

Officers told the meeting they would talk with the deputy chief executive about the issue as a matter of urgency, but said: 'I wouldn't hold out much hope.'

NEWSDESK
01631 568000



SPECTACLE: proudly marching through Glencoe were the Can-Am Pipe Band. The 70-strong band made quite a stir for a crowd of more than 200 people who watched on as the Canadians and Americans moved along the main street of Glencoe to the War Memorial, before making their way to the massacre site.

'Pure' MacDonalds parade through Glencoe

THE 70-STRONG Can-Am Pipe Band marched proudly through Glencoe last Friday with some very interesting MacDonalds taking part.

The Canadian and American pipe band led a procession from the Glencoe Hotel stopping at the war memorial before making its way to the Glencoe massacre site.

In the crowd were long-lost relatives of those who fell in the battle of February 13 1692 - known as the Glencoe massacre.

To date only seven relatives can justifiably claim to be descendants of the Glencoe MacDonalds, after a revolutionary DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) test validated their claims to the title.

The story started some seven years ago when New Yorker Ryan Littrell called at the home of Alistair MacDonald, in Glencoe, and persuaded him to have his DNA profile analysed in Houston, Texas.

Ryan knew that Alistair was one of only a few 'pure' MacDonalds of Glencoe that could validate the claims of many around the world who claimed to be descendants of the clan.

After taking a small sample of DNA it was sent to America for analysis.

Glencoe-born and raised, Alistair can trace his family back for generations and even lay claim

to five generations of his family living in the same house. Ros MacDonald, wife of Alistair, said: 'The result was that MacDonalds worldwide logged on, and matches were found in Canada, US, New Zealand and Paisley to name but a few.'

It was with great pride that Ryan, David MacDonald, his cousin Jim Moore and their families came together for the event in Glencoe last week.

The sun shone all day for the visitors, with a pledge that they will certainly return.

During their stay in Glencoe, the MacDonalds enjoyed the Can-Am Pipe Band, went to the top of the 'pap' and visited all the major sites.

Slowhand - the one that got away?

TOBERMORY played host to a special celebrity last week - but most of the audience didn't realise.

And with no photographs of the surprise turn at the open mic night no one will ever really know if it was Eric Clapton, or not - the rock star really is the one that got away.

A regular open mic night at Macgohan's bar with Ralf Roeder, generally sees residents and visitors sing a

song or two for the craic. Last Wednesday night, the gig hosted by Ralf, saw



Eric Clapton

the usual suspects take part when, as the story goes, an 'old guy' appeared on stage.

Ralf said it may have been the levels of intoxication, but as he shuffled onto the stage very few people were taking notice.

But the rock star, who can command thousands of pounds for a gig, played some of his songs with Ralf singing with him.

Ralf said: 'I had just

finished playing Wonderful tonight, when this guy approached me for my guitar. I didn't know who it was until he started to play.

'Eric plays the guitar in a way that is amazing.'

'We sang Before You Accuse Me, and then two country blues songs before he played Buzzard Luck, a song from Bozz Gags.'

'I asked him for an autograph and Eric said, 'I don't want everyone to realise

what's going on,' so we went outside. Eric listened to a whole evening of music before taking to the stage in the early hours of the morning.

Ralf said: 'I can't believe how happy I was to share this special moment and I hope to meet him again.'

Neil Morrison, manager of Macgohan's bar, said: 'I had no idea that any of this was going on.'

'I was up in my house, sit-

ting on the couch watching the television.

'There is something quite nice about a major super star being able to come to Tobermory - not get any hassle and simply enjoy the music in the bar.'

'I have no idea where he was staying or what he was doing in the town - but just that he was in the pub and he took to the stage.'

'I wonder who it will be next, Elvis?'

Barra welcomes jump in passenger numbers as island flights increase

BARRA has been identified as one of the fastest growing airports in the Highlands and islands after figures released by the airport owner.

Barra passenger numbers increased by 40 in April, 240 in May and 289 in June, when compared to 2013.

Airport owner Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd (HIAL) said the increase was down to the provision of additional flights to Glasgow, coupled with increased demand on the route.

Passenger numbers at HIAL's regional airports grew by nearly 8,000 during the last quarter (April

- June), with the group's island airports driving the growth.

Fastest growing

Barra was the fastest growing airport in the group, with a 22.1 per cent increase, representing an additional 569 passengers.

Benbecula attracted an additional 717 passengers, up 9.1 per

cent, while Islay's numbers grew by 2.9 per cent, representing an additional 234 passengers.

Passenger numbers were down slightly at Campbeltown on 2013 for the same period by 120 passengers.

Inglis Lyon, managing director of HIAL, said: 'It is very encour-

aging to see our smaller island airports driving growth across the group.'

'The increased demand for island services is particularly good news for those local communities and underlines the role our airports play supporting the economic growth of these areas.'



High-flying sergeant Ryan is Oban's cadet of the year

Cadet flight sergeant Ryan Cook of the air cadets 2521 (Oban High School) squadron was recently given the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet Award for the contribution he has made to his unit. He received his award from the Lord Lieutenant Patrick Stewart.

Gaelic concert

A MAJOR new production featuring a Connell singer is being called a 'watershed' moment in Gaelic music. Children of the Smoke, featuring Joy Dunlop, will premiere at Glasgow Green on Monday at 7.30pm.

The free event is a universal story about people, place and connection, described as a highly original 75-minute show including dancers, film and a band of 20 of Scotland's leading musicians. It aims to tackle current issues that resonate with many nations.

CHARLES KENNEDY MP
ALAN REID MP

The case for staying in the UK
Public Meeting

Corran Halls, Oban
MONDAY 28 JULY, 6.30pm - 8pm

Published by Alan Reid,
95 Alexandra Parade, Dunoon

FLOORSHOP

CARPETS, VINYL, LAMINATES
OFFCUTS GALORE

luxurious beds
matts, rugs etc
AND MUCH
MUCH MORE

WE WON'T
BE BEATEN
ON PRICE

Telephone: 01631 563316 • Unit 12, Mill Lane, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HA

HOLT'S
Auctioneers of Fine Modern & Antique Guns

Holt's Auctioneers are Europe's leading specialists in fine modern and antique guns.

To discuss consigning any guns to Holt's for sale by auction or for a free valuation please visit our stand at:

The Highland Field Sports Fair
Stand Number B17
Moy Estate
Friday 1st & Saturday 2nd August

www.holtsauctioneers.com

Come and Sample the Delights of the Continent

Continental Market
Oban - Station Road
Fri 1st - Mon 4th August

Professional Continental market traders from France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Holland, Poland, wearing traditional costumes will be selling high quality products including Briannys biscuits, olives, French crepes, Italian nougat, pungent cheese, saucissons, Tartiflette from the Alps, charcuterie, fresh breads, croissants and much, much more!

For more information visit www.traditionalmarket.co.uk or www.facebook.com/traditionalmarket

Get The Oban Times for only 40p!

Subscribe to our digital edition for one year and save 50%

Subscribe today!
Visit www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

Good fun, fine weather and great craic

Neil Elliot from Helensburgh is taking part in the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games in a special role involving Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, but the heavyweight competitor was keeping tight lipped, other than his Braemar connection. 15_130taynuilt9



Stephen King, of Inveraray, throws his first stone of the 2014 season at Taynuilt. The crowd agreed it was good to see the veteran athlete back on the games pitch. 15_130taynuilt7



TAYNUILT Highland Games was a spectacle for all the family, with lots to do and a great crowd.

Rain was on the horizon and most people said they would go until the rain started, however, the best part of the day was over by the time a heavy shower came over the games field.

A range of community groups had taken a stall, promoting the wide variety of clubs and organisations within the village.

There was also plenty of dancers, including a fair number of local youngsters turning out to compete.

Taynuilt games are a well-oiled machine - with everything running smoothly, including the procession from the hotel to the games pitch. This year's chieftain, Robert Campbell-Preston, looked fine walking through Taynuilt with his entourage as Oban Pipe Band played behind him. This year the hill race was boosted by a new trophy, presented by the Clan MacIntyre Society, and it is understood the clan will now be sponsoring the event and the prizes for the Cruachan run. Children enjoyed the challenge of climbing to the top of the flag

pole. It was a hard trial and many got near to the top but didn't quite make it.

The whole event was run and organised locally with some of the best commentating of the games circuit from the well-informed Donald Harrison, who mixed his historical knowledge of Taynuilt alongside a sound understanding of the Highland games.

Taynuilt has kept its feel of a very traditional Highland games - a place for locals to come and meet residents and friends.

See results on page 11.



The women's 100 yard race was bravely contested by the prepared and the less prepared. 15_130taynuilt11



Andrew Servant, 42, from Taynuilt who swept the boards in the heavyweight competitions for the ninth year running. Andrew, a game keeper and deer stalker, isn't too confident he can make it ten in a row. 15_130taynuilt8



Robert and Rosie Campbell-Preston, the chieftain and his wife, spent the entire day talking with visitors and competitors. 15_130taynuilt3



The team who organised Taynuilt Highland Games. 15_130taynuilt4



The procession between the Taynuilt Hotel and the games field 15_130taynuilt1



Left: Winners of the girl's 100 metre run. 15_130taynuilt6



Right: An Oban Highland dancer treads carefully in the sword dance. 15_130taynuilt20



The men's 100 yards. 15_130taynuilt12



North Argyll Volunteer Car Scheme members Caroline Gillanders, left, chairwoman Rose Wands and Steve Eccles. 15_130taynuilt15



Rev Robert Brookes, left, and Dr John Lyon in less familiar attire. 15_130taynuilt17



Members of Taynuilt Gaelic Choir at their stall. 15_130taynuilt16

UNIONS BACK QUALITY AND STANDARDS DESPITE MALLAIG CLOSURE

Care home staff deserve better

UNIONS have backed the quality and standards in Highland care homes, despite one in Mallaig being temporarily closed.

The MacIntosh Centre doors were shut last week after allegations of 'poor practise', however, the lead unionist for social work says poor pay and working conditions are part of the problem for workers.

The temporary closure was made by NHS Highland to 'implement an action plan' in the home.

Seven residents from Mallaig have been

transferred to Fort William for between four and six weeks.

The health board said: 'All residents have settled in comfortably to Invernevis House. Staff from the MacIntosh Centre have gone with them apart from those who man the day care facilities which will continue at the MacIntosh Centre. This is a temporary transfer of services to Invernevis House for four to six weeks which will allow us to implement our action plan.'

Speaking to *The Oban Times*, Fort woman

Sally MacInver said she could understand the problem after having to move her own mother from one home to another. Her mother has now been settled in care in Lochaber for three years, but her concerns continue because within that time she says has seen more than 20 members of staff come and go in the present home.

Sally, 48, continued: 'These young people do the best they can, but they have no life experience.'

'If proper wages were paid then people

would come forward to do the job.' Trade union activist Janette McQuiston, secretary of the Highland healthcare branch, pointed out there was good work being done throughout the area, saying the 'overwhelming majority of NHS Highland's care homes received 'very good' and 'good' ratings.

'An Acarsaid on Skye and Grant House in Grantown fared particularly well, scoring five ('very good') across the board,' she said.

'In a care sector dominated by scandalously low pay and malignly influenced by distant

shareholders and profit-seeking executives, Unison wishes to stress the benefits of a fairly paid, locally-controlled, publicly accountable service for our elderly and vulnerable.'

A Care Inspectorate spokesman said: 'Our main priority is that residents receive the appropriate standard and continuity of care which meets their needs and respects their dignity and rights.'

'We take all concerns raised with us very seriously and anyone with a concern can contact us on 0845 600 9527.'

MP welcomes drop in jobless number

THE NUMBER of people unemployed in Ross, Skye and Lochaber has dropped again this quarter to 1.4 per cent, almost five times less than the Scottish average.

The figure for the area is 461, 281 fewer than in June 2013 and 60 fewer than in May 2014.

The figure represents a very low 1.4 per cent of the economically active population, with the Scottish average 6.9 per cent and UK average 6.5 per cent.

Charles Kennedy, MP for the area, said: 'These figures are welcome news.'

'Month on month, we see unemployment figures falling at a notable rate, demonstrating the resilience of Highlanders during these tough economic times.'

'We must, however, be under no illusion - there remains a tough task ahead to ensure the recovery is felt by everyone across Ross, Skye and Lochaber and indeed the whole of the UK.'

Record numbers heading to forests and woodlands

VISITS to woodlands in Lochaber are estimated to be at an all-time high, according to a survey.

Around 670,000 people a year are enjoying the forests and woodlands in the region, according to the All Forests Survey by Forestry Commission Scotland.

Woodlands are proving to be a hit with tourists, as 77 per cent of the visits are made by people on holiday or a short break.

Walking is the most common activity, with around 45 per cent of all visitors to Lochaber's forest coming to walk.

Other figures include six per cent coming to mountain bike, around 10 per cent drawn to the area's forest wildlife and about 13 per cent stop for picnics.

Environment and climate change minister Paul Wheelhouse said: 'Forestry Commission Scotland is the largest provider of outdoor recreation in the country with hundreds of popular woodland walks, world class

biking trails and welcoming visitor centres.

'It is very positive news that we are seeing so many people visiting the National Forest estate and taking the opportunity to enjoy Scotland's outstanding natural environment.'

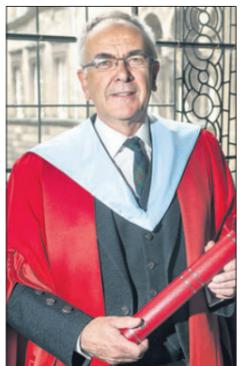
'The Scottish Government is keen to capitalise on this success by widening out better access to our woodlands and providing a greater range of ways for people to enjoy them.'

Craig Millar, Forestry Commission Scotland's communities, recreation and tourism manager in Lochaber, added: 'We are delighted to see healthy visitor numbers to the area.'

'Lochaber's landscapes are always a huge selling point for tourists and the forests and woodlands are part of this magical ingredient.'

'We are working hard with many partners to improve what our forests can offer local people and visitors. We think there is more to be done but we're pleased that the commission's forests are contributing so positively.'

Gaelic college principal honoured with degree



DELIGHTED: Professor Boyd Robertson called his recent award a great honour

THE PRINCIPAL of Scotland's only Gaelic medium college has been given an honorary degree.

Professor Boyd Robertson received the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Education from Edinburgh University for his work on the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act and Bòrd na Gàidhlig, among other contributions to Gaelic development. The North Uist native taught Gaelic at Oban High School then moved to Strathclyde University before Sabhal Mòr Ostaig UHI.

Professor Robertson said: 'This is a great honour for me personally and for Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the remarkable institution I am privileged to lead.'

'This year marks the centenary of the death of Professor Donald MacKinnon, the first holder of the Chair of Celtic at Edinburgh and it is a particular pleasure for me to receive this honour from the first university in Scotland to establish a chair of Celtic.'

Centenarian Chrissie celebrates

Secret of a long life revealed at party

SURROUNDED by her family from all over the world, Chrissie McGregor celebrated 100 years with some good advice.

To live a long life - don't take cigarettes and don't take alcohol.

Mrs McGregor was certainly a living testament to a life lived well.

Born and raised in Kinlochleven, the centenarian is a life-long adherent of the Salvation Army with two women from the church joining the party.

Nephew Hugh Rankine gave a speech to the 50 or so people gathered and during the afternoon, as he talked more and more people arrived to take part.

Family came from Scotland, England, Ireland, America and New Zealand to share in Chrissie's special birthday party.

Born on July 21 1914 Chrissie has seen huge changes over her lifetime, said nephew Hugh, but Chrissie was still able to correct him when he went wrong. But she was adamant that even if people did not want to hear the news it was certainly a fact for her that cigarettes and alcohol would take anyone to an early grave.

Louise Duffy from Abbeyfield nursing home in Ballachulish gave a short speech to say she hoped Chrissie would be with them for years to come.



LONG LIFE: Chrissie McGregor with Lord Lieutenant Iain Thornber, right, and nephew, Hugh Rankine

Windows smashed and lock stolen

A WINDOW was found smashed at Banavie Primary School, Banavie, Fort William, on Saturday July 19.

AN OUTER pane of a front facing living room window was smashed at a property in Foyers Road Kinlochleven, over the course of the last week.

A padlock securing a coal shed at the same address was also reported as missing.

Anyone with details of the incidents that took place sometime between Sunday July 13 Saturday July 19 should contact police on 101.

Listen to council meetings online

RESIDENTS of the Western Isles will now be able to listen as decisions affecting them are made in council, as all meetings of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar are to be webcast by the end of the year.

Members of the public can listen to full council and committee meetings via the comhairle website.

Stornoway North SNP councillor Gordon Murray welcomed the move. He said: 'It is great to see the comhairle progress a key part of SNP policy which is openness and transparency.'

New start training cash still available

EMPLOYERS in the Western Isles can still apply for funding to train new starts.

Money from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar is available for those in the construction industry to put trainees through the modern apprenticeship and added value schemes.

The closing date for applications is Friday August 22.

To apply contact the Accredited Training and Skills service on 01851 822715 or fmaciver@cene-siar.gov.uk.

Bike films praised by Lochaber chamber

A FILM about a Lochaber girl's adventures on an epic bike ride has been seen by more than 100,000 people since it appeared on the YouTube website.

And the film is one of two praised by Lochaber Chamber of Commerce (LCC).

The 2013 VisitScotland Growth Campaign supported the production of the North West Video, which sees Lochaber's Hannah Barnes embark on an epic mountain bike adventure up the west coast of Scotland, taking in incredible trails, scenery and beaches along the way.

The 28-minute video has had more than 100,000 views since its launch in December 2013.

More recently LCC supported aspiring filmmakers John and Andrew Ashworth in the making of the short film Behind the Bill.

Behind The Bill is a documentary about the work that goes into transforming a Scottish mountainside into one of the world's best race venues.

The Mountain Bike World Cup in Fort William is a huge success, and has won dozens of awards over the last 12 years.

This is down to a huge team effort - and that's the theme of Behind the Bill.

Released at the end of June the documentary already has 18,000 views and certainly has reinforced the destination and the claim to being the best downhill mountain biking event on the circuit.



WALKING TALL: a stilt walker draws in the crowds at the fundraiser on Cameron Square, Fort William

Charity serves up new message with a burger

A FUNDRAISING event in the newly-developed Cameron Square, Fort William, saw a fresh approach to beating cancer.

The Burger Off Barbecue was the highlight of the Cancer Research UK

charity's day - and showed just what they thought of the life-threatening disease. There was lots more on offer with music, a puppet show and a stilt walker adding to the fun for the people who attended.

This is **YOUR** newspaper.
And **YOU** could be the one to **make it happen**

SENIOR REPORTER
Fort William



Based in our Fort William office we are inviting applications for a senior reporter. As the position will be based in Fort William, knowledge of the area would be an advantage. Financial assistance for accommodation where relevant may be available for the first three months. We offer a good, competitive salary + private health care + enhanced pension + life assurance + excellent benefits and great working conditions

We want to hear from you if you have the appropriate experience and qualifications:

- ✓ Journalism
- ✓ Shorthand
- ✓ Ambition and enthusiasm
- ✓ Talent, self motivation and commitment
- ✓ A full current driving licence

The Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Please apply by email with full C.V. and contact details to: ali@wvexmedia.co.uk



in a class of their own

Thistle Road Stone Ltd
Road Surfacing Specialists

25% DISCOUNT
on all tarmac, patching, tar spraying and chipping

For further information and free estimates contact Head Office 01506 637552 or mobile 07876261385 (Tony) or go to www.thistleroadstone.co.uk

Charity Of The Year - Oban High School Pipe Band

TRINITY
hairdressing & beauty

kms CALIFORNIA, CLOUD NINE, NIOXIN, ghd, PROFESSIONAL SEBASTIAN.

Trinity Taynuilt coming soon!

Opening Hours
Mon: 09:00 - 15:00
Tue: 09:00 - 17:00
Wed: 09:00 - 18:00
Thu: 09:00 - 20:00
Fri: 09:00 - 18:00
Sat: 09:00 - 16:00

Call today for an appointment
3 High Street, Oban, PA34 4GB
01631 566696

ALLIED SCOTLAND
Chartered Surveyors

Local surveyors operating throughout Argyll and Bute.

Home Reports and Valuations, Energy Reports, Quantity Surveying and Project Management

Dunoon Office 01369 705000
Email: dunoon@alliedsurveyorsscotland.com

Helensburgh Office 01436 674976
Email: helensburgh@alliedsurveyorsscotland.com

Fort William Office 01397 705541
Email: fort.william@alliedsurveyorsscotland.com

www.alliedsurveyorsscotland.com

R A Clement Associates
Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors

When it comes to protecting your financial future, you need the best advice you can get.

www.raclement.co.uk
Email: mail@raclement.co.uk

5 Argyll Square, Oban PA34 4AZ Tel: 01631 562643
3 Cameron Square, Fort William PH33 6AJ Tel: 01397 700171

your initial consultation is free so call us now

Car, Bike and Home Insurance

40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Cheaper Insurance for your Car, Bike and Home

Adrian Flux Insurance Services offer a range of policies which reflect the low risk nature of highland life. We can offer you great insurance deals on your car, bike and home. Call us today for a free no obligation quote.

0800 081 8989
adrianflux.co.uk

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Argyll Recruitment Solutions

TRADE FINDER
We have GOT what YOU need!!

We have teamed up with some of Argyll's finest companies and trades people to bring you this unique and simple service.

Trade Finder means you call us and we will find the right trades people to carry out your job. You can receive as many free quotes as you wish!

Whether you need your gutters cleaned, a new kitchen or a new extension, we have the best trades people in Argyll to give you an all in one service.

We even have people to mow your lawn!

If you are happy with the quote, the job gets done. The best bit is, this service is absolutely FREE!!

Argyll Recruitment has over 20 years of construction experience and will give free no obligation advice.

• FREE QUOTES • FREE ADVICE • FREE SERVICE

www.argyll-recruitment.co.uk
calum@argyll-recruitment.co.uk
sean@argyll-recruitment.co.uk
Tel: 07826926060 - 01631 358692

MacGillivray's SEAFOOD

AL FRESCO DINING IN THE HEART OF OBAN WITH A CRACKING VIEW!

Fresh, locally caught fish and shellfish.
Outdoor dining area.
Seafood sandwiches, Scallops, Mussels, Crab, Langoustines and King Lobster

FIND US ON OBAN'S RAILWAY PIER
You can't miss it - just look for the tartan!

HAWTHORN RESTAURANT

THE HAWTHORN RESTAURANT, BENDERLOCH

"A hidden gem"

Enjoy fresh, seasonal, local produce in a peaceful setting. The Hawthorn Restaurant is located on a traditional croft in the village of Benderloch, just 8 miles north of Oban.

Booking recommended
Call us on 01631 720777
email us at: restaurant.hawthorn@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/HawthornRestaurant

Opening Times: Tuesday - Sunday
Dinner 5.30 - 9.00pm Lunch 12.00 - 2.00pm

OBAN STOVE CENTRE
Come in and see us

Sales stock now available

HETAS

COMPLETE IN HOUSE FITTING SERVICE

Old Crofters Yard, Soroba Rd, Oban, Argyll, PA344HU
Tel: 01631564790 Fax: 01631562919
info@obanstovecentre.co.uk

TRIO TASKED WITH CARRYING SPECIAL CANISTER TO COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Kayak trail sets sail from Oban



LAUNCH: from left: Adam Gilmovitch, Councillor Duncan MacIntyre with the canister, Rob Brown and Ollie Sharp.

A NEW sea kayak trail, linked to the Commonwealth Games, was launched at Ganavan on Monday. The route, known as the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail, is a group of easily accessible launch sites for kayakers at key points along a route linking Helensburgh and Oban. Kayakers Rob Brown, Adam Gilmovitch and Ollie Sharp carried a Commonwealth canister on the first leg of the journey, from Oban to Arduaine. The trio all work for Stramash, a social enterprise in Oban which provides outdoor learning, training and development. From there it goes to six further locations across Argyll and Bute before arriving in Helensburgh. The canister will be filled with artistic items along the way. On Friday it will be taken from Helensburgh to Greenock, where the trail will be officially opened at the Commonwealth Flotilla Participants Reception by Provost of Argyll and Bute Len Scoullar. The team, with the final kayaker, will then board the Clyde Clipper ferry and sail up the Clyde to Glasgow as part of the Commonwealth Flotilla on Saturday. Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, who was at the launch, said: 'I am delighted to be here to officially open the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail. The council has big ambitions to develop the marine leisure industry throughout Argyll and this project is an important part of those wider plans. The project has a number of elements; the creation of coastal access points where kayakers can stop and shelter for the night, which has created the Argyll Sea Kayak trail, the expansion of paddle sports throughout the area and the creation of modern apprenticeships associated with the project. Best of luck to those kayaking this and the remaining stretches of the route. I'll be following your progress online and hope to see you at the formal event in Greenock on Friday.' The completion of the trail has seen the creation of four modern apprenticeships, with two places at Stramash and two at Lochgoilhead National Activity Centre. The project, delivered by Argyll and Bute Council and Stramash, has seen close links forged with local paddle sport clubs in an effort to develop the sports in the years to come.

Taynuilt Highland Games results

Track Events Gents: Open: Gents 100yds: 1 L Goodfellow, 2 J Weir, 3 R Keen; Gents 220yds: 1 L Goodfellow, 2 J Rothead, 3 J Weir; 1/4 Mile: 1 O Bohle; 1/2 Mile: 10 Bohle; 1 Mile Gents: 1 S Mobery, 2 T Blankenstein; Hill Race: 1 D Bartholemew, 2 T Blankenstein, 3 M Burton. Track Events Gents: Local: Gents 100yds: 1 H Mobery, 2 B MacFarlane, 3 D Teape; Gents 220yds: 1 H Mobery, 2 A Neil, 3 B MacFarlane; 1/4 Mile: 1 H Mobery, 2 A Neil, 3 B MacFarlane and D Teape; 1/2 Mile: 1 H Mobery, 2 D Teape, 3 B MacFarlane; Mile: 1 H Mobery, 2 D Teape. Track Events Ladies: Open: Ladies 100yds: 1 T Henry, 2 Tia Henry, 3 C Taylor; 220yds: 1 M Blankenstein, 2 C Taylor, 3 G Thompson; 1/4 Mile: 1 T Henry, 2 Tia Henry, 3 G Thompson; 1/2 Mile: 1 T Henry, 2 Tia Henry, 3 G Thompson; 1 Mile: 1 M Blankenstein, 2 E Inghelbrecht, 3 T Henry; Hill Race: 1 M Blankenstein, 2 D Haig, 3 L Blakely. Track Events Ladies: Local: Ladies 100yds: 1 H Teape, 2 H Robertson; 220yds: 1 E McIntyre, 2 H Teape, 3 H Robertson; 1/4 Mile: 1 H Teape; 1/2 Mile: 1 H Teape. Cups: Inverawe Cup for Open Athletics: Joint Winners: M Blankenstein & Tagan Henry; Duncan MacDonald Memorial Cup for Gents 100yds: Ben Coates and L Goodfellow; Ingils Memorial Cup for Best Local Athlete: H Mobery; John Garvie Cup Best Local Junior Athlete: H Mobery. Open Heavy: Light Hammer: 1 S King, 2 G Hagan, 3 C Nicholson; Shot: 1 W Falconer, 2 G Hagan, 3 N Elliott; 28lb Weight for Distance: 1 N Elliott, 2 G Hagan, 3 W Falconer; Caber: 1 N Elliott, 2 S King, 3 W Falconer; Nant Stone: 1 S King, 2 W Falconer, 3 G Hagan; Heavy Hammer: 1 S King, 2 G Hagan, 3 N Elliott; 56lb Weight Over Bar: 1 G Hagan, 2 S King, R O'Dwyer and N Elliott; Overall Heavy Champion: G Hagan; Games Cup for Open Heavy Events: G Hagan; Biglie Cup for Open Caber Tossing: N Elliott. Local Heavy: Light Hammer: 1 A Servant, 2 N Charlton, 3 S Lawrie; 28lb Weight for Distance: 1 A Servant, 2 N Charlton, 3 S Lawrie; Caber: 1 A Servant, 2 S Lawrie, 3 N Charlton; Overall Local Champion: A Servant; Goodale Rose Bowl for Best Local Heavy: A Servant. Junior Heavy: Taster Events: Stone: Tom Gilbert; Welly: Tom Gilbert; Welly over Bar: Blair MacFarlane; Caber: Blair MacFarlane; Bungy: Blair MacFarlane. Tug-O-War: Taynuilt Shinty Champions. Piping: Open: March: 1 Darroch Urquhart, 2 Fred Morrison, 3 Jamie Forrester; Strathspey & Reel: 1 Fred Morrison, 2 Darroch Urquhart, 3 John Angus Smith; Piobaireachd: 1 Euan Dewar, 2 John Angus Smith, 3 Jamie Forrester; Jig: 1 Fred Morrison, 2 Jamie Forrester, 3 Darroch Urquhart. Piping Junior: Open: March: 1 Aaron Hossain, 2 Emma Hill; Strathspey & Reel: 1 Aaron Hossain, 2 Emma Hill; Best Open Piper: Jamie Forrester; Best Overall Open: Junior: Aaron Hossain. Piping Cups: Angiolini Cup Best Overall Piping Competitor: Jamie Forrester; Games Shield for Open Piping: Strathspey & Reel: Fred Morrison; Games Shield Open Piping: March: Darroch Urquhart; Brander Lodge Hotel Trophy: Piobaireachd: Euan Dewar; Ardanaiseig Hotel Trophy: Best Junior Piper: Aaron Hossain; Lodge St Modan Trophy: Best Overall Junior Piping Competitor: Aaron Hossain.



EMERGENCY WORK: North West Marine Limited staff carry out work on the Forth and Clyde Canal

Scottish Canals call on Oban marine firm for games repair

AN OBAN marine contractor has been called out to carry out emergency work for the Commonwealth Games. North West Marine Limited, which is a specialist diving and marine civils contractor, was called to carry out emergency repairs on the Forth and Clyde Canal on Monday, in preparation for the Commonwealth Flotilla on Friday July 25. Tony Ratcliffe, North West Marine's managing director, said: 'One of the sills collapsed, meaning the canal was out of action. We've been trying to fix the problem underwater, rather than having to drain the canal. It was concreted today [Monday] and we're going back down on Thursday to see if it has worked.' A spokeswoman from Scottish Canals said: 'We are undertaking work at lock 30 to replace timber sills. Repairs are currently underway and we are hopeful the work should be carried out in time for the Commonwealth Games.'

Businesses see red over street traders

BUSINESS on Mull saw red this week as a continental market set up on their doorstep. But the council confirmed this was no ad hoc affair, as it had granted a permit for the stalls to be there. Now retailers in the town are asking why permission was given, why they weren't asked and who gave the right for the council to give away household parking spaces without consultation. Neil Morrison, manager of Macgohan's bar in Ledaig car park, said he was about £500 down in takings on the same time last year. He said: 'We have had no notice they were coming and they are stealing valuable trade. There are already three food businesses on the main street threatened with closure as a result of bankruptcy. I pay over 25k a year in council rates and this sort of thing is unacceptable to be signed off by the council. I spoke to the licensing officer regarding this and his reasoning that the licence was approved was that they were trading in international foods. All food trading is competition. They are not only taking customers away from local business, they are also taking up 16 car parking spaces that belong to residents with trading tents and a further eight with their vehicles.' Stewart Cattanaich of the Isle of Mull soap company added: 'I'd like to add my name to the large list of Tobermory business owners who are angry and altogether mystified at the appearance of a team of street traders in Tobermory today during high season. Everyone in business here needs to make the very best of July and August to sustain their businesses and their employees pay checks through the quieter months and the often trade desolate winter. Unacceptable Community council vice chairman Callum MacLachlann said: 'This is unacceptable and should never happen again. These traders pay a small fee to the council, but take a fortune away from local business.' A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute council said: 'The market does have a licence. These are processed by our licensing team with input from other council services, for example roads, depending on the circumstances, and other agencies if appropriate.'



STALLS: The street market on Mull

Ardnamurchan Mod results

Gaelic medium solo singing 5-6 years: 1 Murdo Morrison, Bunscoil Mhalaig; 2= Eva Griffin and Cameron MacDonald, Bunscoil Mhalaig. Local own choice, 5-6 years: 1 Alexander Pervan, Acharacle school; 2 Kayla Burgess, Acharacle school; learners solo singing boys and girls 5-6 years: 1 Kathryn Dugdale, Comunn Gaidhealach Mhuile; 2 Daniel Craig, Ardgour primary; 3 Isabella Hough, Acharacle school. Gaelic medium solo singing boys and girls 7-8 years: 1 Evie Kellett, Comunn Gaidhealach Mhuile; 2 Donald Henderson, Bunscoil Mhalaig; 3 Alexander McDonnell, Bunscoil Mhalaig. Learners solo singing boys and girls 7-8 years: 1 Isla Crosbie; 2 Holly Cameron and 3 Jamie Rowantree, all Kilchoan primary. Local own choice 7-8 years: 1 Parker Dawes, Acharacle school; 2 Katie MacGillivray, Acharacle primary; 3 John MacPherson, Acharacle primary. Learners solo singing boys 9-10 years: 1 Finn MacLaughlin, Strontian; 2 Alexander Dugdale, Comunn Gaidhealach Mhuile. Learners solo singing girls 9-10 years: 1 Emma MacLachlan, Kilchoan primary; 2= Chloe Curtis, Kilchoan primary and Florianan Lawrence, Lochaline primary. Gaelic medium solo singing boys 9-10 years: 1 Liam Morrison, Comunn Gaidhealach Mhuile; 2 Ruairidh McDonnell, Bunscoil Mhalaig. Gaelic medium solo singing girls 9-10 years: 1 Camrie MacInnes, Comunn Gaidhealach Mhuile; 2= Serena Matheson, Acharacle primary and Megan Morrison, Bunscoil Mhalaig. Local own choice 9-10 years: 1 Josephine Matheson, Acharacle primary; 2 Serena Matheson, Acharacle primary; 3= Craig McCowan, Ardgour primary and Maryann MacPherson, Acharacle primary.



FAMILY TIME: Betty Wotherspoon, front, hosted her family who travelled from Ayr and Australia to attend the games



FAR TRAVELLED: the rain did not deter Barbara van der Meulen, visiting from the Netherlands

Morvern Highland Games success

THE OLD Morvern saying, 'if you can't see Mull it is raining and if you can, it's going to rain' was true recently for the annual Highland Games in Knock Park, above Lochaline. Thanks to the weather, local numbers were down, but it didn't stop those who had travelled from Australia, Ireland, the Netherlands and elsewhere in the UK, from enjoying themselves. There were a number of charity and food stalls and exhibitions and Mid Argyll Pipe Band supplied superb traditional, music throughout the afternoon even in the driving rain whilst the Morvern Belly Dancers gave their own colourful performance. Craig Lindsay won the Malcolm Gillies Memorial Cup for best local field and track athlete as well as the Doctor Millar Trophy for the local general athletics. Flori Lawrence and Finlay Cameron split judges' minds and ended up sharing the Community Council Cup for best all round junior. Full results - Morvern Games Committee Trophy for open field and track: Rob Cummings. Malcolm Gillies Memorial Cup local field and track: Craig Lindsay. Lochaline Hotel Shield open athletics competition: Rob Cummings. The Doctor Millar Trophy for local athletics: Craig Lindsay. Rahoy Challenge Cup for local ladies athletics: Flora Lawson. Alan Stevenson Shield for open ladies athletics:

Melanie Lynam-Smith. Johnny Scouler Cup for Morvern Mile: Alastair Grier. Community Council Cup for best Lochaline junior: Flori Lawrence and Finlay Cameron. Bobby Laurie Memorial Cup for Morvern Mile under 17s: Mitchell Cameron Hector Livingstone Memorial Cup for best under 18 field and track: Flori Lawrence. MacDougall Cup for age 13-15 field and track: Lewis Ferguson. The Archie MacMillan Memorial Quaiach: Flori Lawrence. Dr Mackie Memorial Cup: Hamish Kennedy. The Margaret Olsen Memorial Cup for best local under 12: Finlay Cameron. David MacBryne Centenary Cup for the open heavyweight competition - P Dearie.

Advertisement for The Oban Times & West Highland Times featuring a Hayter lawn mower. Text includes: 'WIN A LAWN MOWER!', 'Worth £359', 'Is your lawn looking a little worse for wear? Then we have the perfect competition for you this summer!', 'The Hayter Spirit 41 mowers are lightweight and manoeuvrable. Superbly designed and engineered, it features an aluminium skeleton chassis construction with tough ABS polymer covers and underdeck. Its full width roller gives a beautiful striped English lawn appearance. It has seven height-of-cut settings controlled by a single lever and a 55 litre grassbag that can be lifted through the handlebars for easy emptying. It can also be used to shred and collect Autumn leaves off the lawn. Visit www.hayter.co.uk.', 'For your chance to win a brand new petrol driven Hayter Spirit 41 mower worth £359 this summer, simply answer this easy question, complete the form and send to Wyvex Media, Hayter Comp, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Entries must be submitted by Tuesday, August 5 2014.', 'QUESTION: The Wimbledon tennis championships are played on which type of surface? a) Clay b) Grass c) Concrete', 'Answer: ...', 'Name: ...', 'Address: ...', 'Postcode: ...', 'Telephone: ...', 'Email: ...', 'Terms and conditions: Entrants must live in the UK. The winner's prize will be dispatched within 28 days of the competition closing date. The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entry coupons will not be accepted. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and associated company employees and their families. This competition is also open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications. Digital subscribers can enter by printing this page and submitting their entry along with a letter explaining you are a digital subscriber. (Please provide your email address).'

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

HOW many times, over the last decade or so, can you remember a consultation, consultant's report or survey being carried out on what should be done to improve Oban's waterfront area or town centre?

Is it just perception that there seems to be one every two years or even less? Or does the £785,451.84 figure revealed by Argyll and Bute council as the amount spent on CHORD project consultants and consultations since it was set up in 2008 perhaps suggest it is not just perception?

That's £130,908.64 a year or £2,517.47 a week over the last eight years.

Despite the necessity to employ skills not available in the local authority to progress complicated projects, there does not seem to have been much progress in eight years nor is it that complicated to light up McCaig's Tower.

GLASGOW LETTER

Commonwealth Games

BY THE time you read this the first day of competitive action will be underway at various venues throughout the city.

It is hard to believe is now seven years since Glasgow was announced as the preferred city to host the games. Much has happened since. The redevelopment resulting in the construction of the games village was a major issue for many Dalriada residents but hopefully the legacy of these buildings will be to the benefit of the area for a long time to come.

For those of us staying in different areas of the city, the eventual arrival of the Queen's baton and the influx of security throughout the city has increased our expectancy of witnessing a wonderful sporting extravaganza.

Together with this, there will be much more happening throughout the city, particularly in Glasgow Green and the Merchant City where many of the activities, for all ages, will be free. I have tried to outline some of them in the past few weeks but there are so many that I can only include a selection in the Diary Dates below.

Apart from suggesting you get out there and enjoy the atmosphere, my only other advice is to visit the website www.glasgow2014.com and experience for yourselves this once in a lifetime event.

Pipes and Pipers of the Great War

THE SECOND concert in the series of five being held at the College of Piping will take place on Wednesday July 30 at 7.30pm.

Coinciding with the Commonwealth Games, the concert will feature the music of Glasgow and overseas regiments with their stories being told by author and military historian Colin Campbell.

A quartet of young pipers from the Queen Victoria School will open each half and the soloists will be Douglas Murray and Dr Angus MacDonald. Admission is free to this concert which will be streamed live on the college website www.collegeofpiping.org and those wishing to watch online can order the booklet to accompany the series from the College of Piping for £4, plus postage.

I had the pleasure of attending the first concert and I can wholeheartedly recommend attendance at an evening which will comprise excellent musical entertainment together with historical information. The series of concerts has been made possible as the result of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Diary dates

Thursday July 24: Glasgow Green. Come and try ceilidh from 3.30pm-5.30pm with Ceolas also there from 4pm-5pm.

Friday July 25 to Sunday July 27: Anamachara, Theatre Royal.

Saturday July 26: Scottish Pipe Band Championships, Levensgrove Park. Classics Marathon Day, Royal Concert Hall, free. Come and try ceilidh, Glasgow Green, 3.30pm to 5.30pm.

Sunday July 27: The Big Big Sing, Glasgow Green, from 8am, free.

Monday July 28: Glasgow Green. Come and try ceilidh from 3.30pm to 5.30pm and Ceol nan Feis from 4pm to 5pm. 'Children of the Smoke', Glasgow Green, 7.30pm.

Tuesday July 29: Music of the British Isles, Tron Theatre, student of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Live at the Star, Admiral Bar, 72a Waterloo Street, 8pm, Robyn Stapleton and Clare Hastings.

Wednesday July 30: College of Piping - see above. Kelvingrove Bandstand, Mike McGoldrick, John McCusker and John Doyle from 8.15pm to 9pm and then Breabach from 9.15 to 10pm.

Pub scene

THE KEELIES will be playing in the Islay Inn on Friday with Black Velvet there on Saturday while in the Park Bar it will be Scott Harvey on Friday, Eriskay Lilt on Saturday and Nicky McMichan on Sunday.

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

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.

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.



Gruline Primary School, Mull, 1966

Reader Stuart Aitken submitted this week's flashback photograph which features pupils of Gruline Primary School, Isle of Mull, in 1966. Included in the photograph are: Sheena MacRae; Mairi MacLean; Archie MacSparran; Lachlan MacLean; Donald MacLean; Marvin Gray; Isobel MacPhail; Lorraine Gray; Janice Fraser and Stuart Aitken. Marion Black was also a pupil but is not in the photograph. Prints or emails of flashback photos should be accompanied by a caption, name, address, and telephone number. Anyone wishing prints returned must supply a stamped, addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB
email: editor@obantimes.co.uk

www.obantimes.co.uk

Telephone: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001

Old Rockfield public meeting

Sir,
The site of the former Rockfield primary school is vitally important to Oban.

The possibilities are endless for its use as a commercial, historical, cultural, artistic and educational hub.

This can only proceed if the public back it and lend their support.

To this end a public meeting has been called for and this will take place this Saturday at 10am in the town's Phoenix Cinema.

Everyone who has an interest in seeing the old Rockfield school preserved for the community should attend.

Please do not be apathetic as without public support it looks almost certain that the school will be demolished and lost for ever.

Gordon and Alison McNab.

Caol residents let down

Sir,
I write in response to the article in The Oban Times of Thursday July 17 regarding the siting of the Gaelic Primary Gym Hall in Caol, Fort William.

It beggars belief that qualified, experienced architects, planners and councillors - whose job it is to represent and protect the interests of their constituents - failed to recognise this was the wrong building on the wrong site.

Did any of them actually visit the site before building started? And it is disingenuous of Bill Clark to shrug his shoulders and

say, well, no-one complained. If he, and others, had done their jobs properly, they would have realised how inappropriate and intrusive it was to site a building of these dimensions slap-bang beside residential property.

As a lay-person, it is extremely difficult to look at a drawing on paper, or a 3D model, and fully appreciate the impact of the development in reality. That is why we place our trust in our elected representatives.

It appears Caol residents have been misrepresented and let down by these people.

Finally, a question for the aforementioned 'professionals'. If this enormous building was being built in close proximity to your home, would you find it acceptable?

Susan McKenzie, Mossfield Drive, Fort William.

Thanks for baton nomination

Sir,
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those patients, family and friends from Lochaber, Skye and Lochalsh, as well as colleagues at the Belford and Broadford hospitals who took the time to nominate me for the Queen's Baton Relay.

It was a very great honour to be chosen to be part of this relay which has seen the Bbaton pass through 70 countries.

This opportunity was a fitting climax to my 21 years as a surgeon working in the West Highlands, which I have loved.

The fact that it was raining did not deter the huge crowds of people turning out both on the stations in Glenfinnan, and Fort William and in the streets of Fort

William. It really was a privilege to see the way everyone was entering into the spirit of and enjoying the occasion.

Even my 90-year-old mother, up from Cumbria, was able to be photographed with the baton and appeared on the BBC news.

I would also like to thank the organisers, particularly Campbell and Holly from the baton committee and police who made it a hassle-free experience.

David Sedgwick, Fort William.

Cherry picking claim untrue

Sir,
I refer to John MacLean's letter of Thursday July 10 re postal services.

Mr MacLean was wrong when he wrote that the government is encouraging foreign companies to come in and cherry pick high density, low cost areas.

It was the previous Labour government which did this when it opened the mail market up to unfair competition. We now have to live with the consequences.

Labour also refused to write Royal Mail's Universal Service Obligation (USO) into law.

The current government has written the USO into law, the first government to do so. This means Royal Mail would be heavily fined if it fails to deliver mail to every home and business in the country and collect from every post box six days a week. This must be carried out at the same price throughout the country.

The government has also enshrined into law the duty of the regulator Ofcom to ensure the

long-term sustainability of the USO. In fact, this is the primary duty of Ofcom.

Ofcom has many powers open to it to protect the USO. For example, it has the power to impose a levy on Royal Mail's competitors which are cherry picking lucrative city delivery routes and pass this money to Royal Mail to compensate it for the extra costs of delivering to rural areas and islands.

As long as Ofcom does its job properly, there will be no threat to the USO.

I do have concerns that Ofcom wants to wait until the end of next year before carrying out a review of the mail market and considering using its powers to protect the USO. I think it should carry out the review now.

Alan Reid MP.

Was your granny a suffragist?

Sir,
The Workers' Educational Association (WEA) is investigating the campaign for women's suffrage in the Highlands as part of a project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

From looking at old newspapers we know there was huge interest, with rallies throughout the Highlands attended by hundreds of men and women.

Do you have any information, family stories or photographs of any of the people involved, for or against?

If you can help, please contact Susan Kruse, project tutor, at highlandsuffrage@gmail.com or leave a message at the WEA office 01463 710577.

Susan Kruse, WEA, 57 Church Street, Inverness.

ISLAY LETTER

Lily's party

THEY came from all airts to the party in Ballygrant Hall on July 12 which celebrated the life and 100th birthday of Lily MacDougall, the island's oldest resident, who reached her centenary on July 17.

Unfortunately, Lily took unwell at her Yellow Rock home near Caolila the previous day and was taken to the local hospital where a low key celebration on July 17, attended by family members and close friends, marked the centennial anniversary.

The Ballygrant party was a lively event and Lily would have enjoyed every minute of it. The toast to the centenarian was proposed by Lord Robertson of Port Ellen whose remarks fully encapsulated this larger than life lileach and colourful local personality.

Further tributes were paid by Charmaine Mallinckrodt, a life-long friend, and by Sarah Ballingall, Lily's niece, who had travelled, along with other family members, from London, Ontario, to take part in the celebration.

The village hall was tastefully decorated with Lily's favourite colour red much in evidence. A selection of her paintings and needlework also enhanced the venue as did the telegram from the Queen and greetings from the Commissioners of the Northern Lighthouse Board. This was a fitting tribute as Lily's husband Dugie, who died in 2004, had been the lighthouse boatman on the Sound of Islay for 45 years.

Also present was Lily's only surviving sister Isa who had registered a new rose 'Lily MacDougall of Yellow Rock' in honour of the birthday girl. This is also the title of a new pipe tune composed in Lily's



BIRTHDAY GIRL: Lily MacDougall with her daughter Christine

honour by Pipe Major Angus Lawrie and aired at the party by Bowmore piper James Carmichael.

Piping was among Lily's many talents and she would have fully approved of the programme input from James and the Islay Youth Pipers.

Songs were sung by Libby Morris, who was also responsible for the buffet, and by Bowmore tenor Angus Darroch, who was backed by the band Contraband which also provided dance music.

A specially choreographed dance, incorporating facets of the Irish Jig and Sailor's Hornpipe, was performed by sisters Tracy and Sophie Baker and this impressed everyone including Baroness Shirley Williams who greatly enjoyed the Highland hospitality on offer.

Lily did not want gifts but insisted that donations should be made to the local Royal National Lifeboat Institution branch,

a cause dear to her heart. Proceeds from an auction also went to the lifesaving charity and the bids came thick and fast thanks to the auctioneering skills of lifeboat mechanic David MacArthur.

The birthday bash was organised by Lily's only daughter Christine who pulled out all the stops to ensure that a good time was had by everyone.

And although Lily was unable to be present she remained the star of the show in absentia.

Fiddlers' gigs

THE AIR reverberated with the sounds of jigs, strathspeys, marches and reels when the Tourie Fiddle Band, led by Clackmannan musician Bill Cook, appeared in concert at three island venues, with proceeds going to local charities.

Band concerts took place at Port Ellen and Ballygrant with all monies raised going to Islay Lifeboat.

Everyone in attendance enjoyed the programme content and the couthy humour of compere Jim MacColl of Beechgrove Garden fame. Jim was back in harness when the band appeared in concert at the Round Church where the proceeds went to the church's fabric fund.

The church concert featured the first airing of a new tune 'The Factor's March', composed by Port Ellen musician Ciara MacTaggart to mark the 80th birthday last year of David Boyd, a former factor of Islay Estates. David is the grandfather of Ciara's partner Jamie MacFarlane and the new tune will feature in a soon to be released CD featuring Ciara and her band 'Siar'.

Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay, PA43 7JX. Telephone: 01496 810658.



Beachd Ailein

Ailean Caimbeul

THA FADACHD ORM gus am faigh mi am buntàta ùr fheuchainn, agus bhiodh e sònraichte buileach sin a ghabhail cuide ri rionnach a bh' air oidhche fhathast ann an salainn. Sin tè de na clachan-mìle bliadhna air am bheil cuimhne mhath agam bhom òige agus saoilidh mi nach do bhlaist mi riamh air buntàta a b' fheàrr na toradh nan ciad bharran sin a bhithte a' buain airson a ghabhail cuide ris an rionnach.

Dh'itheadh tu do chorrigan an dèidh a leithid! Bidh cuimhne ag a mhòr-chuid againn nuair a bhiodh co-dhùid cairteal acaire buntàta an cur air gach croit, gun ghuth air iomadach rud eile. Cha robh an còrr air an son, agus ma bha iad ag iarraidh anlan glasaich dh'fheumadh iad fhèin sin a thogail. Agus ged a tha roghainn mhath anns na bùithlean an-diugh, canaidh cuid fhathast nach fhaigh iad dad cho blasta ris na dh'fhàs air an lot neo sa ghàrradh. 'S dòcha nach eil an sin ach cianalas a' toirt buaidh air cuimhne, caran mar a bhios a' tachairt nuair a tha grian a' deàrrsadh gach latha air an cuimhne sinn nar n-òige!

Tha sinn aig àirde seusan nam fèiltean àiteachais agus ann an iomadach dòigh tha na sgàthain sin air na tha tachairt air an tuath a' dearbhadh mar a tha obair croitearachd a' dol à cleachdadh.

Ged a tha dol aig luchd-deasachaidh air clàran a lìonadh gus fèiltean a leigeil air adhart 's ann am measg an sprèidh a tha an crìonadh as nochdte, le nas lugha bheathaichean rim faicinn gach bliadhna. 'S ann san sprèidh a bha bunait croitearachd agus 's e beathachadh nam beathaichean, agus biathadh a' chrìohtar 's a' theaghlach, a bha a' stiùireadh an obair-àiteachais.

Mar a tha fios againn, chan eil a' mhòr-chuid de na croitean comasach air teaghlach a chumail an-diugh agus gu mì-fhortanach tha ùidh agus eòlas gan call còmhla. Nuair a chruinicheas muinntir Dhiùranais ann an Dùn Bheagain Disathairne seo tighinn, bidh mòran romhpa a' frasadh arbar. Tha mo charaid Iain MacEòid dol a shluaidh tè de na seann mhùilnean a th' aige à Deimhidh gus a sealltainn. Bheir Iain cuideachd leis deagh bheairt de sguaban arbhair a ghlèidh e bho 'n-uiridh gus sònraichte airson an taisbeanaidh seo.

Còrdaidh e ri daoine seo fhaicinn ag obair cuide ris an t-seann Fordson aig Murchadh Peutan ach nach eil e tàmailteach gum bheil eachdraidh, seach gnothachas beò, a' lìonadh barrachd is barrachd de dh'fheiltlean mar seo.

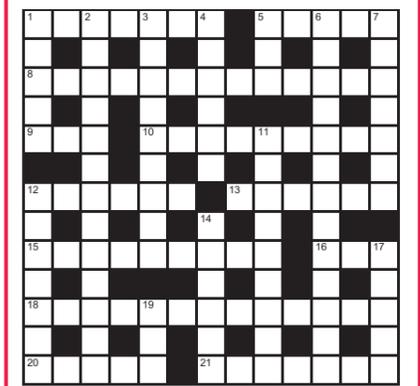
WHILE it is enjoyable to see vintage farming equipment being demonstrated at agricultural shows, it is also sad to find that nostalgia is increasingly occupying show programmes.

This is particularly true in crofting areas, where steadily decreasing livestock entries at shows is proving how harsh economic reality is eroding a way of life.

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

SCOTS
Heritage Magazine
SPONSORS

THE OBAN TIMES GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- Across
- Ape (7)
 - Grant (5)
 - Blossoming (13)
 - Information (3)
 - Rebellious member (5,4)
 - Half pint in cookery (6)
 - The boss (6)
 - Where to eat when bathing? (4,5)
 - Objective (3)
 - Reasonable (13)
 - Wood nymph (5)
 - Fine weave cotton fabric (7)
- Down
- Sugary coating (5)
 - Talented child (6,7)
 - One to go to with a problem (5,4)
 - Barely make (3,3)
 - Parenthesis (3)
 - Language used for people of different tongues (6,7)
 - Destroyer (7)
 - Charge for a canon (9)
 - Minute crustacean (7)
 - Soak up (6)
 - Group of small diamonds (5)
 - Aged (3)

LAST week's SOLUTION

SCOTS
Heritage Magazine

www.scotsheritagemagazine.com

SUMMER EDITION OUT NOW

www.scotsheritagemagazine.com

Follow us on **facebook**
www.facebook.com/obantimes



National Marine Week 2014



26th July - 10th August

MARINE animal enthusiasts will have a whale of a time next week, as the annual National Whale and Dolphin Watch sees a series of events hosted nationwide, as part of National Marine Week.

The events give members of the public the opportunity to join experienced observers around the coastline to collect sightings.

Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Watch, based in Tobermory on Mull, have a special day organised for Friday, August 1 at Ardnamurchan Lighthouse, the most westerly point on the British mainland, allowing the public monitor whales, dolphins and porpoises around the coast.

Connor Ryan, sightings officer for the group, explained: 'It's a great location,

the most westerly point in Britain, and allows people to watch a variety of marine animals.'

The event is free, with those attending advised to dress for wet and windy conditions and to bring their own binoculars.

The full week's events take place from July 26 to August 3 at locations nationwide, and are organised by the Sea Watch Foundation.

The west coast of Scotland is quickly becoming the main destination in the UK to spot sea life.

Argyll and the isles, in particular, boast an array of animals that attract visitors from all parts of the globe.

Many of our tour operators and local experts can give you a chance to interact with these wild and wonderful creatures.



Bottlenose dolphins, one of the many marine animals seen off the west coast of Scotland.



MARINE CHARTER SCOTLAND

Explore Scotland's Seas, coast and islands

- WHALES AND WILDLIFE WATCHING
- PHOTOGRAPHIC COURSES
- EXPEDITIONS TO FAR OFF ISLANDS
- CRUISES DOWN THE GREAT GLEN AND ROUND THE INNER HEBRIDES

We have two well-appointed vessels available for charter:

MV Monadhliath - a recently refitted traditional fishing boat now completely modernised to carry ten liveboard passengers, complete with small sauna.

MV Proud Seahorse - a substantial high quality spacious cruiser accommodating 8 passengers with Jacuzzi and en-suite facilities.

ORCA AND BASKING SHARK EXPEDITIONS 2014



Choose from our list of organised charters - with experienced crew, wildlife guide and a cook to look after you. Or relax in comfort with a private charter and plan your own cruise with the skipper for an experience of Scotland you will never forget.



Contact Roberta on **07746122005** or Karla on **07901323630**
www.marinecharterscotland.com



We are a locally owned and run family business running boat trips from Elgol on the Isle of Skye to the famous Loch Coruisk in the heart of the Cuillin Hills. Wildlife trips to Rum & Canna.
Tel: 01471 866 288 www.mistyisleboattrips.co.uk
Email: contact@mistyisleboattrips.co.uk

farsain cruises

Craobh Haven



Cruises and Trips daily from Craobh Haven to the waters and islands of Nether Lorne. Jura ~ Scarba ~ Luig ~ Garvellachs
Featuring spectacular scenery, Corryvreckan whirlpools and an abundance of wildlife. Island ferry service - Diving - Charters

With 22 years operational experience, you will be certain to enjoy daily wildlife and whirlpool cruises from Craobh Marina, 20 miles south of Oban, off A816



Mobile: 07880 714165

Amazing Wildlife & History adventure tours from Glencoe & Fort William.



Book Online Now
or call **07570 014733**

Glencoe **SEXPLORE** Fort William

- Dram & Salmon Trip
- 1hr Wildlife & History Trip
- 2hr Wild Islands Trip
- 1 day Oban Adventure
- Private Charter & Day Trips
- Various Fishing Trips

Choose from a selection of **scheduled or bespoke trips**

Now running trips from Fort William and Glencoe



Help safeguard Hebridean cetaceans by:

- Reporting any sightings of whales, dolphins or porpoises online at hwdt.org
- Visiting our Gift Shop and Visitor Centre in Tobermory
- Becoming a friend or sponsoring a cetacean

www.hwdt.org 01688 302620

ESTD. **SEAPROBE** 1988

Atlantis

Glass Bottom Boat Trips

Voted Best Wildlife Experience in the UK
Daily Telegraph June 2010

Only from **Kyle of Lochalsh IV40 8AE**

All the Scenery and Wildlife, above and below the waves. See Spectacular Scenery, Skuas, Seabirds, Otters, WWII Shipwreck, Beautiful Kelp Forests, Fish, Jellyfish, occasional Dolphins & Whales.

FREEPHONE 0800 980 4846 Text: 07765435424 www.seaprobeatlantis.com

Pay once and come back all week



SCOTTISH **SEALIFE** SANCTUARY



Just 15 minutes from Oban on the A828 Oban to Fort William Road

Oban, Argyll, PA37 1SE
www.sealsanctuaries.com

2 for 1 entry

This voucher entitles one free admission when accompanied by a person paying the full adult day rate at The Scottish SeaLife Sanctuary. Voucher can be used for a maximum of 4 people. Voucher can be used at Sealife Sanctuaries with any other offer and must be presented upon entrance. Photographs not accepted.



Ceilidh dancers stripped the willow during Deoch an Dorus' set on Friday night.



Shoulders were a popular viewing point over the weekend.



The atmosphere was incredible at the main stage on Sunday night as Skerryvore closed the festival.



Julie Fowls sang and played the whistle during her enchanting performance.



Gunna Sound performed throughout the weekend and had a large following of fans.



Sharon Shannon's music and cheer was contagious - everyone had their toes tapping.

A REPUTATION for tropical weather and a friendly atmosphere was yet again justified as this year's bigger-than-ever Tiree Music Festival (TMF) attracted a sell-out crowd.

Household names Dougie MacLean, Roddy Woomble, Julie Fowls and Skerryvore headed up a mainly folk-based line-up that still offered a variety of genres for the 1,500 festival-goers.

For the first time in the five-year history of the multi-award winning TMF, the event took place over three days, last weekend by Crossapol beach.

The festival trebles the island population and tickets holders came from nine countries worldwide, including America, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Germany, France and Canada.

TMF Unsigned winner Sharine Gallagher opened the sold out festival on Friday ahead of the weekend's headliners, including Sharon Shannon Big Band, Peatbog Faeries and Skippinnish.

Highlights for a fairly partisan crowd included the Tiree bands: Skerryvore, Skippinnish, Trail West and Gunna Sound.

The festival was also a chance for up-and-coming Tiree bands Dun Mor and Cornaig Ceilidh Band to display their talent.

Sharon Shannon travelled with her band on a RIB from Ireland on Saturday - with a pit stop on Islay - and she had everyone dancing to her tunes, Galway Girl a definite favourite.

'It was worth coming to Tiree just for Sharon Shannon,' said Benderloch accordion player Sandy Orr.

Deoch an Dorus played on Friday in the Big Top tent, announcing: 'We are not a performance band, we are a ceilidh band, and the dance floor is down there somewhere.' They were right, and set off the ceilidh dancing even though the tent was crammed.

Oban's Ceol an Aire had a huge fan

'Magical mo music



Trail West performed in the Tiree Trust Big Top on Sunday and had possibly the liveliest audience of the whole weekend.



Young fans with members of Skippinnish Ceilidh Band.



Festival goers enjoying their weekend on Tiree.



Eddi Reader was one of the

Oban Phoenix Cinema

How to Train Your Dragon 2	Thurs 24th	13:00 3D, 16:00
Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes	Thurs 24th	13:00, 15:30, 18:30 3D, 21:30
	Fri 25th	12:00, 15:30, 18:30, 22:00 3D
	Sat 26th	12:00, 15:30, 18:30 3D, 22:00
	Sun 27th	12:00, 15:30 3D, 18:30, 22:00
	Mon 28th	12:00 3D, 15:30, 18:30, 22:00
	Tues 29th	12:00, 15:30, 18:30, 22:00 3D
	Wed 30th	12:00, 16:00, 18:30 3D, 22:30
	Thurs 31st	12:00, 15:30 3D, 18:30, 22:00
Walking On Sunshine	Thurs 24th	18:30, 21:00
Transformers 4	Fri 25th	12:00 3D, 15:00, 18:30, 21:30
	Sat 26th	12:00, 15:00, 18:30, 21:30 3D
	Sun 27th	12:00, 15:00, 18:30 3D, 21:30
	Mon 28th	12:00, 15:00 3D, 18:30, 21:30
	Tues 29th	12:00 3D, 15:00, 18:30, 21:30
	Wed 30th	12:30, 15:00, 19:00, 21:30 3D
	Thurs 31st	12:00, 15:00, 18:30 3D, 21:30

Tel: 01631 562905 • Box Office: 08719 025752

How to Train Your Dragon 2
The thrilling second chapter of the epic How to Train Your Dragon trilogy returns to the fantastical world of the heroic Viking Hiccup and his faithful dragon Toothless. The inseparable duo must protect the peace - and save the future of men and dragons from the power-hungry dragon.

Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes (12A)
A growing nation of genetically evolved apes led by Caesar is threatened by a band of human survivors of the devastating virus unleashed a decade earlier. They reach a fragile peace, but it proves short-lived, as both sides are brought to the brink of a war that will determine who will emerge as Earth's dominant species.

Walking On Sunshine (12A)
Set to the music of popular hit songs from the 1980s. A beautiful coastal village, present day Italy. After a whirlwind romance, Maddie is preparing to marry gorgeous Italian Raf, and has invited her sister Taylor to the wedding. Unbeknownst to Maddie, however, Raf is Taylor's ex-holiday flame, and the love of her life...

Transformers 4 (12A)
An automobile mechanic and his daughter make a discovery that brings down the Autobots and Decepticons - and a paranoid government official - on them.



Shear Delight at Gaelic Wool Festival

Fibre enthusiasts from around the world gathered in Benderloch last week for the fifth annual Fèis Cotlam, or Gaelic wool festival. Sponsored by Lorn Origins Rural Network, the three-day gala featured workshops, displays, demonstrations and vendors.

From the hoof to the loom to the final product, visitors were immersed in every aspect of fibre crafting. A kaleidoscope of textiles draped every surface as Kintaline Farm and Victory Hall was transformed into a wool heaven of luxurious fleeces, rainbow-coloured skeins of yarn and reams of vibrant felts, fabrics and knitted items. Over two dozen crafters, breeders and tool makers showed off their products and skills using a wide variety of traditions from around the world.

'Fèis Cotlam brings together wide ranging groups of people to celebrate all that is woolly,' said organiser Liz Gaffney, owner of Heartfelt by Liz in Dalnally. 'It is an informal way for hobbyists and commercial suppliers to see crafts being practised, to share knowledge and to nurture interests in topics ranging from sustainability to creative crafts.'

In addition to raising the profile of North Argyll as a centre of textile learning, Fèis Cotlam brings economic and social benefits to the area. As organisers point out, tourists searching out wool-related producers and crafters boost local business coffers. 'As we encourage people to look locally for skills and materials, we develop a stronger sense of community worth and

resilience,' said Liz.

The success of Fèis Cotlam 2014, with a rise in attendance each year, reflects a national resurgence in crafting. 'Wool traditions had gone out of favour, but thankfully this has changed in the last ten years. To hand-make an item especially for someone is a special gift,' Gaffney said.

As co-organiser Jill Bowis listened to the sounds of song and laughter drift out of Victory Hall to the steady beat of a spinning wheel, she mused about the success of the weekend. 'There was such a generosity of spirit, sharing and welcome, and such genuine appreciation of each other's skills, time and creativity,' she said. 'Our hard-working volunteers were wonderful and we are already looking forward to 2015.'

Organisers estimate over 1,000 visitors attended Fèis Cotlam over three days from the UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Germany, Canada and the United States.

Captions (from left): Rory Weatherford of Arran, a retired sheep farmer, demonstrates wool spinning and a variety of spindles he made using various materials, including potatoes. Jill Bowis of Kintaline Farm in Benderloch spins wool from her own sheep. Striking the traditional cross-legged sitting pose, Rebecca Mackay of Edinburgh spins wool into thread using a Tibetan spindle. Youngsters get hands-on experience at the spinning wheel.



Follow us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Advertise in the Community Notice Board for just £15.71 (plus VAT)
This section is available to charitable organisations with a charity number. All AGM's will be placed on the Public Notice Page. Please ask for details.

Four out of five adults use their local paper to find out what's on
★★★★ "Your local paper - a must-see"
Regional Press closer to home

Ardchattan Priory Fete
SUNDAY 27th JULY
12 - 4pm
Entry £4.00
Lunches & Teas, Children's Activities, Pony & trap rides and Live Music

An Comunn Gàidhealach CRUACHAN BRANCH SUMMER CEILIDH
Thursday 24th July
8pm
Taynuilt Village Hall
Admission £4
Members £3
Children (5-16 yrs) £2

Simply Handmade Craft Fair
Saturday 26th July 11am-3pm
Corran Halls
• Locally handmade crafts
• Vintage Tea Party
• Charity Raffle
• FREE ENTRY
Supporting Oban Community Playpark & The Oban Toy Cupboard

To advertise in our community noticeboard call 01631 568000

following and were definitely a highlight on Friday evening.

Jam Sandwich, a funk rock band travelled from across the UK to be there on Friday night, had the festival rocking and glow sticks were handed out to create a rave-like atmosphere for their gig. The band were delighted with the response from the crowd. Skipinnish single Walking on the Waves was much-loved by the festival goers. Trail West had an incredibly lively audience, especially on the Sunday night when they closed the Big Top. Their performance of Island Boy was a clear winner with everyone singing along.

Skerryvore closed the festival on Sunday night on the Cairn Capital main stage, with the incredible lighting effects complementing a polished performance from the talented sextet.

Commonwealth Games-bound Julie Fowles gave an excellent performance, allowing festival-goers to hear the set

before she helped open the games yesterday (Wednesday).

Following the conclusion of TMF 2014, Stewart MacLennan, one of the festival directors, said on facebook: 'Another fantastic TMF is over and boy was it not special.'

'Again I've had the pleasure of meeting some wonderful people and sharing magical moments.'

'I'm just overcome with how incredible the festival was and it couldn't have been achieved if not for everyone involved. A massive thank you to everyone involved this year. Time to start planning 2015.'

Fellow director Daniel Gillespie said: 'There was an incredible atmosphere on site with everyone enjoying the music and the sunshine.'



ments' at festival



Skipinnish were definitely one of the favourite bands over the weekend with the audience warned to fasten their seatbelts before the lively performance.



headline acts at the festival.



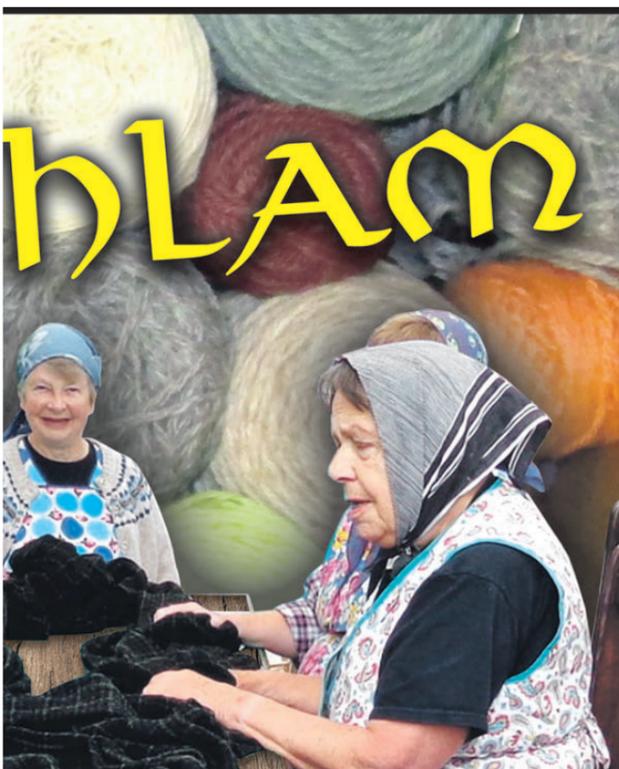
A pirate and a rabbit on stilts were one of the acts from Swamp Circus who entertained at the festival.



The band Jam Sandwich surprised but delighted the audience with their funky rock style.



Everyone had a smile on their face throughout the weekend.



Above: Gaelic Waulkers - Members of the Greenock-based Sgioba Luaidh Inbhìrhuaidh (Inverclyde Waulking Group) sing traditional Gaelic songs as they waulk the tweed - a technique of finishing newly-woven tweed by soaking and thumping it on the table to shrink and soften it. The songs serve to keep the rhythm and lighten the tedious work.

Outer Hebrides Festival planned

A NEW festival across the Outer Hebrides is planned for the month of September, with the aim of boosting tourism once the busy summer season is over.

More than 100 events will be on offer during 'Hebtember' from Lewis to Barra including ceilidhs, workshops and performances from local bands.

Gaelic singer Julie Fowles and comedian Fred MacCauley will be amongst the headliners, performing at a number of locations across the islands.

Ian Fordham of the Outer Hebrides Tourism Industry Association said: 'We're excited to be launching this first Hebtember pro-

gramme as we know it will really enrich the experience of visitors to the Outer Hebrides in September.

Choosing a break out-with the traditional rush period for the area means visitors will have a greater choice of accommodation and more flexible travel options.

'As well as being able to access all the same island facilities as those who come in the height of summer, visitors will also be able to benefit from an exciting festival programme ranging from arts and film to literature, lectures and live music, put together purely to enhance their enjoyment and experience of our islands.'

Culture, arts and the future of Rockfield

A PUBLIC meeting will look at the potential of using the former Rockfield primary school as a community hub for locals and tourists.

The meeting will take place this Saturday morning (July 26) in Oban Phoenix Cinema at 10am.

Anyone with an interest in the building is very welcome to come along for the meeting to share their views.

The meeting is being held by Oban Communities Trust who plan to use Rockfield for the good of the community.



Big plans for Spean Bridge Hotel

SPEAN Bridge Hotel will be the holiday destination for a potential Asian, European and British market - not to mention the welcome that will always be in place for the locals, says the deputy director of the company that purchased the hotel last week.

Paul Nzoka, of Omega Travel, told The Oban Times, that the future of the hotel is 'very positive' and with the backing of investment company Old Brook, and international company, Chinese Interpresa Limited there will be plenty of opportunities for Spean Bridge.

Paul, who is no stranger to Highland hotels having worked in Oban and Stirling amongst other places, said he is looking forward to the hotel being a destination for a worldwide market.

He said: 'We are just settling down after the purchase and we are looking at the opportunities for the hotel.'

It is understood that the hotel, a former 17th century coaching inn, will be refurbished and the Commando Museum will continue to be overseen by staff.

Omega Travel specialises in bringing Chinese tourists to the UK.

Wingin' It in Skye

AN ACCLAIMED folk guitar duo are to play in Glenuig and in various venues across the Isle of Skye.

Adam Bulley and Chris

MacKenzie, known better as 'Wingin' It' will play songs from their debut album in Glenuig, Glendale, Carbost and Elgou between August 14-17.



Children get messy at church session

Children enjoy Mess Around who visited the Duncansburgh MacIntosh Parish Church Hall last weekend. The entertainers have been working all over the Highlands. The sessions allows children aged between six months and four years to have fun without parents having to think about the mess.

Photo: Anthony MacMillan

what's on

THE OBAN TIMES FREE EVENT LISTING

THURSDAY 24TH JULY

- Charity Shop in aid of Anthony Nolan, Oban Youth Cafe, 10am-4pm
- Appin Art Society Exhibition, Port Appin Hall, 10.30-6pm
- Soup Lunch, Every Tuesday and Thursday, Church Hall, Connel, 12-2pm
- Mull Highland Games, Erray Park, Tobermory, 10am
- Ramblers Association Guided Walk, Ben Nevis by CMD Arete, Fort William
- Summer Ceilidh, Every Thursday, Taynuilt Village Hall, 8pm

FRIDAY 25TH JULY

- Charity Shop in aid of Anthony Nolan, Oban Youth Cafe, 10am-4pm
- Appin Art Society Exhibition, Port Appin Hall, 10.30-6pm
- Tiree Show, Rural Centre, Isle of Tiree

SATURDAY 26TH JULY

- Charity Shop in aid of Anthony Nolan, Oban Youth Cafe, 10am-4pm
- Simply Handmade Craft Fair, Corran Halls, 11am-3pm
- Colonsay Rugby Festival, All day, Isle of Colonsay
- Appin Art Society Exhibition, Port Appin Hall, 10.30-4.30pm
- Southend Highland Games, Southend Playing Field, 5.30pm
- Balquhider, Lochearnhead and Strathyre Highland Games, 12pm
- Ramblers Association Guided Walk, Beinn Iadain and Beinn na h-Uama, Lochaline

SUNDAY 27TH JULY

- Summer Garden Fete, Ardchattan Priory, 12-4pm
- Craft Fayre, Every Sunday, Creagan Inn Appin, 10-5pm

TUESDAY 29TH JULY

- Scottish Show at the Royal Hotel, Oban, 8.30-10.30pm

WEDNESDAY 30TH JULY

- Children's Day at Dunollie Castle, Oban, 10.30am

THURSDAY 31ST JULY

- Ramblers Association Guided Walk, Sron na Glaoidh, Ardnarmurchan

FRIDAY 1ST AUGUST

- Gaelic Furan Friday Fun for children, Corran Halls, 9.30-10.30am
- Bunessan Show, Bunessan School, Isle of Mull
- Kintyre Show, Anderston Park, Campbeltown, 10.30am

SATURDAY 2ND AUGUST

- Lorn Show, Tralee Beach, Benderloch, 10am
- McQueen Bros Annual Duck Race, Oban, All day
- Scottish Show at the Royal Hotel, Oban, 8.30-10.30pm

Email details of your event to whatson@obantimes.co.uk.

Oh, la, la! - Neil's in a spin



Tesco store manager Neil Amour cycles in his French maid outfit. t30tescobike02no

TESCO staff were told to get on their bikes at the weekend, as the Oban store raised money for charity Diabetes UK. Taking it in turns on exercise equipment and offering shoppers the chance to help, the fundraisers were tasked with cycling and rowing 3,656 kilometres - equal to the distance of the Tour De France cycle race, which Tesco is sponsoring. Store manager Neil Amour did all he could for the cause, including dressing up as a French maid on Saturday. Counters manager Billy Ferguson, who took part in the challenge, said: 'It's been a good reaction.'

'Over the weekend, staff from other stores are coming in to get involved too, which is good to see.' Danielle Thompson, community champion at the Oban store, said: 'It's great to see people helping out. Diabetes UK is our charity of the year and all the money raised will go to them. We'd like to thank the Fit4less gym for giving us the equipment to use as well!' To increase donations, checkout operator Robert Robertson played his accordion in the store to entertain shoppers on Saturday, alongside bag-packers. The staff were pleased to announce they had surpassed their £500 target.



Molly Ford and community champion Danielle Thompson on the exercise equipment. t5_130tescobike01

Defibrillator gifted

A CHARITY committed to improving Scotland's first national park has contributed £600 towards another defibrillator for the use of visitors and residents. The Friends of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs provided the donation for the life-saving device for use at Balquhider Glen, located next to the village hall. The donation ensured the full target was reached and the equipment could be installed. The charity, which has been run-

ning for more than 35 years, has now contributed to the funding of eight defibrillators in the national park. Owen McKee, director of Balquhider, Lochearnhead and Strathre Community Trust, was delighted with the installation. He said: 'Nobody wants to take ill but it is reassuring that a defibrillator will be on hand if it is needed. The Friends of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs have done a lot for the area over the years and this

is another donation which is very much appreciated.' Friends trustee George Boyd said: 'We are delighted to make this latest investment in the safety of visitors to this beautiful area of Scotland, and are grateful to the support we receive from businesses including the Mhor Group. 'Visitors' health is of course paramount wherever they travel and we want to ensure that every measure can be taken to ensure they receive assistance where necessary.'

Rotary's African life cycle

A MOTORCYCLE ambulance has been donated to an African city by the Rotary Club of Oban. The bike, donated to the city of Mbale in Uganda, was purchased through funds raised by the Rotary Club of Oban in conjunction with Rotary Club of Oadby. The Oadby club president, Dr Roger Neuberger, has raised £143,000 in total, including money through Rotary Global Grants. The Oban bike will bear a plate showing that it was donated by the Rotary Club of Oban of District 1230. The Rotary fundraising nationwide has enabled 32 motorcycle ambulances to be purchased, saving many lives.



The motorbike ambulance donated to Mbale in Uganda, by the Rotary Club of Oban. t30bike01no

Cool Contacts



M'Guiness (Elizabeth A Crawford)
OPEN DAY
 23rd August 2014
 Coffee & Art at THE GALLERY IN THE KITCHEN
 in aid of Mcmillan Nurses 10am-4pm
 Tel: 01546 603043
 19 Linnel Court, Ardriohig PA30 8HX

Broken down?
 We'll get you home!
 We are certificated to B.S.P.A.S.43 for recovery work.
 AA RAC Green Flag AEA
 Fuel • Repairs • Oils
MacDougall's Garage Telephone: 01681 700294
 Corrie Glen, Fionnphort

Mull Hire Tools & Plant
 01680 300422
 From foundation to fireplace, tools and plant for your DIY.
 Diggers, dumpers, drills, access equipment, pumps, garden equipment and more.
 Mull Hire & Chainsaw Service
Salen Aros, Isle of Mull Tel: 01680 300422

PTS Renewable energy solutions
 SOLAR THERMAL SOLAR PV
 GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMPS
 AIR TO WATER HEAT PUMPS MVHR
 AIR TO AIR HEAT PUMPS BIOMASS
PTS 7e Glengallan Road | Oban | PA34 4HG
 Tel: 01631 567640 | Fax: 01631 569808
 Plumbing Trade Supplies
 facebook.com/ptsrenewables twitter.com/ptsrenewables

COE CONTRACTS LTD
 Fencing, Dyking, Landscaping and General Contracting
 Thirty Years' experience in...
 Fencing, from garden to security.
 Dry stone walling and all types of masonry
 Landscaping and groundworks.
 Operated excavator plant hire. 1.5 ton to 15 ton
 For a competitive quote contact Derek
 07979 867870
 e-mail: coecontracts1td408@btinternet.com

Celtic Clothing
 14B Bayhead Street
 Stornoway
 Isle of Lewis
 HS1 2DU
 01851 706771
 celticclothing@onetel.net

The Kilt Shop
 1A Longrow
 Campbeltown
 PA28 6ER
 01586 551403
 kilt.shop@btconnect.com

ARDNAMURCHAN ESTATES
 Escape to the Highlands
 Plan your escape to an idyllic cottage or country house in the West Highlands
 With deer, eagles and otters on the doorstep, secluded beaches, breathtaking sunsets and views over island vistas, beautiful Ardnamurchan is almost an island itself. Relax into the gentle pace of life and spend your days fishing, walking, sightseeing and bird watching.
 Cottages AND houses sleep from 4 - 11 • Short breaks & special offers available
 Call Ardnamurchan Estate on 01972 510208 or
 email: escape@west-highlands.co.uk www.west-highlands.co.uk

R A Clement Associates
 Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors
 Are you a small business in need of sound financial advice?
 We have been assisting local businesses since 1949 so call us for a
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION
 www.raclement.co.uk Email: mail@raclement.co.uk
 Offices at: 5 Argyll Square, Oban PA34 4AZ Tel: 01631 562643
 3 Cameron Square, Fort William PH33 6AJ Tel: 01397 700171

Farming

Sponsored by NFU Mutual
Oban, call Euan Warnock
and Donna MacDougall
on 01631 567 036 for
your insurance needs.
Agent of The National Farmers Union
Mutual Insurance Society Limited.



New cards will point the way for emergency services



SAVING LIVES: the air ambulance on a callout to Mull's west coast

A POTENTIALLY life-saving initiative to help rural workers pinpoint their exact location in an emergency is being launched by NFU Scotland and Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA), working alongside the Scottish Ambulance Service.

Statistics show that those employed in the rural and agricultural industries across Scotland face the greatest danger of accident or mishap of all professions. And when the worst happens in remote and isolated areas, getting help quickly to the right location is of paramount importance.

Now the Union and SCAA are encouraging farmers, crofters, landowners and other rural workers to adopt an easy-to-use grid reference system which will help define accurately their location when summoning help. By carrying a pocket-sized card detailing the grid reference of key landmarks on their land, which are clearly visible to emergency responders, anyone involved in an accident can pass on an accurate location to emergency services, allowing help to find them easily.

The reference point cards - detailing unique landmarks such as lochs, prominent hills, masts, water features, churches, bridges or road features - can be copied and kept in

multiple locations by everyone on the farm, including on the farm vehicles, in workers' pockets or pasted to the back of their mobile phones.

NFU Scotland's regional co-ordinator Lisa Roberts said: 'With the number of accidents increasing in the agricultural industry year on year, a simple tool like knowing a suitable location for the emergency services to find a casualty could potentially save time and in turn lives.'

'Farming communities, especially those in more rural and remote areas, rely heavily on the services of responders such as SCAA and by working together to raise awareness of the importance of the identification of accurate locations, we can hopefully help emergency services locate the casualty quickly.'

'I hope farmers, crofters and landowners will get on board and have this sort of information available if they ever need to use it. Creating their own unique card of reference points is so easy to do, but can be crucial to allow the emergency services to reach a patient as quickly as possible.'

Pauline Howie, Chief Executive, Scottish Ambulance Service, said: 'Our air and road ambulance teams respond to 999 calls for assistance on farms across Scotland. While

they are supported by sophisticated mapping and GPS systems, any additional information from the scene that highlights local landmarks will help crews locate patients.'

Gavin Davey, Chief Executive of Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance said: 'Farmers from across Scotland have been very supportive of SCAA since we launched on operations last year and we are very grateful for their wide and varied fundraising events. SCAA responds regularly to rural incidents - many of them involving agricultural workers. It is sometimes difficult for farmers and rural workers to pinpoint their exact location and we are pleased to be able to work with NFU Scotland and its members to produce a straightforward method of detailing their exact location.'

NFU Scotland's members already have a great appreciation for the work of the SCAA. At the Royal Highland Show, NFU Scotland's Regional Manager for the North East, Lorna Paterson, and John Gordon, chairman of the Huntly/Inch Branch, presented Scotland's only charity funded air ambulance helicopter with a cheque for £1,600. The money was raised as part of the Joe Watson Memorial Stock-judging Night on June 6, held in Rothiemay.

Market reports

STIRLING - United Auctions (Wednesday July 16) sold 357 store cattle and 191 cast cows and forward cattle.

Bullocks (108) - averaged 227.19p (+15.99p) to 255.70p per kg for a 264kg LimX from Mid Barnago and £1260 for a 585kg SimX from Forestmill.

B & W Bullocks (99) - averaged 146.64p (-4.75p) to 168.40p per kg for a 475kg HOX from Tighenfraoch and £800 for a 536kg HOX from Claulchlands.

Heifers (117) - averaged 208.84p (+1.69p) to 249.30p per kg for a 325kg LimX from Mid Barnago and £1130 for a 558kg CHX from Low Gillmill.

Forward Cattle (24) - averaged 161.13p to 201.10p per kg for a LimX from Longhouse and £1330 for a CharX from Midlock.

Cast Cows (167) - averaged 127.12p to 213.20p per kg for a Luing from Quixwood and £1550 for a CharX from Cretelevane.

Bullocks: Up to 250kgs-East Balnago £540, 225.00p 251-300kgs- Thorn £700, Mid Barnago 255.70p 301-350kgs-East Balnago £840, 252.30p 351-400kgs- Ceitheir Gaoithe £880, 243.10p 401-450kgs- Graystale £970, Mahaar 227.90p 451-500kgs- Rowantree £1080, 232p 501-550kgs- Claulchlands £800, 149.30p 551-600kgs- Forestmill £1260, 220.60p 601-650kgs- Forestmill £1260, 209.30p.

Heifers: 251-300kgs- Thorn £655, Mid Barnago 239p 301-350kg- Mid Barnago £835, 249.30p 351-400kgs- Hartfield £860, Mahaar 220.30p 401-450kgs- Gillmill £1040, 234.20p 451-500kgs- Gillmill £1060, 234.20p 501-550kgs- Low Boydston £1100, 207.50p; 551-600kgs- Gillmill £1130, 202.50p

OTM Cows - Cretelevane (Char) £1550, Midlock 166.30p; Quixwood (AA) £1490, 188.90p; Randerston (Lim) £1370, Quixwood 208.60p; Garvald Mains (Sim) £1330, 147.10p; Quixwood (BSH) £1290, 148.60p; Townhead (BRB) £1150, Midlock 147.70p; Quixwood (Lui) £1130, 213.20p.

STIRLING; United Auctions (Thursday July 17) sold 4752 Prime Sheep including 2740 lambs and 2012 ewes and rams.

Lambs (2740) - Goddens (Suff) £100; South Flanders (SuffX) £96; Coilavoulin (Tex) £97; Wester Highgate (TexX) £96; Mid Rottearns (Cont) £90; Spittalhill (Mule) £74; Inchgarth (BF) £65; Doune Farms (Dlwe) £92. Lambs (2740) - Dalowie (Suff) 200p; Keil (SuffX) 197p; Glenlyon (Tex) 201p; Kipperoch (TexX) 199p; Dalowie (Cont) 192p; Corran (Mule) 181p; Inchgarth (BF) 175p; Goddens (Btex) 200p. Ewes (2012) - Halkerston (Suff) £94.50; Knock O' Ronald (Lley) £70.50; Muirpark (BFL) £86.50; Carriston (Tex) £128.50; Humeston (Chev) £90; Humeston (Mule) £90; Coilavoulin (Cross) £75.50; Bank (Zwart) £73.50; Catcune (Chev/Mule) £83.50; Craighton (BF) £67.50. Rams - Kinaldy (BFL) £116.50; Dyke (Tex) £118.50; Dalowie (Char) £73.50; Innergellie (Chev) £76.50; Braehead (Easy Care) £89.50; Muirpark (BF) £71.50.

Who will be the 'big cheese' of 2014?

COMMONWEALTH Games, World Cup or Tour de France?

Forget it, the big one this summer is the 'Cheese Olympics' and Argyll has a track record of bringing back gold, silver and bronze.

The International Cheese Awards (ICA) is the largest cheese show in the world; hence the nickname.

Campbeltown Creamery's Mull of Kintyre extra mature won champion Scottish cheese in 2010 and 2011 and then 2012 saw their biggest win to date with the honour of best vintage cheddar in show.

Over the years artesian cheese-maker Inverloch has regularly come home with bronze, silver and gold medals.

Founded on the Isle of Gigha and now in based Campbeltown, Inverloch has won with its Drumloch, Applesmoke and Campbeltown cheeses.

Last year at the ICA 4,268 entries from 26 different countries battled it out in 283 categories at the two-day event in the picturesque medieval Cheshire market town of Nantwich.

This year 4,443 will compete in the massive 80,500 square foot marquee, enlarged to cope with this all-time record.

The ICA started life as a humble cheese show in 1897, run by the Cheshire Agricultural Society. It has grown into the Olympic-sized awards show which is run by Nantwich Agricultural Society and held over two days.

Day one, Tuesday July 29, is judging and trade day and the following day coincides with the Nantwich and South Cheshire Agricultural Show.

Lewis man reigns supreme at Staffin Sheepdog Trials



SMILES ALL ROUND: left to right, Ian MacDonald, runner up in Staffin Trials, judge Mosse Magnusson and winner Murdo Murray



KEEN CONTEST: the Skye handlers who were in action at Staffin. Left to right, Ian MacDonald, John MacDiarmid, Eynort; Duncan MacIntyre, Portnalong and Jimmy Lamont, Kensaleyre

A SHEEPDOG handler from across the Minch sailed home from Skye having won the Staffin Sheepdog Trials in front of a bumper crowd.

The sun shone in Staffin as Lewisman Murdo Murray was crowned the winner of the annual event, part of the Hebridean Circuit which takes in courses in the Western Isles and Skye over several days.

In baking hot temperatures at Elishadder on Friday (18.7) the Leodhasach, who hails from Back, beat off the challenge of Staffin's own Ian MacDonald to win day six of the circuit.

Around 300 spectators attended the event which has grown in popularity in recent years.

About 50 dogs and their handlers from all over the UK and Ireland were among the stellar field with Swede and former Continental champion Mosse Magnusson the trials judge.

Mosse, who has competed twice in Staffin himself in 2009 and 2010, said he thoroughly enjoyed judging at Elishadder for the first time.

The relatively flat course on peat and rough grazing lies next to the old A855 single-track Staffin to Portree main road with views to the Storr, Ben Edra and Quiraing but Mosse said it was demanding because of the outrun compared to other places.

And he admitted the heat made things doubly difficult for the handlers and their dogs.

'It is a difficult course,' said Mosse. 'I like that kind of course, it is very

testing. Normally it is a straight fetch for the handler. At the Staffin trials it is a L-shaped fetch so you have to have your dogs under control.'

Mosse said Murdo won after an almost faultless run with Jim but some other handlers, including local organiser Ian MacDonald, had good performances but dropped points.

The Swede added the temperature had an impact.

'I think the heat made the sheep a little twitchy, they weren't easy,' he added.

Handlers are judged on the outrun towards the sheep, the lift, the bring, penning and shedding and spectators watched as the dogs raced against the clock.

Skye handlers Jimmy Lamont from Kensaleyre, John MacDiarmid of Eynort; and Portnalong-based Duncan MacIntyre were among the international field.

Organiser Ian MacDonald thanked everybody who had helped on the day with refreshments, stalls and raffle prizes.

He said £2,341.88 had been raised so far for the Skye Cancer Care charity.

Results
Winner Murdo Murray with 'Jim', Back, Lewis; Runner-up, Ian MacDonald, 'Don', Staffin, Skye; 3 Lotta Magnusson, 'Kate', Ardromie, Perthshire; 4 Carrol Mellin, 'Mirk', England; 5 Clair Neil, 'Dan', England; 6 Lochlann Cohen, 'Dan', Ireland.

Local, 1 Ian MacDonald, 'Don', Staffin.



CONCENTRATION: Ian MacDonald on his home course gets his dog Don to bring the sheep in



Follow us on facebook

www.facebook.com/obantimes

Get The Oban Times for only 40p!

Subscribe to our digital edition for one year and save 50%

Delivered straight to your inbox

Subscribe today! Visit www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

WM BURNS
For sale

2006 Same dorado 76 cw sigma power loader	£17,950 plus vat
2004 john deere. 5820. Cw john deere 551 loader	£17,950 plus vat
2011 jcb 403 loader cw bucket. And grab.	£10,500 plus vat
2010. John. Deere. Hpx. Gator.	£5,950 plus vat
2008. Massey. Ferguson 6495 4x4 cw ISO bus data tronic	
Auto drive cab axel suspension	£34,500 plus vat
2004 new holland TL 90 4x4 cw power suttle Quikie power loader	£17,950 plus vat
ex council	
2004 Kramer 480t. Loader cw forks.	£14,950 plus vat

Trade ins welcome
Tractors from 1970 to 2014 wanted immediate inspection and payment
Call 07766522751

Oban Times Oban Times Oban Times
FARMING FARMING FARMING

Massey Ferguson 565
W reg
£4300 o.n.o.
Tel: 01397 703589 or 07585 304063

Sunart & District Agricultural Society Show & Family Fun Day Out
Saturday 9th August 2014
Strontian Showfield
Judging Commences 9.30am

Sheep, Cattle, Dog show
Local Crafts, Highland Dancing
Steam & Vintage Engines
Riders of the Storm Horse Stunt Show
Open to public by Pipe Band at 12.30pm
Adults £3, Children £2 Family Conc £12.

69% of the business community read the regional press

Regional Press

COVENTRY for FENCING
Scotland's No. 1
WIRE, STOCK FENCING,
BARBED, HIGH TENSILE,
MILD STEEL BEST PRICES

TIMBER DIRECT FROM OUR SAWMILL
Depots throughout Scotland • Delivery available
For a competitive quote please call 01631 566866

£30
FOR 2 WEEKS WITH
OUR ALL NEW DRIVETIMES

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Motors & Drivetimes

DICKSONS
of Perth
MOTORHOMES, CAMPERVANS & CARAVANS
WANTED FOR CASH
Top Prices Paid
NEW Agents for LUNAR
Caravans & Motorhomes

LUNAR

Telephone 01738 626287
www.perthcaravans.co.uk

Scotland's most established Renault dealer



RENAULT

New and Pre-Reg Renaults ready for immediate delivery

- These are just a small selection of cars currently in our showrooms
- USED CARS**
- 63 Renault Clio Media Nav, 5 door, Very low mileage. Choice of colour.....From £11,950
 - 63 Renault Twingo Dyn 1.2, 3dr, Silver, 300 miles..... £8,950
 - 13 Peugeot 107 Allure, 5dr, blue, 12,000 miles..... £7,650
 - 12 Renault Megane I-Music DCI, 5dr, Blue, 6,000 miles £10,500
 - 11 Peugeot 508, 2 ltr HDi Active Estate, Black 27,500 Miles..... £11,950
 - 59 Suzuki SX4 GLX 1.6 saloon, Cherry Red, 21,500 miles..... £5,995
 - 58 Vauxhall Astra CDTi Black 86,000 miles..... £3,750
 - 08 Vauxhall Vectra SRI Diesel Silver 60,000 miles £4,250
 - 08 Fiat Doblo 1.9D Active Blue 52,000 miles..... £4,250
 - 07 Ford Ka 1.3 Zetec Purple 41,000 miles £3,250
 - 56 Mitsubishi Shogun 2.5 Sport Warrior TD 94,000 miles £6,750
 - 56 Astra 1.6 life, 5 dr, Silver, 50k miles..... £3,500
 - 06 Ford Fusion 1.6 Silver 45,000 miles..... £3,000
 - 54 Honda CRV Sport Vtec 2.0 ltr Blue, 91,000 miles £4,250

- COMMERCIALS**
- 60 Renault Trafic Van LWB DCi Silver 53,000 miles £9,250 plus VAT
 - 60 Vauxhall Vivaro DCI Van £8,500 plus VAT
 - 08 Renault Master, SWB, white..... £8,000 plus VAT
 - 57 Vauxhall Astra Sportif Van DCi Silver..... £3,500 plus VAT

New Dacia range available for test drive today!

SELECTION OF LOW PRICE CARS UNDER £2000 TO CLEAR

- RENAULT SCENIC AUTOMATIC
- FORD FOCUS 1.6
- VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.6
- LAGUNA DCI ESTATE
- CITREON PICASSO 1.6

CAR AND VAN HIRE FROM BOTH BRANCHES **FIND US**

W.D. Semple

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE TO VIEW A MORE COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF VEHICLES ON OFFER

Approved Renault Dealer
www.wdsemple.com
Inveraray - Shore Street. Tel: 01499 302150 Fax: 01499 302281
Lochgilphead - Highbank Park. Tel: 01546 606767 Fax: 01546 606272

Motability

NEW DACIA DUSTER AND SANDERO NOW IN STOCK

DACIA

NOW AVAILABLE
The New Dacia Range
from £5,995*



Dacia Sandero = from £5,995*
Dacia Sandero Stepway = from £7,995*
Dacia Duster = from £8,995*

Sandero shown is a Laureate 1.2 16V 75 from £7,995.
sandero Stepway shown is a Laureate Tce 90 from £9,795.
Duster shown is a Laureate DCI 110 4x2 from £12,995.
Metallic paint optional on Sandero/Duster at £470.

Oban Times MOTORING

Jeanneau Espace 1100



1986
37 feet/six berth
Twin Steering
Lovely condition.
£37,500

Tel: 01770 601319 (Arran)

E.M. COMMERCIALS LTD

11 MITSUBISHI L200 ALPE, Di Cab Pickup, Manual, Canopy, E-pack, Air Con, Black, 57K	£10,950
08 MITSUBISHI L200 Warrior, Double Cab Pickup, Manual, E-pack, Alloy, Black, 35K	£13,450
08 MITSUBISHI L200 Warrior, Double Cab Pickup, Manual, E-pack, Alloy, Black, 35K	£12,950
08 MITSUBISHI L200 PROAN, Double Cab Pickup, Manual, Leather, Alloy, Black, 45K	£11,950
08 MITSUBISHI L200 Proan, Di Cab Pickup, Auto, Canopy, Leather, Reverse Camera, Met Grey	£9,450
07 MITSUBISHI SHOGUN Sport Trogon, 5 Door Estate, Manual, Leather, E-pack, Alloy, Met Grey	NO VAT £9,450
07 MITSUBISHI L200 Warrior, Di Cab Pickup, Manual, Alloy, E-pack, Met Silver, 60K	£7,950
11 TOYOTA HILUX H.L3 Di Cab Pickup, Manual, Canopy, E-pack, Alloy, Black	£11,700
11 NISSAN NAVARA Accordi Di Cab Pickup, Manual, Canopy, Alloy, Met Silver, 54K	£11,450
10 NISSAN NAVARA, Teana Di Cab Pickup, Manual, Sat Nav, Heated Leather Reverse Camera, Met Blue, 60K	£12,950
10 NISSAN NAVARA Teana Di Cab, Pickup, Manual, Heated Leather, Sun Roof, Met Grey, 60K	£9,950
07 NISSAN NAVARA Avantea, Di Cab Pickup, Manual, Roll Bar, Solar Shade, Heated Leather, Sat Nav, Black, 10 VAT	£7,950
06 NISSAN NAVARA D40, King Cab Pickup, 6 Speed Manual, E-pack, New Williams Canopy, 80K	£6,450
06 NISSAN NAVARA D22, Di Cab Pickup, Manual, Canopy, Alloy, E-pack, Met Red	NO VAT £4,950
06 NISSAN NAVARA D22, Di Cab Pickup, Manual, Canopy, Alloy, E-pack, Met Red	NO VAT £5,750
05 ISUZU RODEO, S Cab Pickup, 3tr, 1.7, 4wd, Manual, Toner, White, 70K	NO VAT £3,750
08 JACUZZI BT 30, Double Cab, Pickup, Manual, E-pack, Alloy, Toner, Met Grey, 60K	£9,950
07 FORD TRANSIT 350 115 HD, LWB, High Top Van, 6 Speed, SLD, E-Pick, Ply Lined, White	£9,950
08 FORD TRANSIT 350 LWB, High Top Van, Rear Fitted Workshop, SLD, Red, 80K	£7,950
08 FORD TRANSIT 350 LWB, Crew Van 1150p, 6 Speed, E-pack, Reverse, White	£8,950
08 FORD TRANSIT 350 Di Cab, Alloy, Driveline Tipper, Towbar, White, 50K	£9,950
08 FORD TRANSIT 350 Double Cab Pickup, Alloy Drop Side Body, White	£9,950
08 FORD TRANSIT 350, SWB, Semi High Top Van, SLD, Rear Fitted Workshop, Red	£4,950
07 FORD TRANSIT 350, LWB, Semi High Top Van, Ply Lined and shelved, Roof Rack, White, 50K	£9,700
06 FORD TRANSIT 350, LWB, Hi Top Van, 115 HP 6 Speed, E-pack, SLD, Met Silver	£5,750
08 FORD TRANSIT 350, Crew Cab Pickup, 1150p Alloy Body, Removable Cage Sides, White, 45K	£9,950
08 MERCEDES SPRINTER 313 CD, LWB, Panel Van, 6 Speed, SLD, E-pack, White	£9,450
07 MERCEDES SPRINTER 311 LWB, Single Cab Pickup, Alloy Drop Side Body, Roller Shutters, Top Box, Tail Lift, White	£9,950
07 MERCEDES SPRINTER 311 CD, SWB, High Top Van, Manual, SLD, Ply Lined, E-pack, Met Silver	£9,950
06 MERCEDES SPRINTER 311 CD, LWB, 4x4 Van, Manual, SLD, Rear Fitted Workshop, White	£9,950
05 CITROEN BERLINGO, Multi Space, Wheel Chair Access, Manual, E-pack, Met Silver	NO VAT £4,750
08 VAUXHALL MERIVA 2000, LWB, High Top Van, 6 speed manual, E-pack, SLD, White, 60K	£9,450
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA van, 1.7 CDTi Manual, E-pack, Ply Lined With Bulkhead, White	£4,950
08 VAUXHALL COMBIE 2000 Van, SLD, Top Box C20 Silver, 65K miles	£3,950
10 KAWASAKI 600 MALE Drop Side Tipper Body, Maser cab, Towbar, Red, 1200 HRS, Choice	£4,250
08 NISSAN XE 1.6, Crew Cab Pickup, CVT Hook Lift Plus One Dropside Body, Blue	£9,950
08 Vauxhall PRISMA LWB, 1.5 Diesel Hi Top Van, Manual, Air, Discs, Rear Wheelchair Access, Direct Central, White	£9,950
05 Land Rover 110 Defender Hard top TDS, Tow pack, Roof Rack, Light Guards, Blue	NO VAT £8,450
08 Land Rover Discovery TDS, 5 Door, Auto, 7 Seats, Full Leather, Alloy, Met Grey, Very Clean	NO VAT £3,750
08 Mercedes C200, Kompresor, 3 door Coupe, Auto, Full leather, Alloy, Met Silver	NO VAT £2,950

Many other vehicles in stock. All above vehicles plus VAT at 20%
Kilwinning, Ayrshire
Tel: 01294 554098 or 077696 88110
Fax: 01294 554560
www.emcommercials.co.uk

Audi A4 2.0TDi 2008 (58)



Excellent condition, dark grey metallic, low mileage, full Audi service history, one owner from new, Taxed and MOT'd.
£9,950

Tel: 01631 710624 or 07979 658030

Land Rover Defender Station Wagon



Metallic Blue, 57 Plate 2.4 TCDi, 74,000 miles, mint condition, limited towing and off-roading.
£15,000 o.n.o.

Tel: 07818 898443

Jeep Cherokee 2.4 Sport Petrol



04 Plate, 79,000, MOT Apr 15, TAX Jun 15, FSH, Recent timing belt and full clutch, winter and summer tyres/wheels. Excellent condition.
£2995 o.v.n.o.

Tel: 07850 676617 / 01866 822023

WANTED URGENTLY



MOTORHOMES & CARAVANS
WE WON'T BE BEATEN ON PRICE, FINANCE SETTLED, INSTANT COLLECTION AND DIRECT PAYMENT.

CALL: 07711 573308
01250 872424

Peugeot 207s



2007, full service history, 1 years mot, 6 months tax, 50,000 miles, air conditioning, c.d player, air bags, just serviced. Excellent condition.
£3490 o.n.o.

Tel: 07775 665503

WANTED

All types of good quality 4x4 vehicles, Landrovers, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford etc and all 4x4 pickups, must be in good condition and reasonable mileage. Older 4x4s and non runners/ MOT failures etc considered. Will collect.

Telephone
07546 788945

2008 BMW 5 series saloon



530i, petrol, automatic, blue, FSH, 78,000 miles, 7 months MOT, Full leather, plus other extras, classy car.
£7,200 priced for quick sale

Tel: 07857 956732

URGENTLY REQUIRED



4X4s
TOP PRICE PAID
INSTANT COLLECTION AND PAYMENT
ANY AGE AND CONDITION

CALL: 07711 573308
01250 872424

WANTED

Wanted all 4 x 4s, old or new Toyota Hilux, land cruiser, all pickups single or double cabs, any condition, runner or not, high miles no problem.

Telephone:
07703490572 ask for Robert

Honda Quad Bike



TRX 400
FA Green 4WD
150 hours.
£2500

Tel: 01770 600576 (Arran)

Vauxhall Astra Estate



1.6 petrol
Only 2 owners and 53,000 miles
Lovely condition power steering and electric windows
1 years MOT.
£1300

Tel: 07910 394431 (Arran)

Elddis Elf 2 Berth



1997.
Luxury model.
Lots of extras.
Warm air/gas fire, full cooker and oven.
Blinds, fly screens lots more.
Ready to go camping.
£1750

Tel: 01770 601319 (Arran)

Orkney Fastliner 19



60 hp motor 4 stroke tested
Canopy, auxillary 4 hp 4 stroke
Depth and GPS
On Trailer
£5400

Luing 01852 314233

Stormcats Storm Angler (Kingfisher)



Length 5 mtrs Beam 1.81 mtrs Draft 0.3 mtrs, 4hp Mercury sail power outboard.
Canvas fold away cuddy. Road trailer (new tyres & spare wheel) Lighting board.
Very good condition, good solid sea boat, built on Islay. Anchor, lifejackets, fishing tackle all ready to go.
Offers around £5,000

Telephone 07833 946231

Orkney style dayboat

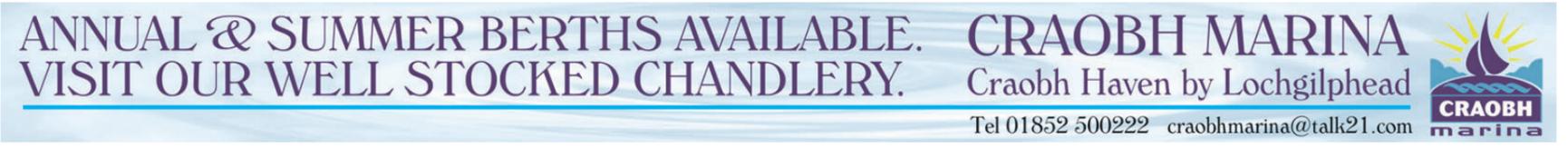


c/w 6hp Mercury 4 stroke engine, rod holders, new trailer, wheels and hubs. All in VGC throughout. Excellent family boat.
£2750 o.n.o.

Tel: 01499 500229

ANNUAL & SUMMER BERTHS AVAILABLE. VISIT OUR WELL STOCKED CHANDLERY.

CRAOBH MARINA
Craobh Haven by Lochgilphead
Tel 01852 500222 craobhmarina@talk21.com





West Coast PROPERTY GUIDE
Find your next property at www.westcoastproperty.co.uk

- ✓ LETTINGS
- ✓ PROPERTY REVIEWS
- ✓ COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
- ✓ PROPERTY NEWS
- ✓ SALES
- ✓ LOCAL ESTATE AGENTS

FIAT Stilo 1.6



16 valve 03
MOT'd June 2015,
Tax'd Feb 2015,
Sky Blue.
£1000 o.n.o.

Tel: 07476 246399

WANTED

Motor homes, caravanettes and camper vans, all makes or models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.

Contact William 07730 130284 or 07923 091694 or email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

Landrover Discovery 2.5 td5.



2003, 55,500 miles,
1 year mot,
taxed til August.
£7500 o.n.o.

Tel: 07834902696 (Ayrshire)

7 Seater Honda Stream Sport 2002



Low mileage
(79000 miles),
MOT and Tax
Feb 2015, Petrol,
Automatic,
Reliable family car.
Price for quick sale
£1650

Tel: 07979 303849

WANTED

All 4 X 4 Vehicles
any make or model, from 1990 to new,
also high mileage, non runners, MOT
failures etc considered.
Finance settled, top cash prices paid,
instant payment and collection.

Tel: 07546 788945

Skoda Rapid Elegance



1.6TDi, Reg March 13,
17,000 miles,
denim blue.
£10,995 o.n.o.

Tel: 07591 229468

Vauxhall Zafira Club



2006 1600 petrol,
79000 miles, MOT
- May 15, Taxed,
Air Conditioning.
£2100

**Tel: 01586 830677 (day)
01586 830658 (evening)**

Catamaran. HT 27



Centre cockpit. 2 cabins aft.
Main cabin with multi-fuel
stove. Hot water shower,
galley and loo. Tohatsu 9.8
(2 years old). Recent sails.
£9000

**Tel 01770 830227 (Arran)
iainsmd@googlemail.com**

**Oban Times Oban Times
MOTORING MOTORING
Oban Times Oban Times
MOTORING MOTORING
Oban Times Oban Times
MOTORING MOTORING**



FOR SALE

DAWSONS Celebrating 40 years of successful sales in Argyll

DALRIACH COURT, OBAN

Well Proportioned Ground Floor Flat In Sought After Residential Area Convenient To Town Centre With Glimpses Over Oban Bay. Ideal retirement home/investment opportunity.

Accommodation comprises: Hall With Storage, Lounge, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Shower Room. Double Glazing, Electric Heating, Garage, Store, Garden & Parking. EPC Rating: C55.

Guide Price £165,000

Alliance House, 1 George Street, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5RX
Tel: 01631 563901 www.alexanderdawson.co.uk info@alexanderdawson.co.uk

WANTED

WANTED

Professional male recently relocated to Oban through work requires accommodation in Oban from September. Would consider flat/house share.

Contact: 07828 583107

TO LET

CORPACH Cottage to Let

Semi Detached Cottage, adjacent to Caledonian Canal, part furnished, 3 bedrooms, living room /kitchen, shower room, D/G, electric C/H., rent £650pcm, Landlord reg no 340468/27017571, EPC rating band C.

View Telephone 07703 134618

If you're thinking of holiday letting - we're the **No 1** choice

- A personal and friendly service with local contacts
- All properties graded to tourist board standards **FREE** of charge
- **FREE** photography and professional copywriting
- Expert yield management and payment in advance

cottages4you
By Wyndham Vacation Rentals

Call our Property Recruitment team on 0845 268 0555
Email letmycottage@wynvr.co.uk or visit www.letmycottage.co.uk

To Let No.2 Glenfern Fassfern

3 bedroom semi-detached house & garden Newly decorated and carpeted. Unfurnished. EPC Rating F32

£530 p.c.m.

Apply in writing to Fassfern Estate 9 Glenfern, Fassfern Fort William. Tel 01397 772288

COMMERCIAL

The Specialist Property Adviser **Christie+Co**

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

FOR LEASE

GLENFORS AIRFIELD, ISLE OF MULL OFFERS ARE INVITED

Glenforsa Airfield, Isle of Mull, is an unlicensed grass airstrip and is being offered for lease on a three year basis. The tenant shall be responsible for the management of the Airfield and the collection of landing dues.

Closing date for offers is 12:30pm on Friday 5th September 2014.

For further information; Estates Service, Blairvadach, Helensburgh G84 8ND Tel: 01436 658957

DELICATESSEN BUSINESS - ARGYLL AND BUTE

- Highly respected delicatessen business
- Located in a desirable town. Good quality fit out
- Scope to develop business. Currently 6-day trading (closed Sunday)
- Energy Rating F

£35,000 + SAV Leasehold

For further information, please contact:
David Higgins
T: 0141 415 4152
E: david.higgins@christie.com Ref 66/0804 5
christie.com

Argyll Bute COUNCIL

Are you looking to move house?

43% of those planning on buying a house in the next year have been exposed to advertising in the regional press, double the number in any other medium.

Regional Press
CLOSER TO HOME

First Time Buyers squeezed even further out the market

First time buyers are being squeezed further out of the market, with house sales by this group down five percentage points, a twenty per cent decrease in the last month alone, according to the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA).

The NAEA's June Housing Market report shows that the number of first time buyers dropped to 20 per cent, down from 25 per cent in May 2014 (a 5 per cent decrease), the lowest level recorded since May 2013. The first time buyer struggle is reflected in the age of this month's house buyers, as those aged 18 to 30 represented just three per cent of all house sales in June, the lowest percentage of young house buyers recorded by the NAEA to-date*.

Nearly 80 per cent of NAEA member agents believe the recent announcement by the Bank of England governor, Mark Carney, on the cap on high-risk mortgages, which will see only 15 per cent of new mortgages at 4.5 times a borrower's income, will affect the number of first-time buyers and home owners looking to move.

Mark Hayward, Managing Director of the National

Association of Estate Agents, said: 'Things are getting even tougher for first time buyers. Not only do you now need to stump up ridiculously large sums of money in terms of deposits and stamp duty to be able to get on the ladder, but new rules mean buyers will also have to prove they can easily afford repayments now and in the future. Alongside this, a scaling back of the governments Help to Buy scheme and the implementation of the MMR in April will also have a significantly negative impact on the first time buyer market.'

There is some good news in this month's NAEA housing report, as June saw an increase in the average number of properties available per NAEA member branch. Available properties increased to an average of 46 compared to 44 in May 2014. The number of properties available per member branch is still historically low, and has not reached above 50 per month since November 2013, and above 60 since May 2013.

The average number of house hunters registering with NAEA agents decreased slightly in June, from an average of 374 house hunters in May to 371 in June. However, NAEA member agents also reported a decrease in the average number of sales agreed per branch, down from 10 in May to nine in June.



Property Classifieds

Photography

DENNIS HARDLEY PHOTOGRAPHY

Interiors, Accommodation, Property and Commercial.

Using the latest technologies, Dennis and Tony will give you the best possible service until you are 100% satisfied

01631 720434

Woodburning Stoves

AFFORDABLE Country Kiln

Woodburning & Multifuel stoves

Delivered Nationwide

01560 483966

www.WoodburningStovesLimited.com

Promote your business in our Property Classifieds section.

Tel: 01631 568010

Follow us on **facebook**
www.facebook.com/obantimes

THINK POSTCARDS

THINK krisp print

BESPOKE PRINTING OUR SPECIALITY

01586 554975

Main Street/Longrow South, Campbeltown
email: staff@krispprint.co.uk www.krispprint.co.uk

west coast recruitment



Exciting Times for a new career

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

BASED IN OBAN

£ Excellent Basic + £ Bonus + Private Health Care + Pension + Good Holidays

If you've got the energy, drive, determination and ambition, we can offer you an exciting and rewarding career with one of Scotland's foremost independent newspaper publishers.

You would be part of a small, highly motivated team selling advertising and features for our well established, award winning publications.

You will be responsible for calling new and existing clients to generate and maintain lasting business relationships, and you will benefit from on-going training, first class support, job stability and the opportunity to work for a professional company that believes in rewarding success and effort. A full driving licence is essential.

Please apply by email with full C.V and covering letter to: ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk



The Scottish Salmon Company

The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading independent producer of high quality Scottish Salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy.

Quality Controller Ref Number: QC/TECH/07 Cairndow, Argyll (Salary dependant on experience)

Due to internal promotion, we are currently looking for a Quality Controller to work as directed in assisting the Technical Department with:

- Conducting the day-to-day operation of quality monitoring activities within Processing.
- Assisting the Technical Department in the maintenance and development of the Wise Quality database and associated hardware and software.
- Assisting the Technical Department to maintain a regular system of Compliance Monitoring of the QA/QC systems to the requirements of customers and certifying authorities.
- To perform residue sampling in accordance with company, customer and legislative requirements.
- Collecting samples or swabs of product and prepare same for internal or external analysis as required.
- Supporting the Quality CO-ordinator with hygiene monitoring and to provide regular reports on Hygiene performance.
- Supporting the Technical Department with all request for trend monitoring analyses.
- Assisting in the collection of occasional samples from the Harvest operations.
- Assisting the H&S Department in the maintenance of all Technical related H&S matters.

The ideal candidate would have previous Technical experience & understanding or a Food Safety related qualification. Intermediate Excel, Word and Microsoft Outlook skills are essential.

The role requires the successful candidate to be self-motivated and well organised with a flexible attitude. In addition to being detail oriented and able to communicate daily with other departments – building relationships across the whole business by phone and email, in addition to liaising with external agencies. The ideal applicants will hold an Intermediate Food Hygiene Certification and Elementary HACCP – however training will be provided if required. A full driving licence is essential for the role. Working on a guaranteed paid 30 hour per week contract, 08.00am to 03.00pm, Monday to Friday. Additional out of normal hours working may be required to meet the needs of the business.

For an application form and job description for the above post, contact: Angela Gibson, HR Officer, The Scottish Salmon Company, Ardinglas Estate, Cairndow, PA26 8BH Tel. No. 01499 600 430 Email: angela.gibson@scottishsalmon.com Closing date for applications: Friday, the 1st August 2014 Visit our website: www.scottishsalmon.com

The Scottish Salmon Company

The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading independent producer of high quality Scottish Salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy.

On-Site Harvest Covering (The North & South of Scotland) Ref No: AG/07//14 Hourly Rate £11,557 based on a guaranteed 30 hours per week

This position will work a permanent nightshift, operating to the harvest schedule. The normal working week will be Sunday to Thursday (inclusive of these days) additional weekend working may be required. Candidates will be enthusiastic, self-motivated and be able to demonstrate prior experience of working within small, focused teams. Have previous Marine Site experience. Aquaculture experience is essential for this post. Preference will also be given to those candidates who can offer transferable, related skills and qualifications. As this position involves travelling a current clean driving license is essential.

In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package including entry into the Company pension scheme.

For an application form and job description for the above post, contact: Angela Gibson, HR Officer, The Scottish Salmon Company, Ardinglas Estate, Cairndow, PA26 8BH Tel. No. 01499 600 430 Email: angela.gibson@scottishsalmon.com Closing date for applications: Friday, the 1st August 2014 Visit our website: www.scottishsalmon.com



Fish Farm Technicians - Loch Etive

£16,000 - £21,000 + O/T

Dawnfresh Farming Ltd, part of the Dawnfresh Seafoods Group, is the largest Trout Farming Company operating in the UK. Our Marine and Freshwater farms are located throughout Scotland and Ireland.

Due to business development and expansion we are seeking to recruit a number of individuals to fulfil roles as Seawater Fish Farm Technicians. These positions will be based at our seawater cage farms on Loch Etive, near Taynuilt.

The role of Fish Farm Technician is interesting and varied. Working outdoors as part of a small team, it is focused upon all aspects of successful trout production including feeding, grading, harvesting, net changing and other general farm maintenance tasks, including boat handling.

Applications are invited from individuals who have a positive approach to this type of work, who feel comfortable working over water and be willing to work flexibly to meet the demands of the job.

Previous aquaculture experience is desirable but not essential as full training and support will be provided. A full driving licence is essential.

These posts are full time positions, working a 40 hour week on any five out of seven days. Beyond the nature of the roles, the post holder(s) would be expected to undertake additional hours as required in order to accommodate the needs of the business, this will include weekend cover on a rota basis.

If you are interested in applying for this position please send your CV, to:-

HR Department, Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, Bothwellpark Industrial Estate, Uddingston, G71 6LS. Office - 01698 810008, E-mail: hr@dawnfresh.co.uk

Informal enquires can be made to Brian Floyd, Seawater Operations Manager, Mobile 07788 145125, E-mail brian.floyd@dawnfresh.co.uk

Trainee Dental Assistant

Required
Experience desirable but not essential.
Apply in writing to:
F.G. Paterson
Practice Manager
J.C. & I.M. Duncan
Campbeltown Dental Centre
Ralston Road
Campbeltown



Islay Crab Exports requires HGV Driver

In Tarbert Area

Phone for more details.
James 07768 716 574

NORTH ARGYLL HOUSE

Bealach an Rìgh, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG
Tel. 01631 562168 Fax. 01631 570623

VACANCY FOR PART TIME CARE ASSISTANT

Permanent post. Night/Day rota
7.19 to 10.32 per hour, depending on qualifications.
Company pension scheme.

For application form and job description contact manager Morag A Telfer

D A Boyd Groundworks has a Vacancy for a 360 Excavator Operator

to carry out Forestry Ground Preparation works. Applicants must have a minimum of 1 year experience.

For More Information please Contact us - 07818045231
dabgroundworks@hotmail.co.uk

Lynn of Lorne Care Home

We are looking for Staff Nurses

to join our motivated and enthusiastic team. Full time, part time or bank work available. To apply please phone Megan on 01631 720278 or email lynnoflorne@hotmail.co.uk

Temporary Farm Technician Glenfinnan

Salary £17,978 - £22,808 plus overtime

We are currently looking for a Temporary Farm Technician to work at our freshwater farm at Glenfinnan.

This interesting and varied role is focused upon all aspects of successful smolt production from the fry stage, prior to their transportation to our sea water farms. Applications would be particularly welcome from individuals who have some experience in freshwater farming operations but this is not essential as full training and support will be provided.

The position is based on a 40 hour week on any five out of seven days and the post holder would be expected to undertake over-time as required in order to accommodate the needs of the business. A full, clean driving licence is also essential.

If you would like to be considered for this role, please submit an application in writing with details of relevant experience, no later than Friday 25 July 2014 to: Vicky Ferguson, Human Resources Manager, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Limited, Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William PH33 7PT.



Loch Fyne Oysters

Based at the head of Loch Fyne on the West Coast of Scotland, we have been producing and supplying premium quality produce worldwide, for over 35 years. Our internationally known products are processed from the freshest and highest quality fish and seafood, using sustainable methods.

PROCESSING OPERATIVES TEMPORARY POSITIONS

Starting rate £7.00 per hour

We require additional staff to join our Production Team to work in a variety of different areas; assisting with the preparation, slicing and packing of smoked salmon for the retail trade. The ideal candidates will be committed, reliable and able to work well as part of a team. Previous experience in food handling is not essential, as training will be provided.

We have a range of positions available in our Filleting/Smokehouse, Slicing Room and Despatch Areas. Full time hours, based on a 40 hour week.

Benefits include; 30 days holiday per annum (pro-rata), plus staff discounts.

Please contact us for an Application Form or send your current CV to: HR Department, Loch Fyne Oysters Ltd, Clachan, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BL
Tel: 01499 600462, Fax: 01499 600396 or E-mail: recruitment@lochfyne.com

For further details, please visit our website at: www.lochfyne.com/careers

The Dochas Carers Centre

Bringing together people who care

Outreach Worker

working in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles
Hours 24 hours per week, flexible
Salary Scale SJC-API - SP23 £20,931 pro rata
Annual Leave 25 days per annum plus 5 public holidays pro rata

Sessional Support Workers

Offering support, information and guidance to Carers working in Kintyre (Tarbert and Campbeltown areas) flexible and varied hours
Pay scale £8.00 per hour
For information pack and application form please contact:

Maggie McLaren, Dochas Centre, 50 Campbell Street, Lochgilphead. PA31 8JU
Phone 01546 60 0022 quote Job Title



Crossroads North Argyll is a small home care agency providing carer respite for carers and people with care needs.

We are widely recognised locally as an organisation which provides high quality care, tailored to the needs of each individual.

Are you interested in giving someone in need a better quality of life? Passionate about supporting carers and the people they care for?

Want to give something back to the community? If so, we want to hear from you.

We offer good hourly rates, flexible hours, mileage payment, travel time and great training opportunities Car necessary.

Please phone us 01631 562277 or email northargyllcrossroads@hotmail.com for an application form.
Closing date for applications 4th August
We are an equal opportunities employer

First Milk

Campbeltown Creamery
Laboratory Technician

20 hours per week over 4 days
Permanent
Email address to apply - recruitment@firstmilk.co.uk
Closing date - Friday, 1st August 2014



Pre-school Nursery Practitioner, Oban

An exciting opportunity for a qualified and experienced nursery practitioner to join the award winning Stramash team, based at the Stramash Outdoor Nursery in Oban, working outside with 3 to 5 year olds. Be part of a growing and developing community social enterprise that uses the outdoors to make a real difference in people's lives. Applicants must be experienced and have a minimum of SVQ Level 3 Child Care or a teaching qualification or equivalent.

Modern Apprenticeships at our Outdoor Nursery in Oban also available.

For an application pack, email recruitment@stramash.org.uk. For more information about Stramash visit www.stramash.org.uk or call 01631 566080. Stramash is a registered Scottish Charity SC040538

Clerk of Works Required

South Kintyre Development Trust are seeking to appoint an experienced Clerk of Works on a consultancy contract basis to support with the repair and renovation of Campbeltown Town Hall.

6-8 days per month for up to 12 months.
Expected Site Start Date: 1st September 2014
Closing date for applications: Friday 8th August 2014
For more information please email: ericspence@btinternet.com or call 07789 524 739



Graphic Designer / Product Designer

MIDTON Acrylics, Europe's leading and largest cast acrylic manufacturer, is seeking a highly motivated individual to join their graphic design team. Please see our website for details. www.midtonacrylics.co.uk

WE'RE RECRUITING IN OBAN

Assistant Manager and Team Members

Can you deliver the very best coffee and service to your customers? Are you passionate about your work, and being part of your local community? If so, we want to hear from you!

Please send your details and CV to our recruitment team: gocostaoban@gmail.com



west coast recruitment

BritishRedCross

Transport & Escort Driver – Fixed Term until 30 June 2017

Salary: £7.00 per hour Hours: Flexible & Varied Location: Oban

Refusing to ignore people in crisis

The British Red Cross are looking to appoint experienced and enthusiastic drivers to provide a first class service to people in crisis. You will be responsible for ensuring that passengers are safely transported between their home and their destination, where appropriate you may also be required to provide emotional support to passengers and their carers.

Educated to GCSE standard or equivalent, you will be able to demonstrate experience in a similar role and be aware of the health and safety legislation relating to passenger transport. In addition, it is crucial that you have a flexible approach and hold a full driving licence with category D1 Certificate.

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is Friday 8 August 2014

To apply for this post please visit our website and complete the online application, if you get into any difficulty please email wrk4us@redcross.org.uk

As the post holder will be carrying out regulated work with protected adults they will be required to become a member of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme as established by the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.

We are committed to welcoming people from the widest possible diversity of background, culture and experience.

The British Red Cross, incorporated by Royal Charter 1908, is a charity registered in England and Wales (220949) and Scotland (SC037738)

Clerical Assistant
£14,599 - £15,457 Kilmory, Lochgilphead Ref: CTI00036
35 hours per week (Temporary)

Sampling Officer (Shellfish)
£17,975 - £19,088 Based from Oban with mobile working required Ref: DVP00111
35 hours per week (Temporary)

Regeneration Project Manager
£35,622 - £38,980 Helensburgh Ref: DVE00209
35 hours per week (Temporary)

☎ 01546 604334

Closing date unless otherwise stated: 8 August 2014.
To apply visit our website

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

Leading the way in Learning Disability

ENABLE Scotland is a dynamic, vibrant and expanding organisation dedicated to improving the lives of people across Scotland.

Team Facilitators
1 x Oban 39 hours per week. 1 x Lochgilphead 39 hours per week.
£24,000 per annum.

Personal Assistants
Oban, 3 x 30 hours & 1 x 16 hours per week.

Sessional Personal Assistants
Oban £7.80 per hour.

To apply for any of these posts please apply online at www.enableScotlandjobs.org.uk

If you have any questions about these roles, please contact Rhona Ferrier on 01631 565062 or email rhona.ferrier@enable.org.uk

Closing date: Friday 8th August 2014.

ENABLE Scotland is an equal opportunities employer. Scottish charity number SC009024.

Argyll Voluntary Action **NHS Highland**

Argyll Voluntary Action seeks to recruit an organised and motivated individual to become our 'Third Sector and Volunteering Support Officer' for the Oban, Lorn & the Isles area and a 'Link Club Co-ordinator' to establish a Link Club in Oban.

This is a combined post which encompasses support to third sector organisations at all levels, support to volunteer involving organisations and support people with mental health concerns as well as working closely with professionals to encourage people to access support.

35 hours per week. Salary: £20,020.00 per annum
Annual Leave: 32 days pro rata inclusive of Public Holidays. Location: Oban based
For job description and application form
Email: kathleen@argyllvoluntaryaction.org.uk or telephone 01631 564839.
Closing date: 31st July 2014

Argyll voluntary Action is a Scottish Charity SC029947 & Company Ltd by guarantee 277345

TARBERT HARBOUR

VACANCY

PORT MANAGER/HARBOUR MASTER

TARBERT HARBOUR AUTHORITY, TARBERT, LOCH FYNE, SCOTLAND

Tarbert Harbour Authority, a thriving Trust Port on the West Coast of Scotland is seeking to recruit a dynamic Port Manager/Harbour Master.

This exciting role presents an opportunity for someone who is seeking to enter the Ports industry and to move into a Senior Management role. The successful candidate will have day to day management responsibility for the Harbour and sit on the Board of Trustees.

To be considered for this opportunity you will be a self starter, personable, have experience of managing staff and a broad customer focused background, demonstrating a history of working in a safety focused environment.

Tarbert Harbour is a small but complex port where fishing, leisure and passenger ferry traffic interact.

In order to be considered for this rewarding and challenging position you will have knowledge of or experience in the following disciplines:

Statutory Duties, Managing Port Marine Safety, Policies, Plans and Procedures, Managing Resources and Marine Operations.

Please send applications in writing marked 'Vacancy' to: Harbour Office, Garval Road, Tarbert, Argyll PA29 6TR

For informal enquiries regarding this position, please contact: Pauline Laycock, Office Manager: 01880 820344

Salary commensurate with experience

Closing date for Applications is 25th August 2014.

Craobh Haven

Assistant Managers

Salary – £26,204 - £28,588 plus overtime

The Company is currently seeking highly motivated and strong individuals for the post of Assistant Manager at two of our three sites working out of Craobh Haven.

Applications are invited from individuals who are genuinely interested in developing their career within the organisation. Potential candidates should have at least two to three years practical knowledge and experience of fish farming. Initiative, the ability to manage and motivate personnel, good planning, organisation & computer skills and a proven ability to achieve results without close supervision are some of the necessary skills required for this post.

The successful candidate will be expected to attend the necessary training courses to gain sufficient knowledge on feed & stock management, harvest & grading planning, asset management, performance and HSEQ management.

A driving licence is essential.

If you would like to be considered for this post please apply in writing, no later than Friday 1st August 2014 to: Vicky Ferguson, Human Resources Manager, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Limited, Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William PH33 7PT or send an e-mail to vicky.ferguson@marineharvest.com

INVERAWE SMOKEHOUSES

TRADE DESPATCHER (full time)
Picking, packing and despatching chilled and ambient foods with responsibility for goods in and stock control. Fork Lift license an advantage.

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR (full-time)
Overseeing a small team of production staff concerned in the manufacture of smoked fish. Previous experience an advantage.
Both positions require spoken, & written English

Apply before 8th August with CV to Deli@inverawe.co.uk
Inverawe Smokehouses, Taynuilt, PA35 1HU

Scottish Field **AUGUST ISSUE OUT NOW**

ROYAL DEESIDE
From Kennedy on Scotland's hidden gem

Blythe Duff: Life after Taggart

Leon Morocco's colourful career
Fishing's greatest untold tale
Rob Wainwright's on the road again
David Beckham does whisky...

10 We reveal our cars of the year

10 We reveal our cars of the year

WIN A £500 FOODIES BREAK

www.highland.gov.uk

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Expressions of interest are sought from those wishing to provide toilets accessible to the general public in the form of a Highland Comfort Scheme, in Kinlochleven on behalf of the Highland Council. Payments will be made available under the Highland Comfort Scheme at the rate of between £200 & £300 per month depending on a scored assessment of facilities. Toilet provision should be in the form of Ladies and Gents facilities with disabled access or separate facilities plus baby changing in either.

Interested parties should apply in writing marking the envelope "Highland Comfort Scheme" to Community Services, Carr's Corner Depot, Fort William, PH33 6TL

Once all expressions of interests have been received and following the closing date, an officer will inspect the proposal using a standard scored process, and award accordingly

Any questions please contact Michael Leary, Community Works Manager on 01397 709015 or communityservices@highland.gov.uk

Closing date: 28 days after date of advert

First Registration of a Croft

Sheila Cameron has registered her croft 70 & 71 Carnaghael, Kilmallie, on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 14th April 2014.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C252.

Proposed Assignment of a Croft

Andrew MacDonald is applying to The Crofting Commission for consent to assign the tenancy of the croft at Ardhchiavaig, Uisken, Bunessan, Isle of Mull to Catherine MacDonald of Tigh An Tobar, Uisken, Bunessan, Isle of Mull.

If you have an interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW (e-mail info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk) within 28 days from the date of publication of the advert. Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry.

Proposed Assignment of a Grazing Share(s)

Andrew MacDonald is applying to The Crofting Commission for consent to assign the grazing share(s) pertaining to the croft at Ardhchiavaig, Uisken, Bunessan, Isle of Mull to Catherine MacDonald of Tigh An Tobar, Uisken, Bunessan, Isle of Mull.

If you have an interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW (e-mail info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk) within 28 days from the date of publication of the advert. Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry.

Mallaig Common Grazings

A meeting will be held on Thursday 31st July at 7.30 pm at Mallaig Community Hall to elect a Grazings Committee.

Grazings Clerk, Mrs M MacNeil

69% of the business community read the regional press

Regional Press closer to home

public notices

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

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, Monday to Friday 9am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5pm. On Wednesdays, the Customer Service Points will open at 10am. At the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/00929/PP	Erection of agricultural building (retrospective)	Barran Brae Barranrioch Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4QB	Oban Area Office
14/01423/LIB	Re-roofing of south facing battlement (corrugated plastic sheeting to slate)	Castle Stalker Castle Stalker Argyll And Bute PA38 4BL	Sub Post Office Ledaig
14/01555/PP	Erection of two semi-detached dwellings, installation of private water supply and drainage arrangements and formation of vehicular access	Land West Of Schoolhouse Ulva Ferry Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA73 6LY	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
14/01663/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of new vehicular access	Land North West Of Craigspar Terrace Craigspar Lane Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Tobermory Area Office
14/01733/PP	Erection of 5 dwellinghouses and formation of new vehicular access	Land At Craigspar Lane Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA75 6PU	Tobermory Area Office
14/01740/PP	Renewal of planning permission 11/01479/PP (conversion of sawmill to residential dwelling)	The Steadings Tiroran Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA69 6ES	Sub Post Office Bunessan Isle of Mull
14/01746/PP	Variation of condition 4 relative to planning permission in principle 10/01289/PPP - to omit all references to site plan	Land North Of Cairmore Kilmore Oban PA34 4XR	Oban Area Office
14/01748/PP	Variation of condition 1a relative to planning permission in principle 10/01289/PPP - extension of time period for an additional 3 years	Land North Of Cairmore Kilmore Oban PA34 4XR	Oban Area Office
14/01752/PP	Erection of 13 dwellinghouses and detached garages. Formation of new vehicular access roads	Land North Of Cairmore Kilmore Oban PA34 4XR	Oban Area Office

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Lochgilphead Brae PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. 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 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/01556/PP	Formation of pathway with associated engineering works	Laphroaig To Lagavulin (A846) Phase 2 Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Port Ellen
14/01761/MFF	Extension to existing oyster farm to incorporate additional 536 oyster trestles	Ceran Oysters Ardnacloch Loch Ceran Appin Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Ledaig

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://planning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Central Validation Team, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD.

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.

EVERY WEEK IN THE OBAN TIMES, WE HAVE A SELECTION OF LOCAL SERVICES TO ADVERTISE HERE, PLEASE CONTACT 01631 568000 OR ADVERTS@OBANTIMES.CO.UK

LOCAL SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Gordon & Strathern Ltd
HOME IMPROVEMENTS
Roofline Conservatories/Porches
Fascias, Soffits & Gutters
GRP/Flat Roofs Replacement Sealed Units
Garage Doors Doors & Windows
Carports and Door canopies
Ronald or Lachie 01631 720074 or 07776402550
gordon961@btinternet.com

OBAN BLINDS

Oban-Blinds
Vertical Blinds • Roller Blinds
Blackout Blinds • Venetian Blinds
Free Measuring and Estimating Service
Vast range of Domestic and Commercial blinds
Telephone: Donald Cameron
07979 826614
Email: oban.blinds@hotmail.co.uk

REMOVALS & STORAGE

MACQUEEN BROS LTD
Removals/Storage & Self Storage
Full range of packing materials
We store boats, caravans, trailers etc
Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HG
Tel: (01631) 564848
www.macqueenbros.com

STOVES

OBAN STOVE CENTRE
Experienced and Established Suppliers
of Heizomat Biomass Boilers
TRADE SUPPLIES AVAILABLE
Scotland's Premier Stove,
Spares & Flue Suppliers
Oban Stove Centre, Old Crofters Yard,
Soroba Road, Oban, PA34 4HU Tel: 01631 564790

MOBILITY

Tower Mobility
we supply a wide range of mobility products from walking sticks to scooters
Mathesons, Tweedmill, Soroba Road, Oban.
Tel: 01631 565195 www.towermobility.co.uk

COUNSELLING

RELATIONSHIPS SCOTLAND
Couple Counselling Argyll
Do you have a relationship problem?
WE CAN HELP
Appointments available in Oban, Lochgilhead, Dunoon, Rothsay & Helensburgh
Call 01631 563297
www.argyllcouplecounselling.org
SC023995

ADVERTISING

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
CALL 01631 568000
The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

WINDOWS & DOORS

Everest
TRIPLE GLAZING AVAILABLE ON SOME WINDOWS AND DOORS
Also available Garage Doors, Patio and Bi fold doors, Porches, Flat Roofs, Gutters, Fascias, Soffits, Bargeboards, Driveways
UP TO 50% OFF SELECTED ITEMS
Contact Consultant
Peter Ramsay Tel: 07816 934364
Residential and Commercial enquiries welcome

GROUNDWORKS

BLOCKED DRAIN?
Drain and septic tank survey, installations and repairs
Call 24/7 - 01369 840367
Your No 1 for drainage in Argyll
ABEL Drainage & Groundworks
www.aandbel.co.uk

WEST COAST CLASSIFIEDS www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL TRADE LOCAL SWAP LOCAL £

FREE LISTINGS FOR ITEMS UNDER £100

Advertise your unwanted items in The Oban Times, Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk. Simply use the coupon on this page or visit the website and input your details there.

AGRICULTURE

LAMB WEIGH CRATE galvanised, as new, Kilmelford, £325 plus vat Telephone 01852 200500.

BRIC-A-BRAC

LOG BOX brass, £20 Telephone 01855 821278.

BUILDING / DIY

CORNER WASH HAND BASIN small, new, £20 Telephone 01855 821278.
DOUBLE GLAZED UNITS surplus to requirement 3 x 1830mm x 1700mm approx, 1 x 860mm x 1180mm approx, one patio door set 1690mm x 2030mm approx. Offers. Telephone 01631 730360.

CAR ACCESSORIES

LARGE ROOF BOX for estate car or 4 x 4, £75 Telephone 07854 090406.
SEALEY VS820 BRAKE BLEEDING System. Professional, pressurised brake and clutch hydraulics bleeding system. Recommended method for use

CATERING EQUIPMENT

BARBEQUE cast iron, new and unused, £20 Telephone 01855 821278.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

BARBOUR WAXED JACKET excellent condition, hardly worn. Green, longer length, 48" chest, £40 Telephone 01586 550392.

COMPUTERS AND GAMES

16" COMPUTER MONITOR with speakers, in good working order, £40 ono Telephone 07843 224814.
COMPUTER MONITOR Dell 18" computer monitor speakers & small printer with ink. In GWO, ideal for

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

BEAUTIFUL RAYBURN COOKER fully reconditioned solid fuel/multi-fuel Rayburn cooker. Matt black or enamelled finish. Delivery possible, £2000 Telephone 07889 324823.
VAX VACUUM CLEANER bagless, upright, Swift Model, as new, £40 Telephone 01586 554202
Campbeltown.

DOMESTIC PETS

BEAUTIFUL CHOCOLATE and black labrador dog puppies, work or pet, Telephone 01586 810391 or 07977 327751.
BORDER COLLIE PUPS 9 weeks old, one dog and one bitch. Ready now, Telephone 01567 820005 or 07786 518429.
LABRADOR PUPPIES six beautiful KC registered, with one golden boy, bitches and dogs available, ready in a couple of weeks, Telephone 01838 200651.
LABRADOR PUPS fox red and dark yellow, good hips and eye certificates for several generations, £500 Telephone 01290 338747.

EQUESTRIAN

15HH, 4 year old tri-colour mare. This forward going athletic horse is fun to ride and loves to jump. Hacks out alone or in company, good to box, shoe and clip. 100% safe and sound. Complete with quality leather tack, £2400 ono. Telephone 07785 721396.

FARMING EQUIPMENT

IFOR WILLIAMS TRAILER

Gates for sheep and decks, middle gate for cattle and horse partition, regularly maintained
£1800
TEL 01631 563668

FURNITURE

DINING CHAIRS 8 - Folding, £40 Telephone 01855 821278.
DOUBLE BED with Sealy Posturepedic de Luxe Mattress, all perfect condition. Plus headboard with 2 table drawers, £90 Telephone 01631 710560 or 07855 385044.
ONE BED SETTEE brown and cream, very good condition, £50 Telephone 01546 886215.

DOUBLE BED

With divan base and mattress. Comfort rating 4. Must sell due to unforeseen circumstances. New and unused. Will arrange delivery. Cost £349 will accept £149
£149
TEL 07780 571605

HEALTH AND FITNESS

EXERCISE BIKE good condition, £20 Telephone 01855 821278.
MASSAGE CHAIR SHIATSU CHAIR Homedics chair model SBM-210-2GB good cleaning working condition, £25 Telephone 01852 200722.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

PEARLISED PAPER & CARD White, Baby Blue & Baby Pink colours in stock available in A3/A4/A5 sizes, from 13p per sheet. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.
RADIO CONTROL AEROPLANE Limbo dancer fun fly with GMS 40 engine and full radio gear, excellent condition. Great for learners or advanced flyers, £99 Telephone 07748 994834.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

HI FI AND SPEAKERS JVC Hi Fi includes double tape, radio, turntable & 2 large speakers. Also included JVC video recorder & Phillips CD FREE. Telephone 01855 821519.

HOME FURNISHINGS

VINTAGE MIRROR Vintage, free standing, dark wood mirror. Perfect for dressing table or to sit on any shelf or work top, £25 Telephone 07881 464991.

LIVESTOCK

HEN HOUSE including day house, £50 Telephone 07854 090406.
TWIN GOATLINGS British Alpine, born 12/03/14, Hansell(neutered) and Gretel. Isle of Arran. Telephone 01770 302964.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Places include: Stirling, Fort William, Glencoe, Aberdeen, Isle of Sky, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Kelso, Aviemore, Forfar, Rum and Eigg, Shetland, Glentrol

MARINE ELECTRONICS

MARINE VHF Swiftech M168, perfect working order with antennae and mounting bracket, £45 Telephone 07748 994834.
MARINE UNDER £250 INFLATABLE DINGHY EXCEL SD 230 with seat, oars and pump. Excellent condition, £210 Telephone 01866 822062.

MOBILE AND HOME TELEPHONES

BT BIG BUTTON 200 CORDED Telephone, used, 3 1 touch memory buttons, 10 nos quick dial, handsfree, amplify, hearing aid compatible, ringer and tone volume control, £12 Telephone 07714 753206.
FISHING BAG Wychwood fishing good size used a couple of times, ex condition, £15 Telephone 07561 341825.
FISHING HEAD NET Lifesystems Mosquito net mesh never used, £7 Telephone 07561 341825.
FISHING REEL Cortland CLX1 Reel and line, hardly used in ex condition, £40 Telephone 07561 341825.
FISHING REEL Okuma Airstream a/t 4/6 reel and line in ex condition hardly used, £30 Telephone 07561 341825.
FISHING REEL Maxim Fishing reel plus 7/8 in good condition, £15 Telephone 07561 341825.
STURDY FISHING NET suitable for landing fish. Sturdy handle and strong net, £10 Telephone 07881 464991.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

FISHING BAG Wychwood fishing good size used a couple of times, ex condition, £15 Telephone 07561 341825.

PHOTOGRAPHY

HITACHI DIGITAL VIDEO camera with three discs and bag. No charger, £25 Telephone 01546 606085.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL Market your business effectively with professionally designed leaflets, posters and flyers from Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.
WEDDING STATIONERY Ranges to suit all tastes, custom designs from your

PERSONALS

TOYS AND GAMES

ELC STAGE DOOR PUPPET THEATRE fabulous fabric puppet theatre, adjusts to fit doorway. Easy assembly, packs flat for storage. Original packaging, as new, £20 Telephone 01631 563987 or 07714 853410.

TRAILERS

LARGE BOXED COVERED TRAILER Takes 3 full size motorcycles £350 ono 01852 300191

WANTED

ALL TYPES OF SCRAP METAL we uplift scrap cars, copper, brass, lead etc. Smaller quantities considered. Telephone 07435 589701.
LOBSTER POTS in good condition for recreational use on the island. Telephone 07904 235294.

Happy 60th Birthday
to Jean Smith the oldest auntie in Oban.
Love and Best wishes Stewart, Gail, Dean, Holly and Luke.

Golden Wedding
RYAN
Hugh and Margaret (née Millar), Crown Cottages, Banavie, were married at Duncansburgh Parish Church, Fort William on July 25, 1964.
MUCH LOVE FROM ALL THE FAMILY.

West Coast Classifieds has changed!

FREE LISTINGS FOR ITEMS UNDER £100

We've increased the minimum value for free listings to apply to items worth £100 or less. Plus, draw attention to your item with our new photo and description box for just £15 for two weeks.

NEW CLASSIFIED PRICES:

- Items under £100 - FREE
- Items over £100 - £10 for 2 weeks
- Boxed ads - £12.50 for 2 weeks
- Add a photo - £15 for 2 weeks

All inclusive of VAT. Maximum 25 words. 20 words for photo ads. Terms & conditions apply. Book online. For photo ads:

visit www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk/photo

For text only ads:

visit www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

Or telephone 01631 568000

PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE MONDAY 4.00pm NO MORE THAN 25 WORDS PLEASE

ITEM.....
DESCRIPTION.....
PRICE..... TELEPHONE.....

ONLY ONE ITEM PER COUPON

FOR MULTIPLE ITEMS INPUT YOUR DETAILS ONLINE AT www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

YOUR LOCAL WEST HIGHLAND OFFICES:
OBAN : The Oban Times, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB
FORT WILLIAM : The Oban Times, Mamore House, The Parade, Fort William PH33 6BA
CAMBELTOWN : The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE
LOCHGILHEAD : Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilhead, Argyll PA31 8NB

ADD A PHOTO TO YOUR CLASSIFIEDS AND INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF SELLING

NOW JUST £15 FOR TWO WEEKS
(6X1 COLOUR AD WITH PHOTO)
Advert runs for two weeks (price includes VAT)

Three easy ways to place your photo advert:

- visit www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk/photo
- Telephone 01631 568 000 or 01397 703 003
- Or bring your photo in to any of our offices in Oban, Fort William, Lochgilhead or Campbeltown

Things to remember when placing your ad

- Product title i.e acoustic guitar
- Product description (approx 15-20 words)
- Selling price
- Contact telephone number
- Item location (as we cover a fairly large geographical area it is helpful if buyers know where the item is located)

The Oban Times reserves the right not to use photos that do not comply with our terms and conditions. No trade advertisers in private sales. All boats, cars and trailers must appear in Drive Times.

BIRTHS

BROWN - Duncan and Catherine are delighted to announce the arrival of Albert Alasdair Hamilton Brown, born June 9, in Carshalton. A little brother for Cecily and grandson for Olive and the late Alasdair Brown of Tobermory, Isle of Mull and Pilar and Derek Hamilton of Surrey.

McGILL - On July 14, to Greg and Eilish (Walker) the gift of a beautiful healthy daughter, Eilidh Anne. Families in Oban and Brisbane are delighted with the precious new arrival.

DEATHS

DOHERTY - Peacefully at home after a brave fight Gerry, sadly passed away aged 69 on July 20, much loved and missed by Mary and all the family. Funeral service will be held at St Ernan's church, Fionnphort at 12.30pm on Thursday July 24.

GILES - Peacefully at the Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban on July 22, 2014 aged 81, Eric Giles, beloved husband of the late Hilary, a dear father and grandfather. Funeral will take place at Perth Crematorium on Monday July 28 at 4.00 pm. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection/Donations if desired for Oxfam & RNLI.

GRAINGER - Rena Grainger (née Georgina Polson). Peacefully on the July 17, 2014 at Forth Valley Royal Hospital after a short illness. Funeral service was held at Avonbridge Parish Church on Monday July 21, 2014. Burial was held at Sidshe Cemetery, Bunnass, Isle of Mull on Wednesday July 23, 2014 at 12.00 Noon. Donations if wished to Alzheimers Scotland.

HAWTHORN - Peacefully at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead on July 17, 2014, Neil MacFarlane Hawthorn aged 77 years, of Dhail Forest, Ardfirn, son of the late James and Mary Hawthorn and brother of Margaret and the late Christy. A graveside service will take place at Carrick Cemetery, Tarbert, today, Thursday July 24 at 1.30pm.

MACLEAN - Peacefully at Gartnavel General Hospital on Thursday July 17, 2014, Annie Ferguson (Nan the Butcher) MacLean (née McEachern, Ballymeanach, Islay) of Kenovay, Isle of Tiree. Beloved wife of the late Donald MacLean, much loved mum of Archie, John and Neil and mother-in-law of Caroline and Kate and loving gran to Fraser, Alasdair and Garry. Funeral Service took place at Heylipol Church, Isle of Tiree on Thursday July 24.

MACLEAN - Peacefully at the Belford Hospital on Wednesday July 16, 2014 aged 70 years, Duncan MacLean. Beloved husband of Margaret (née MacTaggart), dear father of Allan and Katy, father-in-law of John and Julie and much loved granda of Kerry and Janey.

MACRAE - Suddenly at home after a short illness on the July 17, 2014, Mairi MacRae, Ballygowan Isle of Mull. Aged 56 years. Devoted daughter of Katie Mary and the late Roddy MacRae. Sorely missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service will be held at Salen Parish Church on Friday July 25, 2014 at 11.30am thereafter to Balure Cemetery.

MILLER - Peacefully at home on July 16, 2014, in her 71st year, Jean Miller, beloved mother of Kim, Fiona and

Peter, son-in-law David and daughter-in-law Fumiko much loved granny of Shelly, Mairi, David, Musashi and Lexi. Greatly missed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CAMPBELL - Isobel and the family of the late Iain Campbell would like to thank everyone most sincerely for many kind expressions of sympathy, cards flowers and letters received on our recent sad loss. Special thanks to Lorn and Islands Hospital for care over the years. Thanks also to the Rev. Robert Brookes for a most comforting service, Hamish Hoey and Sons for funeral arrangements and Tynait Hotel for the lovely buffet and to all who paid their last respects at the church and graveside. The collection for Macmillan Cancer Support raised £540.

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

BROWN - (Balvicer, Seil) Treasured memories of a very dear dad, grandpa and great-grandpa, John taken from us on July 24, 2013 and our much loved mum Jessie who passed away on September 25, 2012. Both sorely missed and thought of every day.

- Your loving family Marianne and John, Donald and Susan, Jessie and Jimmy and all the grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

CAMERON - In loving memory of our dear husband and father Fire Officer Donald J.D. Cameron, who died suddenly at home in Oban on July 29, 1974. Still greatly missed by his widow Catriona and daughters Rosemary, Linda, Moira and Ann.

DONALDSON - In loving memory of Lexy, who died July 27, 1989. Always in our thoughts.

- All the family in Bunnass and away.

GILLIES - 22nd Anniversary. Precious memories of Donnie a much loved husband, father and grandad, who passed away July 16, 1992. Our thoughts are forever with you

Though you have passed away And those that loved you dearly are thinking of you today.

- Jean and family, 47 Drumfada Terrace, Corpach.

KERR - Precious memories of Flora, a dear mother, mother-in-law and granny who died July 26, 2004.

- Love John, Morag and family.

MACCALLUM - In loving memory of our dear mother, mother-in-law, granny and great-granny, Minnie (Marion), who died on July 23, 2012. Always in our thoughts

Missed so very much, - Billy and Mary, Elma and Bill, Iain and Carol, Stuart and Alison, Helen and Oz, Joanne, Andrew and family.

MACKINNON - Treasured memories of my very dear husband, our much loved father, grampa and great grampa Iain, who passed away July 29, 2012 at Gartnavel Hospital.

Our lives go on without you, but nothing is the same, we have to hide our heartache, when someone speaks your name.

Sad are the hearts that loved you, silent the tears that fall, living our lives without you, is the hardest part of all.

- Your loving wife Flora, Angus, Lachie, Margaret, Christine, Fiona, Linda, Alastair and all their families.

MACMILLAN - Annie MacMillan (née Stewart) died July 23, 2013, daughter, sister,

wife, mother, mother-in-law, gran, great-gran, aunt, cousin, friend and above all yourself. You are loved and missed in so many ways.

McCANN - In loving memory of our parents, John, who died July 23, 1994 and Lizzie, died August 1, 2010. Although we smile and make no fuss No one misses you more than us

And when old times we oft recall Then we miss you most of all.

McWILLIAM - In loving memory of our dear parents and sister, mum Mary, who died July 25, 2013, dad Alex, who died October 23, 2007, and Sandra, who died September 21, 2005.

No longer in our lives to share But in our hearts You're always there. Love and miss you all.

- Rosemary, Isobel, Trisha and families.

TRAYNOR - In loving memory of our very dear mother and nannie Jessie, who passed away July 16, 2013. She was a mother so very rare Content in her home and always there

On earth she toiled, in heaven she rests God bless you mother, you were the best. Loved always

- Violet, Iain, Janette, Jennifer and families.

MEMORIALS

OBAN MEMORIALS
A & D MacLean
Master Sculptors
Glenalma, Soroba Road, Oban
Design and prices on request
LETTERING AND RENOVATING DONE IN ANY CEMETERY
TEL: 01631 563123 / 565269



Go Digital and Save 50% every week PLUS RECEIVE A FREE GIFT**

- ▶ Read The Oban Times as soon as it comes out
- ▶ Access the newspaper anywhere in the world
- ▶ Delivered straight to your inbox

Subscribe today!
Visit www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

** Offer applies to one year subscriptions minimum. Terms and conditions apply

Thought for the week

Follow me

MATTHEW 4: 12-23

SUCH was the invitation of Jesus to two brothers, Peter and Andrew. They stopped what they were doing and went with him.

Not long afterwards Jesus came upon another pair of brothers, James and John. They were fishermen too. Jesus called out to them. They also left the boat and followed him.

It is probable that they had already heard of Jesus and gone along to hear him teach and preach. But today as the time of decision, Jesus needed to know if the four fishermen were willing to be more than interested listeners.

Were they willing to commit themselves to him? Were they ready to place their trust in him? So he called them to follow. When they heard the invitation, they responded.

On that day by the lakeside they were given a call to follow Jesus. And they accepted it.

To what were they called? And what is involved for those who endeavour to be Disciples of Christ today?

The first aspect of discipleship for the disciples was to watch Jesus. They were to see what he did. They were to watch how he set about his ministry. They were to learn by seeing Jesus at work.

What better way of learning than seeing the master craftsman at work passing on his years of

experience. These disciples were to watch Jesus as he exercised his ministry.

We are also called to look to Jesus who is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Look to him for he is our model. Watch him for he is our example.

As we look and watch we see true love, gentleness, kindness and goodness expressed in his life of word and deed. We are touched by him.

The second aspect of discipleship was that the four fishermen were to walk with Jesus. They were to be his companions.

They were to become learners in the Kingdom of Heaven not only by watching Jesus but by walking with him. They would follow him and go wherever he would take them.

We too, are to walk with Jesus Christ. We are invited to be with him and to accompany him in his ministry.

We are called to be disciples - that is those who learn from him. We are called also to be servants, doing what we can for him.

We set out in trust and faith, as did the four fishermen. They had no idea of where Jesus would take them or what was in store. They took Jesus at his word and they walked with him.

The third aspect of the call of Jesus to the quartet of fishermen was that they would work for Christ. From now one they would become fishers of men.

As they gained understanding and confidence, so Jesus sent them out to do some of the work he had been doing. We are their successors. Christ's ministry has been passed onto you and I. Yes we are called to work for Christ.

Finally, the first disciples were to be witnesses. They were certainly witnesses to the risen Lord. They were to put the case for the Gospel and to present the evidence. They were to testify to its truth and to be advocates of the good news which God had brought through the life, death resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ.

We are called to put the case for Christ today. The Gospel is to be proclaimed in word and deed. Its claims are to be set forth in the modern world and to be defended against those who endeavour to denigrate it or denounce it.

We are to be witnesses for Christ and the Gospel, using all the power of heart and mind so that people may see and hear, understand and respond in faith.

Jesus said "Follow me". Let us respond by watching Christ, by walking with Christ, by working for Christ and by being a witness for Christ.

And in that journey of faith may we experience insight and truth, and be blessed with fulfilment and satisfaction because we have been with the One who called us, saying, "Follow me".

The Oban Times

& West Highland Times

THE REGIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE WEST HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS AND ARGYLL



The Oban Times is the best-selling weekly newspaper in the Highlands and is distributed via 1742 newsagents every week

Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Tel: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001
www.obantimes.co.uk

Editorial

News Editor
Euan Paterson
epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Emma Crichton
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Louise Lee
lee@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Steven Rae
srae@obantimes.co.uk

Web Co-ordinator
Marian Miller
miller@obantimes.co.uk

Newsdesk
Oban 01631 568060
Fort William 01397 703003
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising

Advertising Executive
Rhona McKillop
adverts@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Executive
Nadine Ross
nross@obantimes.co.uk

Save 50% when you subscribe to The Oban Times digital edition!

details at www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

Branch Offices

Fort William
Tel 01397 703003
Fax 01397 702495

Lochgilphead
Tel 01546 602345
Fax 01546 602661

Campbeltown
Tel 01586 554646
Fax 01586 553006

Arran
Tel 01770 302142
Fax 01770 302021

www.obantimes.co.uk



The exhibition at Kiel Church. Photo: Iain Thornber

Morvern's real tea and bully beef

A MORVERN group pushed back the years by serving real tea and bully-beef sandwiches in one of the most successful exhibitions ever held in Kiel church, Lochalsh.

Last week, members of the Morvern Heritage Society and Kiel Church combined forces to put together a display to commemorate the beginning of the First World War.

144 men left the parish to fight for King and Country, 33 fell in the line of duty.

This left an enormous generation gap in the future life of the parish from which it and many other communities throughout Scotland who lost many of its young men, has never recovered.

On display were old photographs, letters from the front,

medals, gas-masks, examples of medicines, a uniform and many other cherished family artefacts willingly loaned for the three-day exhibition.

Almost 200 visitors and locals came to marvel at the exhibition and to share in the thought-provoking vintage teas.

More than £300 was collected and all proceeds will go towards church funds.



A team of volunteers organised a nearly-new sale on July 5 at Oban's oldest church. The sale, at Oban Congregational Church, was held to raise church funds, with the money raised being put towards repairs to the building. As well as the nearly-new sale, tea and coffee and home baking were also served, raising a total of £210. 07.12near9e01

Toy fundraisers

TWO EVENTS running this Saturday will aim to raise money for Oban Toy Cupboard.

A teddy bear's picnic is being held in Glencruitten Church Centre and the charity also hopes to benefit from a Victorian Tea-room in the Corran Halls.

CHARITY DONATIONS

Oban Hospice
CARING FOR THE FUTURE
Donations always gratefully accepted
Please contact
Jack Tollan
Birch Hill
Achnacreebeag
North Connel, PA37 1RE

CANCER RESEARCH UK
Fighting Cancer on all fronts...
CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation
Commitment of over £15 million each year
Cancer Research UK
Angel Building
407 St John Street
London EC1V 4AD

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS
YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvek Media Limited.
Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvek Media Limited and the Advertiser on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.
1. Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
2. The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
3. The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
4. An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
5. Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
6. The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
7. The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or section in which an advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
8. Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
9. The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
10. Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
11. Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment penalty fee of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
12. A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.
Published by Wyvek Media Limited, P.O. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB, Tel: (01631) 568000 Fax: (01631) 568001
www.obantimes.co.uk and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office, H&J/merdonandconditions.wyvekmedia.co.uk

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
West of Scotland Fundraising Office
1st Floor, Erskine House
North Avenue, Clydebank
Business Park, Clydebank G81 2DR
Tel 0808 100 6000
In memory of Dawn Joyce

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE
Oban & Lorn Fundraising Branch
Donations always gratefully accepted
Please contact
Mrs Lillian Kermode
Tynwald, Glenburn, Soroba Road, Oban
01631 571009

GRADUATIONS



Jade Shaw, daughter of David and Shirley Shaw, Drimmin, grand-daughter of Richard and Margaret Byrne Lockerbie graduated recently from Stirling University with a 2:1 BA Honours in Marketing. Jade is a former pupil of Kilniver & Lochalsh Primary and Ardnarmurchan High School.



Ailis Margaret Dewar graduated with First Class BDes Hons. in Textile Design from Glasgow School of Art. Daughter of Peter and Alison, grand-daughter of the late Ken and Ella Roebuck, Kilmeny and the late Iain and Jess Dewar, Lochgilphead. Ailis will start a placement in Como, Italy in September.



Heather Irwin graduated from the University of Stirling with a BA (Hons) in French, Spanish and Secondary Education. Daughter of David and Anne, sister of Kenneth. Heather is a former pupil of Troon Primary, Rockfield and Oban High School. She will shortly begin her teaching career at Bannockburn High School.



Lisa MacKenzie, daughter of Jayne and John, sister of Abby. Graduated with a 2:1 BSc (Hons) in Diagnostic Imaging from Glasgow Caledonian University. Lisa is a former pupil of Rockfield Primary and former head girl of Oban High. Lisa is the granddaughter of Gal and Val Galbraith and Freddie and Mary MacKenzie, Oban. Lisa takes up a post at the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow.

Helensburgh sailors lift top trophy at West Highland Yachting Week

Local boats also in top rankings

PAUL Scutt and Alan Jeffries lifted the top prize of the Peter Cocks Memorial Trophy for the best performance of this year's West Highland Yachting Week (WHYW) in their First 36.7 *Carmen II*.

With a scoreline of five firsts and five points at the end of the regatta, the experienced team clinched the series that saw a week of contrasting weather giving sailing conditions from light breezes and flat calms to winds at stages gusting more than 40 knots with lumpy seas.

Carmen II also lifted the MacBrayne Centenary Challenge Cup for the fastest passage from Craobh to Oban and the Tennent Caledonian Anniversary Salver for the best corrected time in the passage from Tobermory to Oban.

Former overall title winner Craig Anderson with his Moody 336 *Cool Bandit 2* won the Angus Meldrum Trophy for the best corrected time from Oban to Tobermory and the Iona Shop Trophy for the best corrected time over all the passage races.

Sitting a close second behind *Carmen II* on eight points were John MacKenzie's *Stoirm Mhor* (Class 3 winners), Steve Williams's Oceanis 440 *Mystic Sun* (Class 6 winners) and *Cool Bandit 2* (Class 5 winners). Scott and Nicola Chalmers on *Sunrise* were only another point adrift

SAILING

with nine points and lifted the points series in white sail Class 2.

Tunnock's Fleet Class 5 had seen great competition between major WHYW sponsor Boyd Tunnock MBE with his crew on *Lemerac* against *Cool Bandit 2* across the week with all to play for on the final day. However *Cool Bandit* took the win pushing *Lemerac*, with a third place in the Tobermory to Oban passage race, two points behind into second place overall for the series.

It was a very tightly contested regatta with consistent performers in the top three placings each day and local west coasters in the top rankings.

Popular win
Probably the most popular class win of the week was Lochaber's Marian Austin and her team on *Scintilla of the Sea*, the family-owned Northey 34, just one point ahead of Martel and Thorne's *Sonata So*.

Marian has been racing WHYW for 29 years and has been a consistently top performer every year, often with an all-girl crew. It was a fitting win, particularly since the class was so close on the last day that any of five boats could have lifted the title. Finishing with



WINNERS: Carmen II from Helensburgh lifted the top prize of the Peter Cocks Memorial Trophy at this year's West Highland Yachting Week.

Photos by Graeme Cowan of yachtingimages.co.uk

a second on the Tobermory to Oban race behind the Fyfe's *Popcorn*, Marian pulled out all the stops to finish with 13 points from *So's 14*.

In the same closely contested class, *Hot Toddy* of Oban Sailing Club took two wins during the week, finishing fifth overall and was awarded the John G Maxwell Trophy for the best performance of a Royal Highland Yacht Club member in Class 8.

Owen McManus of Campbelltown with his new X332 had some excellent results also taking him to a fifth place in Class 4.

Oban's James Hardie with *Taz of Oban* took a second and third in Argyll Fleet Class 2 and was always in the first five boats in his class finishing fifth overall. Mid Argyll's Brian Robertson with *Celtic Spirit* had a great week's competition in Class 5 with John MacKenzie's *Stoirm Mhor* from Skye and Graham Anderson's *Lucky Ned Pepper* from Oban.

All three vied for class title during the week with *Stoirm Mhor* finally clinching the class after taking third in the last race from *Celtic Spirit* and *Lucky Ned Pepper*. Although tied on points after the discard, the final race saw the better placed

Skye boat lift the class trophy. Anne and Andrew Campbell's *Ajax* from Oban Sailing Club finished second in Class 4 after taking two firsts on the last two days of the event.

And Patrick Shellcock and team from Benderloch worked hard all week to finish a much-praised second overall in Class 0, the fastest class in the fleet. With a string of seconds and two thirds, they were pipped by *Carmen II*, this year's WHYW title winner.

Much prized
The much-prized West Highland Yachting Week Family Trophy was awarded to Douglas Gray and his family on *Aliz Motte*, their Rival 34.

In the special prize category, The Endeavour Trophy was awarded to the *Sonata Serenity* that had to retire and fix a popped shroud on Wednesday but made their way to Tobermory in the early hours of Thursday morning to continue racing in the series.

Both Gaelforce Marine and Nancy Black, Oban, donated prizes with Nancy Black's opting for the 'alternative' approach.

The prize for the 'wettest wallet' was awarded to Findlay Clark's Club 19 Red October from Kilmelford for the wettest £20 note seen after the passage race to Tobermory!

It had been a particularly difficult day of weather and the boat's sterling performance in every race across the series was being 'noted'. As the smallest and arguably wettest yacht in the fleet, *Red October's* consistency, particularly when conditions are adverse for this size of boat, has won Findlay and his crew Ross complete admiration over the last few years that Red October has competed. This year, in particular was pointed up - with only two aboard and tough weather conditions to contend with.

There was also a prize for Seonaid Reid's beautiful wooden McGruer Lorne Class *Malindi of Lorne*. The boat celebrated her 50th birthday in tandem with the celebrations for Nancy Black's 50th birthday.

A Nancy Black voucher for the best 'playpen' at WHYW was awarded to Seanachaidh for the number of youngsters

aboard. Ruaridh from *Sunrise* was awarded a prize for his help on the first day of the series at Craobh Marina for getting the marks out to the committee boat. After being stuck on one side of the pontoon, the marks ended up in the water during the transfer and Ruaridh dived to rescue each one, despite becoming very cold in the proceedings!

Overall, despite a drop in numbers associated with the change of date to avoid a clash with Scotland's Commonwealth Games, the consensus was WHYW 2014 was a great success. Everyone is looking forward to next year's event which will revert to the normal date of the first week in August.

WHYW is sponsored by Tunnock's, Argyll and Bute Council, Tobermory Harbour Association and The Crown Estate and receives help in kind from Flit Self Drive and West Coast Motors. The race team is headed by Malcolm MacGregor as principal race officer with Philip Preston, race officer for the Argyll white sail fleet, when the fleets race separately. Full results on www.whyw.co.uk



BILLOWING IN THE WIND: Spinnakers billow in the wind during West Highland Yachting Week.

Scottish Hydro U17 Scotland squad announced for games in Ireland

THE CAMANACHD Association has announced the 2014 Scottish Hydro Under 17 Scotland Squad who will travel to Ireland this week and take part in a playing tour against their hurling counterparts - the Wexford Under 17 County Team and the Under 17 Dublin Development Squad.

The annual tour, which has been taking place for more than 20 years, sees elite young shinty players from across Scotland make up the squad, some of whom honed their skills at the previous year's Scottish Hydro National Player Development Camp.

Those selected for this year's

tour are: Josh Grant, Beaulieu; Lewis Smith, Fort William; Will Cowie, Skye; Blair Morrison, Caberfeidh; Arran MacPhee, Fort William; Liam Mullender, Newtonmore; Struan Kish, Newtonmore; Ross Macrae, Kyles; Euan Lloyd, Glenurquhart; Savio Genini, Kingussie; Rory Mackechan, Kingussie; Callum Morrison, Beaulieu; Lewis Morrison, Fort William; Barry MacDonald, Lochaber; Craig Ritchie, Newtonmore; Ewan Falconer, Kinlochshiel, and Conor Howe, Oban Camanachd.

National Shinty Development Officer Ronald Ross MBE said: 'The Scottish Hydro Under 17

SHINTY

Scotland Squad, and the tour itself, is an integral part of shinty's player pathway; it is the last opportunity for players to test themselves before preparing to step up to under 21 and senior level.

'This year's squad is made up of some highly skilled players, many of whom already hold spots in their own club's first team. I am in no doubt we will see some excellent displays of shinty/hurling skill.'

The squad travels to Ireland on Sunday July 27 returning on Wednesday July 30.

Argyll & Bute Boys Championship held at Glencruitten

GOLF

HANDICAP category: 1 Steven Murphy, Glencruitten Golf club, 66 (9) BIH; 2 Fraser MacFarlane, Glencruitten Golf Club, 66 (10).

Under 16s scratch winner: Bobby Willan, Carradale Golf Club, 69.

Under 18s scratch and Argyll and Bute Boys Champion 2014: Bobby Willan, Carradale Golf club, 69. Runner up: William MacCrone, Tobermory Golf club, 71, BIH; 3 Lewis Brown Tobermory Golf Club, 71; 4 Aiden MacCuish, Glencruitten Golf Club, 73.



TOP YOUTH GOLFERS: prizewinners from the Argyll and Bute Boys Championship which this year was sponsored by RAF Careers

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

WIN £1450

COMpetition

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO
We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter
Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition rules
No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.
The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.
In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.
The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.
Employees of Whyw Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

A Kennedy, Fort Augustus, Inverness-shire

L Scott, Taynuilt, Argyll

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

I enclose £1 for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

Name

Address

..... Tel No.

Please tape your £1 coin here



Dalmally

IT WAS a clean sweep for Glencruitten as Oban members claimed the top three prizes at Dalmally Golf Club's Open Team Stableford Competition.

'Lost Balls', captained by Graham McColl, took first place with a score of 102 points. John Gibb and Kevin Mackie complete the threesome, with Mackie's strokeplay equivalent of 62 strokes equalling the lowest ever score over the Orchy track.

Runners up on 98 points were 'Team Deverill' - Eric Deverill, Martin Tait and Steven McCuish, with third place going to 'GTT' - Alan MacPhee, Sean Dunstaffnage and Cameron Milne.

Top placed home side finishing fifth was 'Glenorchy Boys' - Des McNulty, Ian Richards and Shaun Squire, while Dalmally's Gary Wilson scored the notable distinction of bagging two nearest the pin prizes in his total of 43 points, highest of the day.

Dalmally Golf Club's gents open takes place this Sunday and late entries will be accepted up to Saturday afternoon. To enter call 07867 318583.

Taynuilt

LADIES: Medal played July 15 - 1 Moira MacVicar 66 (27); 2 Carol MacLarty 69 (20); 3 Anne S MacCalman 71 (18).

Gents: Inverlorn Plate second round played July 20 - 1 Jim Carmichael 40 points (9); 2 Robert MacLarty 39 points (13); 3 Craig Stanners 38 points (8). Inverlorn Plate 2014 - 1 Mark Grant 75 points (38 37); 2 David Howie 73 points (38 35); 3 Allan Stewart 72 points (37 35).

Islay

RESULTS from Islay Golf Club - 19th Challenge played Sunday July 20 - 1 A MacAllister 39 points; 2 F Cannon 38 points; 3 R MacIntyre 38 points. Css 71.

Glencruitten

FINLAY O'Rourke won the Ginty Trophy on Saturday with a score of 71 - 12 = 59. Martin Tait won the Wilson Trophy with a score of 69 - 6 = 63.

For the second week in succession there was a hole in one on the 13th. This week it was Martin Tait, following on from Andy MacMillan the previous Saturday.

This Saturday is the club championship and handicap trophy third round, with a Stableford on Tuesday.

Follow us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

Oban Camanachd confident they can roar into Macaulay final



DOUBLE TROUBLE: Andrew 'Papa' MacCuish celebrates after netting his second goal for Oban Camanachd in a narrow 2-1 win over Glasgow Mid Argyll in their National Division league game at Mossfield Stadium last Saturday

Photo: Stephen Lawson

Artemis Macaulay Cup semi finals

OBAN CAMANACHD manager Gussie Campbell says his young charges are confident of beating premierships side Kyles Athletic to set up a Macaulay Cup final on home turf.

Buoyed by a 2-1 win over GMA last Saturday, Campbell says Camanachd have enough in their armoury to worry the Celtic Cup champions.

He said: 'We know what to expect from Kyles and that they can cause us a lot of problems but we need to continue what we are doing, being positive and playing well.'

'The boys are confident of getting a win and this game will be a benchmark of how far we have come as a team.'

Campbell is hoping full back Craig MacMillan will be back from injury but he will be without the services of Scott MacMillan, who was sent off last Saturday.

The manager, who singled out David Lafferty for his performance last week, added: 'I think there were a few nerves last Saturday because we are getting down to the nitty-gritty and we cannot afford to drop any points.'

'I thought Scott's red card was unjust but I don't want to say any more on that. Last weekend we got two points and that was what we required.'

KYLES ATHLETIC have the chance to set up their second final of the season when they take on Oban Camanachd at Mossfield this Saturday.

Although Camanachd have home advantage, Kyles will enjoy the expansive Mossfield pitch where they have enjoyed a lot of success.

The winner will face either Newtonmore or Lovat in the final in Oban on August 23.

Kyles' great run of form continued last Saturday when a Duncan Kerr strike and a Grant Irvine brace gave Kyles a 3-1 win over Lochaber.

'In a way, there is less pressure this Saturday.'

LOVAT are in cup action this weekend, taking on Newtonmore in the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi final at Braeview.

The draw drew 2-2 with Kinlochshiel on Saturday, Kevin Bartlett's two goals for Lovat cancelling out the two scored by Gordie Macdonald.

Lovat sit second in the table, two points behind league leaders Newtonmore who are on 19 points.

The winner of the semi final will face the winner of the Oban Camanachd vs Kyles Athletic match in the final at Mossfield Park on August 23.

Saturday's tie with Newtonmore has a 2.30pm throw-up.

CURRENTLY rated as the best team in Scotland, **NEWTONMORE** sit top of the Orion Group Premiership, with nine wins, one loss and one draw from 11 games.

They had a free week last week, giving them time to rest before this week's Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-final against Lovat.

Manager P J Mackintosh is under no illusions how tough a game it will be.

He said: 'They have a good side, a very fit

bunch of lads. I'm sure it'll be a very good game, very competitive.'

'There's two very good south sides in the other semi final, so I'm sure whatever happens it'll be a good final.'

Saturday's game throws up at 2.30pm at Braeview Park.

Orion Group Premiership

THE BOTTOM two sides in the Orion Group Premiership will face off on Saturday, as **LOCHABER** play host to Kinlochshiel.

Both sides will be keen to take full points to try and pull themselves out of the relegation zone.

Lochaber lost to Kyles on Saturday, a Shaun Nicolson opener turning out to be a consolation for the side as they lost two goals before half time and a final one five minutes from the end.

Saturday's fixture will throw-up at 2.30pm in Spean Bridge.

KINLOCHSHIEL travel to Lochaber this weekend, in a game that sees the bottom two sides in the Orion Group Premiership square off.

Three points separate the sides and the tie will be of great importance to both as they fight to escape relegation.

Kinlochshiel go into the match having drawn with Lovat on Saturday, a Gordie Macdonald equaliser earning them a point in an entertaining game in Balmacara.

This Saturday's game with Lochaber has a throw-up time of 3pm at Spean Bridge.

INVERARAY host Glenurquhart this Saturday in one of the team's few remaining games this season.

Having exited the cups this season and completed all but three league fixtures, the Royal Burgh could find the end of the season a long one.

GLENURQUHART defeated Kingussie on Saturday, creating a two-point gap between the teams, having been level on points going into the game.

Goals from Fraser Heath and James MacPherson were enough to take the points, Ronald Ross having equalised for Kingussie in the 56th minute.

Manager Billy MacLean said: 'It wasn't a classic, but it's always good to get a win against Kingussie.'

'To be honest, they probably edged it in terms of possession but couldn't seem to score.'

'We managed to score two cracking goals, took our chances well, so I'm delighted with the win.'

MacLean's men travel to face Inveraray on Saturday and will be looking for full points to try and close the gap between themselves and Lovat, who are two points ahead of them in second place.

He said: 'We're trying to build momentum up to the Camanachd Cup semi final we've got coming up, but travelling to Inveraray is always a tough game.'

'They'll be looking for revenge for us knocking them out of the Camanachd Cup, so it will be a competitive game I'm sure.'

KINGUSSIE have a free week this week in the league, having lost to Glenurquhart last

Saturday. The loss means Glenurquhart are now two points clear of Kingussie in second place, both having played 12 games.

The Kingussie reserve side will travel to Inverness for their Marine Harvest North Division One match on Saturday, with a throw-up time of 2.30pm.

National Division

FORT WILLIAM put seven past Caberfeidh on Saturday, taking full points in their league tie.

Despite going a goal down in the first minute, Victor Smith's men were 4-1 up by half time, and managed another three after the break, with goal-scorers including a Bryan Simpson brace and an Aaran MacPhee hat-trick.

Smith said: 'I'm pleased with the result and the goals. Our play could have been sharper in the first half though.'

'It was a good goal they scored to take the lead. We were sloppy in our defending.'

'We managed to hit a good spell in the second half and Caberfeidh were maybe a bit unlucky that we got such quick goals.'

This Saturday, the side will play host to Glasgow Mid Argyll and Smith is expecting an entertaining tie.

'It was an absolute cracker the last time we played them down in Glasgow. It was a last minute goal we scored to win a competitive, good game with some entertaining shinty played, so I'm hoping for much the same again,' said Smith.

The game has an early throw-up of 12 noon.

BUTE will face Kilmallie this week in the Marine Harvest National Division, with the islanders still looking for their first points of the season.

Kilmallie are still in contention for promotion and know every point counts, so will be stiff opposition.

Bute go into the game on the back of a 10-0 loss away to Beaulieu on Saturday in the league.

Saturday's game has a throw-up time of 2.30pm.

KILMALLIE will be hoping to keep their momentum going this week, after beating Glenorchy 7-0 at the weekend in the league.

Goals from Martin Munro, John Stewart, Donald MacIntyre and a Liam Macdonald hat-trick secured the two points.

Kilmallie manager Duncan Kelly said: 'We were a few short there at the weekend but they were even shorter, so it was pretty much one-way traffic.'

'Fair play to Glenorchy though, they never gave up although it was pretty much a one-sided affair.'

'We played quite a number of young boys to cover for our injuries and we'll do the same again this week if need be. The young lads have been coming in and playing well so I'm pleased.'

Kelly's men face Bute this weekend, who are languishing at the foot of the division, still to win any points this season.

Kelly said: 'It won't be an easy game against Bute. Travelling there to the island is never easy.'

'We'll need to go out there with the right attitude, take the game to them and take the two points.'

GLENORCHY will face Caberfeidh this Saturday in the Marine Harvest National Division.

The side lost 7-0 to Kilmallie on Saturday, leaving them second-bottom with five points from 11 games.

Saturday's game will throw-up at 2.30pm in Strathpeffer.

South Division One

TAYNUILT take on Kilmory this weekend in an important tie for both clubs.

If Taynuilt win, they will move off the bottom of the table and into seventh, swapping places with Kilmory.

A Kilmory win would see them extend their lead over Taynuilt to three points.

Taynuilt go into the match rested, having had a free week last week.

Manager Davy Thomson was under no illusions how important a game it is for his side, saying: 'It's a pretty important game for us. We really need to take something from it.'

'We'll be looking for at least the draw and a point. We haven't had a game for a couple of weeks so the boys are well up for it.'

'Until we train this week I don't know for sure how many I have, but we will need to put in a performance as we're running out of games, although we do have a couple of games in hand over Kilmory.'

'The time off has done us good though, as it has given a couple of the lads who were carrying injuries time to heal.'

OBAN CELTIC take on Lochside Rovers this Saturday, both sides having had a free week last week.

Celtic are currently in fifth place in the league, with seven points from nine games, seven points behind top team Kyles Athletic.

Celtic manager Davy Hamilton said: 'It won't be easy. Lochside must go into the game favourites, but you never know what could happen in a derby.'

'We've got a suspension and a couple of boys working, but no injuries at the moment.'

'The boys are really looking forward to it.'

LOCHSIDE ROVERS manager Iain MacIntyre says he is looking forward to managing a team in an Oban derby for the first time in eight years.

MacIntyre last took on Celtic as Oban Camanachd manager but explained he had never faced the town rivals while boss at Lochside Rovers.

He said: 'It will be a hard game and there's always that extra bit of excitement around an Oban derby. I am expecting a hard match and another test of how far this team can go.'

Scott Dempster returns from suspension this weekend as Lochside shape up to have a full-strength squad.

BALLACHULISH take on Kyles Athletic in a top-of-the-table clash this weekend that will go some way to deciding who wins the South Division One title.

Ballachulish hope to have all their players available for the difficult away fixture at Tighnabruach.

They were missing several regulars last weekend against Strachur.

However, the Balla' men made light work of the visitors from Cowal.

The home team dominated the first half but

only had one Lorne Brown strike in the 42nd minute to give them a half-time lead.

Top scorer Brown doubled the home team's lead in the 51st minute with a fine goal from a well-worked corner.

John MacDonald, who was provider for the second goal, killed the game off with a third for Balla' in the 67th minute.

KILMORY endured another harsh defeat at the weekend as they took on Argyll rivals Kyles Athletic at home on Saturday.

A Matthew McCol hat-trick put the game beyond the reach of the Lochgilphead side, while a fourth from Roddy McCol officially ended the game.

John Slaughter managed one consolation goal in what was another difficult South Division One encounter.

Kilmory play Taynuilt at MacRae Park at 2.30pm tomorrow (Saturday).

THE SHINTY season has been cut short for one of **STRACHUR'S** most experienced players after he broke his arm on Saturday.

Defender James Roy was injured when his team took on Ballachulish in a South Division One league fixture, adding pressure to Strachur's struggle to field a team every week.

John Montgomery, Strachur's manager, said: 'He was having a great season as a half back.'

'It's probably the best season he has ever had so it's real shame.'

'We will miss him, he's a good player. We will continue with the younger boys again, they are doing quite well.'

Players as young as 13 have been called up to the senior side in recent weeks to ensure Strachur can fulfil each of its fixtures.

Strachur face another tough game this week when they travel to Fife to take on Aberdeen.

North Division One

SKYE are hoping to keep the momentum going in their league campaign this Saturday, as they remain undefeated so far this season, with seven wins out of seven.

Goals from Steven Morrison and Nui Macdonald were enough in their home tie with Lovat, as they managed to keep a clean sheet.

The side will meet Lovat again this week in Kiltarity, with a 2.30pm throw-up.

North Division Two

GLENGARRY manager Ewan Cameron has hit out at the decision to have an early game on Saturday.

'The 12 noon throw-up meant he was missing two key players, with another four just making it onto the pitch as the referee started their match away to Kinlochshiel.'

In the end, Cameron's side lost 3-2, after coming back into the game from 3-0 down.

Cameron said: 'It's really disappointing as it was totally unnecessary that we played such an early fixture.'

'There's been no need for it and I don't see the need for cramming the games in like they have been.'

'The boys are getting fed up. We've worked hard all season then we've had these difficult ties because of early throw-ups.'

Glengarry have a free week this week.

Fixtures

Friday 25 July

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Newtonmore v Beaulieu
David Stafford - 7.30pm

Saturday 26 July

Artemis Macaulay Cup Semi Finals
Oban Caman v Kyles Athletic
Billy Wotherspoon
at Mossfield Park, Oban
Newtonmore v Lovat
Deek Cameron
at Braeview, Beaulieu

Bullough Plate - Semi Final
Aberdour v English SA
Duncan Freshwater - 12pm

Orion Group Premiership
Lochaber v Kinlochshiel
Robert Baxter
Inveraray v Glenurquhart
Lachie Wood - 3pm

Marine Harvest National Division
Bute v Kilmallie
Colin MacDonald
Caberfeidh v Glenorchy
Evan MacRae
Fort William v Glasgow MA
John Angus Gillies - 12pm

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Inverness v Kingussie
Innes Wood
Lovat v Skye
Calum Girvan - 12pm
Glenurquhart v Strathglass
John MacGregor

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Aberdour v Strachur
Ron Kennedy 3pm
Kyles Athletic v Ballachulish
David Mitchell
Kilmory v Taynuilt
Ronnie Campbell
Lochside Rovers v Oban Celtic
Graham Cameron

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Aberdeen Uni v Fort William
Martin MacLean
Lochcarron v Lochaber
Archie Ritchie
Kinlochshiel v Skye
Robert Morrison

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Glenorchy v Col Glen
Neil Macdonald
Ballachulish v Tayforth
Alan Harrison
Inveraray v Bute
Euan Pearson - 12pm
(12.00 Throw Up)

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Lewis v Caberfeidh
John Mathieson
Kilmallie v Inverness
Alex MacVicar

(All throw ups 2.30 unless stated)

Results

Saturday 19 July

Orion Group Premiership
Glenurquhart 2 - 1 Kingussie
Lochaber 1 - 3 Kyles Athletic
Kinlochshiel 2 - 2 Lovat

Marine Harvest National
Beaulieu 10 - 0 Bute
Oban Cam 2 - 1 Glasgow MA
Kilmallie 7 - 0 Glenorchy
Fort William 7 - 1 Caberfeidh

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Skye 2 - 0 Lovat
Kingussie 3 - 6 Beaulieu
Strathglass 5 - 0 Glenurquhart
Newtonmore 4 - 1 Inverness

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Fort William 4 - 0 Skye
Kinlochshiel 3 - 2 Glengarry
Lochaber 4 - 0 Aberdeen Uni

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Caberfeidh 3 - 0 Strathspey
Inverness 1 - 2 Lochbroom

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Kilmory 1 - 4 Kyles Athletic
Ballachulish 3 - 0 Strachur

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Aberdour v Col Glen
Postponed - Col Glen unable to field a team
Bute v Glenorchy
Postponed - Glenorchy unable to field a team

The Orion Group Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	11	9	1	1	30	12	19
Lovat	11	7	3	1	27	13	17
Glenurquhart	12	6	3	3	20	13	15
Kingussie	12	6	1	5	26	25	13
Kyles Athletic	10	4	2	4	16	17	10
Inveraray	11	3	3	5	17	23	9
Kinlochshiel	11	2	1	8	17	27	5
Lochaber	12	0	2	10	13	36	2

Marine Harvest National Division							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oban Camanachd	9	8	0	1	26	6	16
Beaulieu	12	7	1	4	33	18	15
Kilmallie	9	7	0	2	38	14	14
Fort William	7	6	1	0	33	8	13
Glasgow MA	9	4	0	5	20	20	8
Caberfeidh	11	3	1	7	22	36	7
Glenorchy	11	2	1	8	12	39	5
Bute	10	0	0	10	5	48	-2

Bute docked two points for failing to fulfil a fixture

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Skye	7	7	0	0	23	1	14
Newtonmore	10	6	1	3	29	10	13
Strathglass	11	6	1	4	31	25	13
Beaulieu	10	5	1	4	26	25	11
Glenurquhart	8	3	2	3	16	19	8
Kingussie	9	3	1	5	21	29	5
Lovat	9	2	0	7	14	30	5
Inverness	10	1	2	7	18	38	4

Kingussie docked two points for failing to fulfil a fixture

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kyles Athletic	10	6	2	2	34	13	14
Ballachulish	8	5	3	0	26	10	13
Lochside Rovers	11	5	3	3	30	29	13
Aberdour	8	5	2	1	23	14	12
Oban Celtic	9	2	3	4	10	25	7
Strachur	9	2	2	5	10	20	6
Kilmory	11						

Corporate stationery
Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, comp slips

Personal stationery
Matching paper & envelopes,
postcards, address labels

krisp print

Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,
Main Street/Longrow South,
Campbeltown PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

Lorenzo sails to European glory

'Hopefully now I can push on to the world championships'

MID ARGYLL'S sailing sensation Lorenzo Chiavarini claimed an emphatic European victory at the 2014 Under 21 Laser European Championships last Saturday.

The 20-year-old, from Bellanoch, concluded the six-day regatta counting nine top three finishes across the 12-race series held in Torbole in Italy. He finished 24 points ahead of his nearest rival, fellow British sailor Jack Wetherell.

'Winning the Europeans this year means a great deal to me,' said Lorenzo.

'I didn't have a great start to the year after breaking my wrist so it is a great achievement as I haven't spent as much time on the water training as I would have liked.

'I would have been pleased with a podium position at the start of the regatta so to win it so convincingly was really amazing for me, especially as in the first race of the finals my mast snapped which then put a lot of pressure on me all the way to the end. To finish on 25 points with Jack in second on 49 points was a fantastic result and a great way to win the title.'

Lorenzo, who became a

SAILING

registered member of the Great British sailing team in 2012, has been training in Weymouth with Olympic squad while studying at Plymouth University.

He added: 'Our training group throughout the winter is really competitive with a great group of talented sailors.

Steady progress

'Even Nick [Thompson] and Alex [Mills Barton] push the younger guys onto the next level. As one guy gets better, the other one follows and we are all making good steady progress to the top of the international men's fleet.'

The next competition for Lorenzo is the Laser Under 21 World Championships in Douarnenez, France, in four weeks.

'Hopefully now I can push on to the world championships and improve on my fourth place finish from last year and hopefully get a podium finish,' added Lorenzo.

Lorenzo has been sailing from a young age and was named as a 2016 Olympic hopeful two years ago, while still a teenager.



JUST CHAMPION: Lorenzo on the water at Torbole in Italy Photo: Paul Wyeth, RYA

Camanachd Cup on show at Commonwealth Games

SHINTY

SHINTY'S iconic trophy, the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup, will join a host of other sporting trophies, including the Ryder Cup, at the Commonwealth Games to celebrate Scotland's contribution to worldwide sport.

Get a good look at the silverware at Scottish Sporting Trophies, a free exhibition also playing host to the Queen's Baton, which runs from Thursday July 24 to Saturday August 2.

Held at the Old Fruitmarket in Glasgow which is also to home Scotland House, the venue of Team Scotland, there will be daily sports coverage on a large indoor screen.

To celebrate this and the Hosts and Champions exhibition, a series of talks will bring together some of Scotland's leading archivists, writers, academic researchers and those directly involved in the history of Scottish sport.

All the events will be free and will take place at the Scottish Music Centre from 3 to 4pm which includes time for a question and answer session.

Hugh Dan MacLennan, shinty historian, will give two of the talks as part of this:

Friday July 25 - Scotland's Sporting Trophies - reflecting achievements and world class craftsmanship.

Sunday July 27 - Stòras Priseil Nàiseanta - duaisean spòrs na h-Alba (talk presented in Gaelic)

Elizabeth bowls them over to win Argyll and Bute title

OBAN'S Elizabeth MacGillivray was named queen of the green after seeing off the challenge of the county's best in last Saturday's Argyll and Bute ladies finals.

Final end

The match of the day was her singles semi-final clash against Shirley Bannatyne of Stronvaar, Campbeltown, which Elizabeth

eventually won 21-20 on the final end.

After knocking out one of the favourites, Elizabeth was confident going into the final and found it a bit easier against Eileen Collins of Dunoon.

The afternoon saw the arrival of the predicted rain, but did not dampen the enthusiasm of the competitors, as Oban had a very

successful day. The host team claimed two titles, Elizabeth's win in the singles was added to by the triple of Helen MacLean, Margaret MacAlpine and Donna Forbes.

Winners

Stronvaar won the fours competition, Ardrishaig won the senior fours and Rothesay took the pairs title.

BOWLS

Trophies were presented to the winners by Donna Forbes, president of the Argyll and Bute Women's Bowling Association (WBA), and Sheila McLaren, president of the West of Scotland WBA.



LADIES FINALS: competitors, umpires and WBA members at the Argyll ladies finals in Oban

F1 ace Susie impresses at German Grand Prix

SUSIE Wolff enjoyed a 'fantastic' second Formula 1 practice outing on Friday morning at the German Grand Prix with the sport's first female driver for two decades impressing on the timesheet.

A fortnight after enduring a false start to her long-awaited race weekend debut at Silverstone, the 31-year-old development driver appeared to be out of luck again in the opening minutes of practice one at Hockenheim when a software glitch left her car stuck in gear and limping round the circuit.

However, after the problem was resolved in the team's garage, Susie resumed her programme this time and she went on to complete 22 laps to finish in 15th place on the 22-driver timesheet.

In fact, Susie's best time of 1:20.769 was just two tenths of a second slower than Williams' vastly experienced regular race driver Felipe Massa.

There were, however, signs that Susie's enthusiasm had got the better of her when she was fined a total of €2,000 for speeding in the pit lane.

After her drive, she said: 'It felt really fantastic. The team did such a good job of getting me ready for today and it just felt so



IN THE FAST LANE: Susie Wolff was just two tenths of a second slower than regular Williams F1 driver Felipe Massa.

good to be out there and pushing and to finally do a proper session.'

Team-mate Valtteri Bottas took the car for the remainder of the race weekend and went

MOTOR RACING

on to card a consecutive second place finish. Williams has yet to confirm when Susie will next run in their F1 car.

Local bowlers win Ardrishaig triples

BOWLS

BOWLERS from across Argyll descended on Ardrishaig Bowling Club on Sunday as the invitation triples got underway.

Players from Oban, Lochgilphead and Tarbert were welcomed to Ardrishaig but it was a local trio that proved victorious after a good day's bowling in fine

weather. Ardrishaig's Jim Dolan, Donald MacLachlan and George Annan were named the winning team of the competition supported by the Grey Gull Inn.

Oban's Mike Kelly, Anne MacDougall and Neil Dougall were runners up.

The next event at the bowling

club is in the Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors sponsored invitationals pairs on August 2, when it is hoped there will be a similarly good turnout of competitors.

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk

WEATHER

Thursday Sunny
Winds light south easterly
Temperatures 15°C to 24°C

Friday Thundery showers
Winds light south south westerly
Temperatures 15°C to 22°C.

Weekend Outlook Heavy rain showers on Saturday
Light rain showers on Sunday
Winds light north north westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 19°C.

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, July 17, 2014** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	04.15	3.2	10.11	1.3	16.14	3.3	23.00	1.4
Fri	04.50	3.4	10.53	1.2	16.52	3.6	23.39	1.3
Sat	05.24	3.6	11.31	1.0	17.30	3.7	**.**	**
Sun	00.14	1.2	05.59	3.7	12.08	0.9	18.05	3.9
Mon	00.47	1.2	06.33	3.8	12.44	0.9	18.39	3.9
Tues	01.20	1.2	07.06	3.8	13.18	0.9	19.12	3.9
Wed	01.53	1.2	07.37	3.8	13.50	1.0	19.42	3.9

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

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

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

The Oban Times

FORT WILLIAM & LOCHABER EDITION



WIN A HAYTER LAWN MOWER!

MAKERS OF THE FINEST MOWERS

WORTH £359

Get the Oban Times for **HALF PRICE!** when you subscribe to our online digital edition!

Established 1861 No 8209

Thursday 24 July, 2014

www.obantimes.co.uk

80 pence

New Fort training college planned

FORT William might already be the outdoor capital of the UK, but a new training college will see students being trained in Lochaber as well. A planning application lodged with Highland Council will see West Highland College in conjunction with the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) build an Outdoor Activity Centre. Using land, 70 metres north east of the Lidl Food Store on Camanachd Crescent, the college hopes to build the centre and an equipment storage base for the use of the UHI. The college hopes to run an Adventure Tourism Management Course from the base. The need for the degree qualification was driven by the local adventure industry and is delivered in partnership with local businesses.

Lochaber video an instant hit

A VIDEO released last week has already been viewed 13,500 times, as Guest TV is launched in Lochaber. The programme, a 30-minute film, informs visitors of attractions and activities as well the history of the area. Frazier Conpland, Lochaber Chamber of Commerce's destination manager, said: 'Video provides the opportunity to make an instant impact and to reach a global audience.'

Hotel under offer

A HOTEL in Onich that has been boarded up is currently under offer with estate agents. Confirming the property, the former Alt-nan-Ros Hotel, was not yet sold, agents Colliers International said they hoped the matter would be completed over the coming weeks. Alt-nan-Ros is a 21-bedroom hotel in 2.5 acres of land, on the banks of Loch Linnhe and has been vacant since September 2013.

Highlanders at commemoration

ONE hundred and fifty people will represent the Highlands at a major event marking the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War in Edinburgh next month. Signalling the start of the five-year Scottish Commemorations Programme, a Drumhead Service will be held at Edinburgh Castle on August 10 before a congregation of people from all parts of Scotland.

Kept in the dark: no going back over new school gym



SPECTACLE: proudly marching through Glencoe were the Can-Am Pipe Band. The 70-strong band made quite a stir for a crowd of more than 200 people who watched on as the Canadians and Americans moved along the main street of Glencoe to the War Memorial, before making their way to the massacre site.

'Pure' MacDonalds parade through Glencoe

THE 70-STRONG Can-Am Pipe Band marched proudly through Glencoe last Friday with some very interesting MacDonalds taking part. The Canadian and American pipe band led a procession from the Glencoe Hotel stopping at the war memorial before making its way to the Glencoe massacre site. In the crowd were long-lost relatives of those who fell in the battle of February 13 1692 - known as the Glencoe massacre. To date only seven relatives can justifiably claim to be descendants of the Glencoe MacDonalds, after a revolutionary DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) test validated their claims to the title.

The story started some seven years ago when New Yorker Ryan Littrell called at the home of Alistair MacDonald, in Glencoe, and persuaded him to have his DNA profile analysed in Houston, Texas. Ryan knew that Alistair was one of only a few 'pure' MacDonalds of Glencoe that could validate the claims of many around the world who claimed to be descendants of the clan. After taking a small sample of DNA it was sent to America for analysis. Glencoe-born and raised, Alistair can trace his family back for generations and even lay claim

to five generations of his family living in the same house. Ros MacDonald, wife of Alistair, said: 'The result was that MacDonalds worldwide logged on, and matches were found in Canada, US, New Zealand and Paisley to name but a few. It was with great pride that Ryan, David MacDonald, his cousin Jim Moore and their families came together for the event in Glencoe last week. The sun shone all day for the visitors, with a pledge that they will certainly return. During their stay in Glencoe, the MacDonalds enjoyed the Can-Am Pipe Band, went to the top of the 'pap' and visited all the major sites.'

Angry residents told seven-metre 'single-storey' building will go ahead in Caol

FORT William planning department is the 'worst in Highland', it was claimed at a community council meeting in Caol. The claim on Tuesday night came after pensioners told a packed meeting they will have the sun blocked out of their homes as a seven-metre 'single-storey' school gym building is being built. But officers from Highland Council say a games hall for a new school can not be stopped, despite the community not receiving neighbour notification letters or being part of the working group that put together the plans. A special meeting of the newly-formed Caol community council hosted the meeting on Tuesday night to air concerns of lack of transparency from the council. Council officers, including Ron MacKenzie, head of resources and Gary Westwater, head of property, told a packed meeting that there was no going back on the school building. Mr MacKenzie said officers were there to learn, in order that the council did not make similar mistakes in future. However, Sheonagh Robertson, who lives in Upper Achintore, stopped the meeting to say that she and her neighbours had also suffered at the hands of the council's planning department. The former primary school teacher said both an MSP and a senior council officer had raised concerns about the planning department, calling it 'the worst in Highland'. She said: 'This is not the first time they have made a mistake with a building. They make the plans, they pass the plans and when they make a mistake they say they will learn from

it next time. There is crass incompetence in all areas of planning in Fort William and we are not putting up with it any longer.' Ron MacKenzie, from Highland Council, said he had 'serious concerns' about a perceived lack of neighbourhood notification. But there was very little 'at this stage' that could be done about the gym hall. An argument ensued in the meeting over the cost of stopping the work and starting again. Community councillors claimed it would be around £30,000 to start again, while officers said it would be hundreds of thousands to resolve the situation. Councillor Bill Clark told the meeting that officers would need to write a report to come back to the full council in Inverness. But he pointed out that any measure would need to be appropriate. Someone in the community council meeting shouted: 'Do you realise what you are doing to these vulnerable people - they will have no sunlight?' Mr Westwater said: 'It is distinctly not true that these people will not have sunlight. We have projected the sunlight through the year. Between December and March these houses will get at least two hours of sunshine a day.' Officers told the meeting they would talk with the deputy chief executive about the issue as a matter of urgency, but said: 'I wouldn't hold out much hope.'



ICE FACTOR

It's Always Adventure weather!

AT ICE FACTOR - THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR ICE CLIMBING

The UK's Premier Mountain Activity Centre

- Outdoor Rock Climbing
- Mountaineering
- Indoor Ice Climbing
- Indoor Rock Climbing
- Aerial Adventure Course
- Cafe and Restaurant
- AND LOTS MORE!

www.ice-factor.co.uk
01855 831100
Kinlochleven, Lochaber, PH50 4SF

Firefighter pleads not guilty to starting blaze

CHARGED: firefighter David MacKay leaving Fort William Sheriff Court on Tuesday

A 40-YEAR-old long-serving firefighter has been charged with starting three fires in the space of a few days. A spokesman for the alleged victim of two of the fires said destruction was estimated at three-quarters-of-a million pounds. Piper and musician David MacKay denied three charges of wilful fire raising at Fort William Sheriff Court on Tuesday and the alternative charges that he acted in a culpable and reckless manner by allegedly starting the fires. MacKay lives at Dal Nan Each in the remote Argyll village of Strontian in Ardnamurchan. It was Strontian that was almost engulfed in flames when a two-mile wide wildfire got out of control leading to fears the village would have to be evacuated. However, the blaze was eventually extinguished after two days. Following dry weather in March and April last year there was a spate of wildfires across the moors and forests of the Scottish Highlands which left the part-time fire fighters exhausted. Retained firefighter MacKay, who worked for Scottish Water at the time, pleaded not guilty through his lawyer, Miss MacTaggart, that on March 27, 2013 at Carnoch Estate, near Strontian, he set fire to an area of forest near Carnoch electricity sub-station which destroyed the area of forest. A second charge claimed that a few days later on April 1 at Bellgrove Mines, near Strontian, he torched an area of grassland which was destroyed. The same day in nearby Glen Tarbert, it was said, he set fire to a forest which was destroyed along with fencing. Sheriff Richard Davidson set MacKay's jury trial for August 18. Not long before the alleged fire-raising MacKay was honoured at a ceremony and given a long-service medal to mark almost 20 years as a firefighter. His lawyer said he now works as a driver for Fort William haulage company Ferguson Transport. A spokesman for 8,000-acre Carnoch Estate, owned by Leicestershire man Steve Fox, said 700 acres of estate trees, mainly native species like Scots Pine, were destroyed by the two fires. Damage was estimated at about £750,000.

Highland Field Sports Fair

Moy Hall NR:
Inverness IV13 7YQ
1st - 2nd August 2014
10am - 6pm

Over 150 Trade Stalls
Refreshment Tent & Bar

Falconry • Terrier Racing • Gun Dog Handling
Clay Pigeon Shooting • Fly Casting
Climbing Wall • Archery • Competitions & much more
Admission £10 - Under 16 free
Free Parking

www.moyfieldsportsfair.co.uk

Sign Up Business Mentoring is free

One to One Mentoring... The 'one to one' business mentoring service aims to match an ambitious and growing business leader with a suitable mentor to help develop the business.

Group Mentoring... This aim of these sessions is to provide mentoring support to a number of businesses on a topic of their choice (eg: creative sector: 'Pricing your product')

LOCHABER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Station Square, Fort William, Inverness-shire, PH33 6EN
t: 01397 705765 | e: info@lochaberchamber.co.uk | w: www.lochaberchamber.co.uk

Lochaber Chamber of Commerce
WORKING FOR BUSINESS IN THE OUTDOOR CAPITAL OF THE UK

Highlands and Islands Enterprise
EUROPE & SCOTLAND
Working in Partnership

Growing Something Brilliant

UNIONS BACK QUALITY AND STANDARDS DESPITE MALLAIG CLOSURE

Care home staff deserve better

UNIONS have backed the quality and standards in Highland care homes, despite one in Mallaig being temporarily closed.

The MacIntosh Centre doors were shut last week after allegations of 'poor practise', however, the lead unionist for social work says poor pay and working conditions are part of the problem for workers.

The temporary closure was made by NHS Highland to 'implement an action plan' in the home.

Seven residents from Mallaig have been

transferred to Fort William for between four and six weeks.

The health board said: 'All residents have settled in comfortably to Invernevis House. Staff from the MacIntosh Centre have gone with them apart from those who man the day care facilities which will continue at the MacIntosh Centre. This is a temporary transfer of services to Invernevis House for four to six weeks which will allow us to implement our action plan.'

Speaking to *The Oban Times*, Fort woman

Sally MacInver said she could understand the problem after having to move her own mother from one home to another. Her mother has now been settled in care in Lochaber for three years, but her concerns continue because within that time she says has seen more than 20 members of staff come and go in the present home.

Sally, 48, continued: 'These young people do the best they can, but they have no life experience.'

'If proper wages were paid then people

would come forward to do the job.' Trade union activist Janette McQuiston, secretary of the Highland healthcare branch, pointed out there was good work being done throughout the area, saying the 'overwhelming majority of NHS Highland's care homes received 'very good' and 'good' ratings.

'An Acarsaid on Skye and Grant House in Grantown fared particularly well, scoring five ('very good') across the board,' she said.

'In a care sector dominated by scandalously low pay and malignly influenced by distant

shareholders and profit-seeking executives, Unison wishes to stress the benefits of a fairly paid, locally-controlled, publicly accountable service for our elderly and vulnerable.'

A Care Inspectorate spokesman said: 'Our main priority is that residents receive the appropriate standard and continuity of care which meets their needs and respects their dignity and rights.'

'We take all concerns raised with us very seriously and anyone with a concern can contact us on 0845 600 9527.'

MP welcomes drop in jobless number

THE NUMBER of people unemployed in Ross, Skye and Lochaber has dropped again this quarter to 1.4 per cent, almost five times less than the Scottish average.

The figure for the area is 461, 281 fewer than in June 2013 and 60 fewer than in May 2014.

The figure represents a very low 1.4 per cent of the economically active population, with the Scottish average 6.9 per cent and UK average 6.5 per cent.

Charles Kennedy, MP for the area, said: 'These figures are welcome news.'

'Month on month, we see unemployment figures falling at a notable rate, demonstrating the resilience of Highlanders during these tough economic times.'

'We must, however, be under no illusion - there remains a tough task ahead to ensure the recovery is felt by everyone across Ross, Skye and Lochaber and indeed the whole of the UK.'

Windows smashed and lock stolen

A WINDOW was found smashed at Banavie Primary School, Banavie, Fort William, on Saturday July 19.

AN OUTER pane of a front facing living room window was smashed at a property in Foyers Road Kinlochleven, over the course of the last week.

A padlock securing a coal shed at the same address was also reported as missing.

Anyone with details of the incidents that took place sometime between Sunday July 13 Saturday July 19 should contact police on 101.

Listen to council meetings online

RESIDENTS of the Western Isles will now be able to listen as decisions affecting them are made in council, as all meetings of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar are to be webcast by the end of the year.

Members of the public can listen to full council and committee meetings via the comhairle website.

Stornoway North SNP councillor Gordon Murray welcomed the move.

He said: 'It is great to see the comhairle progress a key part of SNP policy which is openness and transparency.'

New start training cash still available

EMPLOYERS in the Western Isles can still apply for funding to train new starts.

Money from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar is available for those in the construction industry to put trainees through the modern apprenticeship and added value schemes.

The closing date for applications is Friday August 22.

To apply contact the Accredited Training and Skills service on 01851 822715 or fmaciver@cene-siar.gov.uk.

Record numbers heading to forests and woodlands

VISITS to woodlands in Lochaber are estimated to be at an all-time high, according to a survey.

Around 670,000 people a year are enjoying the forests and woodlands in the region, according to the All Forests Survey by Forestry Commission Scotland.

Woodlands are proving to be a hit with tourists, as 77 per cent of the visits are made by people on holiday or a short break.

Walking is the most common activity, with around 45 per cent of all visitors to Lochaber's forest coming to walk.

Other figures include six per cent coming to mountain bike, around 10 per cent drawn to the area's forest wildlife and about 13 per cent stop for picnics.

Environment and climate change minister Paul Wheelhouse said: 'Forestry Commission Scotland is the largest provider of outdoor recreation in the country with hundreds of popular woodland walks, world class

biking trails and welcoming visitor centres.

'It is very positive news that we are seeing so many people visiting the National Forest estate and taking the opportunity to enjoy Scotland's outstanding natural environment.'

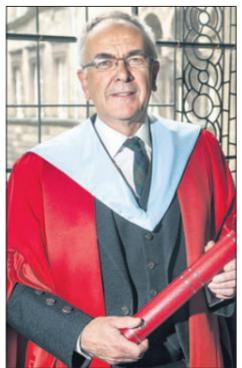
'The Scottish Government is keen to capitalise on this success by widening out better access to our woodlands and providing a greater range of ways for people to enjoy them.'

Craig Millar, Forestry Commission Scotland's communities, recreation and tourism manager in Lochaber, added: 'We are delighted to see healthy visitor numbers to the area.'

'Lochaber's landscapes are always a huge selling point for tourists and the forests and woodlands are part of this magical ingredient.'

'We are working hard with many partners to improve what our forests can offer local people and visitors. We think there is more to be done but we're pleased that the commission's forests are contributing so positively.'

Gaelic college principal honoured with degree



DELIGHTED: Professor Boyd Robertson called his recent award a great honour

THE PRINCIPAL of Scotland's only Gaelic medium college has been given an honorary degree.

Professor Boyd Robertson received the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Education from Edinburgh University for his work on the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act and Bòrd na Gàidhlig, among other contributions to Gaelic development. The North Uist native taught Gaelic at Oban High School then moved to Strathclyde University before Sabhal Mòr Ostaig UHI.

Professor Robertson said: 'This is a great honour for me personally and for Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the remarkable institution I am privileged to lead.'

'This year marks the centenary of the death of Professor Donald MacKinnon, the first holder of the Chair of Celtic at Edinburgh and it is a particular pleasure for me to receive this honour from the first university in Scotland to establish a chair of Celtic.'

Centenarian Chrissie celebrates

Secret of a long life revealed at party

SURROUNDED by her family from all over the world, Chrissie McGregor celebrated 100 years with some good advice.

To live a long life - don't take cigarettes and don't take alcohol.

Mrs McGregor was certainly a living testament to a life lived well.

Born and raised in Kinlochleven, the centenarian is a life-long adherent of the Salvation Army with two women from the church joining the party.

Nephew Hugh Rankine gave a speech to the 50 or so people gathered and during the afternoon, as he talked more and more people arrived to take part.

Family came from Scotland, England, Ireland, America and New Zealand to share in Chrissie's special birthday party.

Born on July 21 1914 Chrissie has seen huge changes over her lifetime, said nephew Hugh, but Chrissie was still able to correct him when he went wrong.

But she was adamant that even if people did not want to hear the news it was certainly a fact for her that cigarettes and alcohol would take anyone to an early grave.

Louise Duffy from Abbeyfield nursing home in Ballachulish gave a short speech to say she hoped Chrissie would be with them for years to come.



LONG LIFE: Chrissie McGregor with Lord Lieutenant Iain Thornber, right, and nephew, Hugh Rankine (53rd birthday)

Bike films praised by Lochaber chamber

A FILM about a Lochaber girl's adventures on an epic bike ride has been seen by more than 100,000 people since it appeared on the YouTube website.

And the film is one of two praised by Lochaber Chamber of Commerce (LCC).

The 2013 VisitScotland Growth Campaign supported the production of the North West Video, which sees Lochaber's Hannah Barnes embark on an epic mountain bike adventure up the west coast of Scotland, taking in incredible trails, scenery and beaches along the way.

The 28-minute video has had more than 100,000 views since its launch in December 2013.

More recently LCC supported aspiring filmmakers John and Andrew Ashworth in the making of the short film Behind the Bill.

Behind The Bill is a documentary about the work that goes into transforming a Scottish mountainside into one of the world's best race venues.

The Mountain Bike World Cup in Fort William is a huge success, and has won dozens of awards over the last 12 years.

This is down to a huge team effort - and that's the theme of Behind the Bill.

Released at the end of June the documentary already has 18,000 views and certainly has reinforced the destination and the claim to being the best downhill mountain biking event on the circuit.



WALKING TALL: a stilt walker draws in the crowds at the fundraiser on Cameron Square, Fort William

Charity serves up new message with a burger

A FUNDRAISING event in the newly-developed Cameron Square, Fort William, saw a fresh approach to beating cancer.

The Burger Off Barbecue was the highlight of the Cancer Research UK

charity's day - and showed just what they thought of the life-threatening disease. There was lots more on offer with music, a puppet show and a stilt walker adding to the fun for the people who attended.

CLARINS

Great Skin Gift

Take home your free skin care collection in this stylish beauty bag!

Available until 2 August 2014.

GORDON'S CHEMISTS
www.gordonsdirect.com
16 GEORGE STREET, OBAN

You're when you buy two or more recommended Clarins products, one to be skin care. One collection per customer while stocks last, subject to availability. Not to be used in conjunction with any other Clarins offer. Gift not available online.

Get The Oban Times for only 40p!

Subscribe to our digital edition for one year

and save 50%

Subscribe today!

Visit www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

Delivered straight to your inbox

We will make you smile

The Denture Designers @ Argyll and Bute Cosmetic Dentures have over 40 years experience in hand crafting cosmetic dentures.

Postal service available.

As mouth cancer is a serious issue in the West of Scotland, please come into our studio to pick up a leaflet on detecting mouth cancer.

We are not dentists.

We have hundreds of testimonials from satisfied clients from all over Scotland and from countries as far a field as Russia, Argentina, USA, South Africa and most of the Commonwealth countries.

Most importantly we listen to what the client wants

We can provide Dentures on the same day and also a half hour Denture repair service

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

1b Combie Street, Oban
01631 566 631

CHORD bill hits £750,000

COUNCILLOR DEFENDS CONSULTANTS' BILLS

COUNCILLORS in Oban have agreed more than £750,000 in spending on consultants and consultations for projects to improve the seafront and town centre, writes Louise Lee.

It is understood that most of the money has come out of the Argyll and Bute council budget, and not from the original £6.9million earmarked for CHORD.

The CHORD project (Campbeltown, Helensburgh, Oban, Rothesay and Dunoon) was set up in 2008 to rejuvenate the seafronts of Argyll and Bute.

To date, the project has delivered lights around McCaig's Tower in Oban and employed a project manager.

The original plan for Oban was to build pontoons in the bay and to deliver a new transport hub.

But a number of plans remain in the pipeline, including a performance space at the North Pier's white building, a pedestrianised Stafford Street and the pontoons.

The money spent by Argyll and Bute council totals £785,451.84.

So far townfolk have been written to, telephoned and surveyed in the street on no fewer than 18 times. People were invited to take part in a perception study and visit displays about the future of Oban.

Reports and draft reports have been compiled on at least 11 occasions.

During Christmas 2013, coloured lights were fitted around McCaig Tower as the outcome of one of the consultations.

Almost half a million, £496,000, was spent on designing plans for the white building - with a survey and questionnaire costing £7,000.

However, one senior Argyll and Bute councillor argued it was money well spent.

Councillor Ellen Morton, who is in charge of policy for the CHORD projects, said: 'Don't let's get consultation and consultants mixed up. They perform very different roles for the local authority.'

'We want to know what people think about their town, and the plans that we put forward and the council would

be criticised for not talking to people and business about these plans.

'In terms of consultants for designs and feasibility studies and so on, my understanding that any project being brought forward will likely carry a 10-15 per cent charge for design fees.

'Anyone who has built an extension will be aware of the architect costs and so on.

'It would be unrealistic to expect the council to have experts on hand to deal with design projects.

'An awful lot of the fees are front loaded - meaning before you even put a brick in the ground you must know every detail of the project.

'I am confident that Oban CHORD will deliver on time.

'It is now at the planning stage, after years of not making any progress at all.

'That can only be a good thing for Oban.'

An Argyll and Bute council spokesman said: 'The council's regeneration project in Oban will

deliver long-lasting benefits to the waterfront area of this key coastal town.

'To date, the project has delivered the lighting improvements to McCaig's Tower and concept designs for the public realm enhancements and the North Pier.

'This has required undertaking extensive preparatory work to take the projects to the implementation stage.

'This preparatory work requires expertise which organisations do not always have; sometimes it is necessary to use outside consultants to ensure the project is delivered to a high standard, which is what we have done.

'The council is pleased with the progress of its regeneration project in Oban - things are on course. The project is moving forward at pace, with the full business cases expected to go before the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee and the full council in September.'

WATER MUSIC: dancing on the waves at Tiree



JUMPING FOR JOY: around 1,500 people converged on Tiree for the annual music festival last weekend. Headline acts such as Eddi Reader and Skipinnish thrilled the ever-growing crowds. For our special review of the festival, turn to pages 14-15

Neglect led to dog's painful death

A WOMAN who admitted neglecting a dog to the extent it had to be put down has received hate mail since appearing in Oban sheriff court.

Frances Cooke, 29, was sentenced on Tuesday to 160 hours of unpaid work in the community and received a lifetime ban from owning a dog.

The court heard previously that Cooke, of Scalpay Terrace, had contacted Oban veterinary surgery last December to say she had found a stray dog 'in a state of collapse' in the Soroba area of the town.

When she took the five-year-old black Labrador to the surgery, vets noted that the dog was crying in pain and distress and was semi-conscious.

The dog's kidneys had ceased to function and it had to be put down.

Cooke pleaded guilty at a previous



REMORSEFUL: Frances Cooke was suffering from depression following the break-up of her relationship. Her pet dog was taken to the vet (pictured above right)



hearing to causing the dog unnecessary suffering between August 1, 2013 and December 6, 2013, failing to provide adequate food and water, leading to its collapse.

Defence solicitor Jane Thomson told the court that Cooke, her partner and family, had the dog from a puppy.

When the 11-year relationship with her partner broke down, she had failed to cope with looking after the dog as she spent as little time as possible in

the property she had shared with her partner.

'Ms Cooke is suffering from depression,' said Miss Thomson.

'She has shown significant remorse on every occasion we have met and is extremely upset because of what has happened.'

'Did that affect her feeding herself or her family?' asked Sheriff Douglas Small. 'No,' said Miss Thomson.

'Why did it stop her from feeding her dog?'

'She essentially lived in a bubble,' said Miss Thomson, 'to get her family through this difficult time and over the break-up.'

The court heard Cooke had consulted a doctor following the incident and had been diagnosed as being 'profoundly depressed', and

had probably been suffering for some time.

'She can't have been unaware of the distress the dog was going through,' said Sheriff Small. 'How could she be unaware of it, as the vets say it was crying with pain?'

Miss Thomson said: 'Her focus was very much on her family. She has had a difficult time over the last few months. She has received hate mail and she is on anti-depressants but that is not getting her through this.'

Sheriff Small told Cooke: 'This is an extremely distressing case and it has caused considerable outrage in the local community as I am sure you are aware.'

'There are a number of people who have written into the sheriff clerk's office to express their outrage.'

Cellmate accused of prison murder

THE MAN accused of murdering Oban man Colin Penrose in a cell at Barlinnie Prison is to stand trial in November.

John Clark, 21, is charged with strangling the 22-year-old fellow prisoner between March 19 and 20 this year within a cell in the Glasgow prison's E-block.

Colin Penrose had been sent back to Barlinnie prison to serve the remainder of his sentence after he committed an offence while out on licence.

NEWSDESK
FORT WILLIAM
01397 703003

Slowhand - the one that got away?

TOBERMORY played host to a special celebrity last week - but most of the audience didn't realise.

And with no photographs of the surprise turn at the open mic night no one will ever really know if it was Eric Clapton, or not - the rock star really is the one that got away.

A regular open mic night at Macgochan's bar with Ralf Roeder, generally sees residents and visitors sing a



Eric Clapton

song or two for the craic.

Last Wednesday night, the gig hosted by Ralf, saw the usual suspects take part when, as the story goes, an 'old guy' appeared on stage.

Ralf said it may have been the levels of intoxication, but as he shuffled onto the stage very few people were taking notice.

But the rock star, who can command thousands of pounds for a gig, played some of his songs with Ralf singing with him.

Ralf said: 'I had just

finished playing Wonderful tonight, when this guy approached me for my guitar.

I didn't know who it was until he started to play.

'Eric plays the guitar in a way that is amazing.

'We sang Before You Accuse Me, and then two country blues songs before he played Buzzard Luck, a song from Bozz Gags.

'I asked him for an autograph and Eric said, 'I don't want everyone to realise

what's going on,' so we went outside.' Eric listened to a whole evening of music before taking to the stage in the early hours of the morning.

Ralf said: 'I can't believe how happy I was to share this special moment and I hope to meet him again.'

Neil Morrison, manager of Macgochan's bar, said: 'I had no idea that any of this was going on.

'I was up in my house, sit-

ting on the couch watching the television.

'There is something quite nice about a major super star being able to come to Tobermory - not get any hassle and simply enjoy the music in the bar.

'I have no idea where he was staying or what he was doing in the town - but just that he was in the pub and he took to the stage.

'I wonder who it will be next, Elvis?'

Barra welcomes jump in passenger numbers as island flights increase

BARRA has been identified as one of the fastest growing airports in the Highlands and Islands after figures released by the airport owner.

Barra passenger numbers increased by 40 in April, 240 in May and 289 in June, when compared to 2013.

Airport owner Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd (HIAL) said the increase was down to the provision of additional flights to Glasgow, coupled with increased demand on the route.

Passenger numbers at HIAL's regional airports grew by nearly 8,000 during the last quarter (April

- June), with the group's island airports driving the growth.

Fastest growing

Barra was the fastest growing airport in the group, with a 22.1 per cent increase, representing an additional 569 passengers.

Benbecula attracted an additional 717 passengers, up 9.1 per

cent, while Islay's numbers grew by 2.9 per cent, representing an additional 234 passengers.

Passenger numbers were down slightly at Campbeltown on 2013 for the same period by 120 passengers.

Inglis Lyon, managing director of HIAL, said: 'It is very encour-

aging to see our smaller island airports driving growth across the group.

'The increased demand for island services is particularly good news for those local communities and underlines the role our airports play supporting the economic growth of these areas.'



High-flying sergeant Ryan is Oban's cadet of the year

Cadet flight sergeant Ryan Cook of the air cadets 2521 (Oban High School) squadron was recently given the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet Award for the contribution he has made to his unit. He received his award from the Lord Lieutenant Patrick Stewart.

Gaelic concert

A MAJOR new production featuring a Connell singer is being called a 'watershed' moment in Gaelic music.

Children of the Smoke, featuring Joy Dunlop, will premiere at Glasgow Green on Monday at 7.30pm.

The free event is a universal story about people, place and connection, described as a highly original 75-minute show including dancers, film and a band of 20 of Scotland's leading musicians. It aims to tackle current issues that resonate with many nations.

CHARLES KENNEDY MP ALAN REID MP

The case for staying in the UK Public Meeting

Corran Halls, Oban
MONDAY 28 JULY, 6.30pm - 8pm
Published by Alan Reid,
95 Alexandra Parade, Dunoon

FLOORSHOP

CARPETS, VINYL, LAMINATES
OFFCUTS GALORE

luxurious beds
matts, rugs etc
AND MUCH
MUCH MORE

WE WON'T
BE BEATEN
ON PRICE

Telephone: 01631 563316 • Unit 12, Mill Lane, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HA

HOLT'S
Auctioneers of Fine Modern & Antique Guns

Holt's Auctioneers are Europe's leading specialists in fine modern and antique guns.

To discuss consigning any guns to Holt's for sale by auction or for a free valuation please visit our stand at:

The Highland Field Sports Fair
Stand Number B17
Moy Estate
Friday 1st & Saturday 2nd August

www.holtsauctioneers.com

Come and Sample the Delights of the Continent

Continental Market

Oban - Station Road
Fri 1st - Mon 4th August

Professional Continental market traders from France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Holland, Poland, wearing traditional costumes will be selling high quality products including Brittany biscuits, olives, French crepes, Italian nougat, pungent cheese, saucissons, Tartiflette from the Alps, charcuterie, fresh breads, croissants and much, much more!

For more information visit www.traditionalmarket.co.uk or www.facebook.com/traditionalmarket

Get The Oban Times for only 40p!

Subscribe to our digital edition for one year and save

50%

Subscribe today!

Visit www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

Crianlarich still on schedule but Pulpit delayed

TRANSPORT Scotland says it's on track with one of two major roadworks due for completion in Argyll this year.

The A82 Pulpit Rock was due to be completed by late spring, and the Crianlarich bypass was to be completed by late summer.

While the bypass is still on schedule, the Pulpit Rock works have suffered set-backs and will be delayed.

A spokesman for Transport Scotland said: "Transport Scotland is continuing to work closely with its contractor McLaughlin and Harvey to complete the works on the site as soon as is practically possible."

"Completion of the construction programme at Pulpit Rock is anticipated this winter."

The work on the A82 was halted because of exceptionally bad weather and emergency interventions, which affected progress. The road was closed following a military vehicle accident and storm damage on a number of occasions during November, December 2013, and January 2014.

The roads agency was optimistic about the Crianlarich bypass: "In spite of the unfavourable weather conditions earlier this year, R J McLeod is continuing to progress the Crianlarich bypass towards a completion in late summer 2014."

Police appeal for more information

CAR VANDALS are on the radar of Oban police after enquiries into two recent incidents revealed the problem could be more widespread.

The police are currently investigating reports of vandalism to two vehicles both parked behind St Columba's Cathedral in Oban.

But they also believe more vehicles have been damaged in that area and have urged owners to come forward.

Oban police inspector Julie McLeish said: "This apparent increase in cars being vandalised is an area of particular concern for us."

Stornoway ferry to begin trials

A NEW CalMac ferry for the Ullapool to Stornoway route is in the final stages of construction in Germany.

The final fit-out and commissioning plans are now under way, with the vessel expected to undergo sea trials by the end of August.

The vessel, known as the MV Loch Seaforth, will undergo statutory inspections and vessel performance trials before being handed over to CalMac in late September for familiarisation trials and training for the local crew.



COST CONTROL: Marion MacPherson, whose Poppies tearoom is typically a hive of activity at this time of year, had to send home three members of staff on Tuesday after roadworks near to her business's entrance put off would-be customers



Lack of notice drives up costs, say fed-up owners

AN award-winning tearoom and garden centre had to send staff home as their customers were driven away by roadworks, which the owners say they were not told about, writes Euan Paterson.

A week after Gary and Marion MacPherson's Poppies garden centre was highly commended at the Greatest Garden Centre awards, their tearoom lay empty on Tuesday lunchtime.

BEAR Scotland was undertaking resurfacing work on the A85 between Connel and Saulmore at the beginning of this week but the traffic build-up at times blocked the entrance to the popular garden centre.

It was a case of history repeating

itself for the Connel couple who, in May 2012, had to contend with roadworks, with the driveway into their garden centre being used as a turning circle for a convoy vehicle.

Back then they were told by the previous trunk roads authority, Scotland Transerv, that they would be notified of all future work that could affect their business.

A frustrated Gary said on Tuesday: "Yesterday, we were full all day, you couldn't get a seat in the place, and today we had three people over lunchtime."

"My main issues are why did we not receive the minimum of two weeks' notice we had been promised and

why this time of year? This is peak season for us and right at the start of the Commonwealth Games.

"If tourists see there are roadworks here, they will not come."

"We know that roadworks have to happen, but if we know about it we can prepare for it by changing staff rotas, ordering less stock and producing less baking."

The couple say, from experience, takings can be down by 45 to 80 per cent when roadworks are taking place near to the business.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Argyll and Bute council's transport spokesman, agreed the timing of the work was not ideal.

He pointed out that contractor Breendon Aggregates was limited in the amount of work it could do at night because of an agreement with the North Connel and Ardoch communities, where its quarry and tar-production site is based.

He said: "It is only right this business should have been consulted about the work, but I think the work will be finished by tomorrow (Wednesday), a day ahead of schedule."

A spokeswoman for BEAR Scotland said a consultation letter had been sent out in advance of the work to the council, councillors and 'businesses within the immediate vicinity'.

The forthcoming roadworks were

also reported in last week's edition of *The Oban Times*.

The BEAR spokeswoman said: "When preparing this consultation exercise, we were not aware of any special arrangements made by our predecessors, Scotland Transerv, to notify Poppies garden centre of future works in the area."

"Given the nature of the works, some short-term disruption is to be expected."

"The convoy system will be removed after day two of works and the road markings and studs will be installed under 'stop, go' board traffic control. This will help to lessen any disruption to the travelling public."

Pacifist film-maker's knife guilt

A MAN who has spent many hours documenting the devastating effects of knife crime in Glasgow through film and photos has admitting having a knife in a public place.

Photojournalist and document-maker David Gillanders, 43, had pleaded guilty at a previous hearing in Oban sheriff court to having an offensive weapon at Station Square in the town on January 24.

He was sentenced on Tuesday to carry out 100 hours of unpaid work in the community within three months.

The court previously heard Gillanders, while drunk, approached two men and a woman in an Oban pub and challenged one of the men to a fight.

After the three complainers left the pub, Gillanders approached two of them and took out what was described as 'a folding pocket knife'



SEARING IMAGE: One of the photographs taken by documentary film-maker David Gillanders during his travels in eastern Europe

with a blade of about two or three inches in length. The woman took the knife from him, with no resistance, and threw it in the sea.

"He had not gone out that night looking for trouble, but got himself drunk as his way of self medicating to deal with his troubles and nightmares," said defence lawyer John John Scott Gillanders, of Houstonfield Quadrant, Houston, Renfrewshire, had been in Oban as part of a trip round Scotland taking photos of the 'victims of modern-day slavery'.

Mr Scott said Gillanders had been suffering from the trauma of what he had witnessed in previous years while photographing street children in the Ukraine and Romania.

This included the harrowing experience of having a gun held to his head for half an hour.

He had sought counselling but had

been advised to wait until sentence was passed.

The lawyer said: "Of all people, David Gillanders should know better than to involve himself in an offence with a knife because of the considerable work he has done in relation to publicising the pernicious effects of knife crime."

Character statements referring to Gillanders anti-violence stance included a letter from the Violence Reduction Unit in Scotland.

Mr Scott said it was Gillanders' work to show socially deprived areas in documentaries and photos that had put his own physical and mental health at risk.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: "Considering the background report and exemplary references presented to the court, I don't intend to impose a custodial sentence."

Pretended to be qualified nurse to get position

A WOMAN pretended to be a registered nurse in order to gain employment as a carer for an 82-year-old man in Appin.

Lisa Grant, 54, had replied to an advert placed by the man's partner, who employed Grant on the basis that she provided an identity badge showing she was a registered nurse.

At Oban sheriff court on Tuesday, district procurator fiscal John Service said: "She accepted the information by the accused as proof that she was a qualified nurse and therefore an appropriate carer."

Grant, of Dalchork Farm Cottages, Dalchork, Lairg, pleaded guilty in June to providing a forged identity badge, stating that she was a registered nurse, providing a false national insurance number and so obtaining pay of £688.40 and the sole use of a cottage in Appin by fraud between December 9 2013 and January 14 this year.



FAKE: Linda Grant

Suspicion was aroused when her tax and national insurance details were examined.

Defence lawyer Stephen Macleod said his client had five years of previous experience as an auxiliary nurse and 10 years as a carer.

"To describe herself as a registered nurse was perhaps wishful thinking on her part," he said.

"She is deeply ashamed of herself and to have it hanging over her has been a significant worry to her."

Grant was fined £600 and ordered to pay £300 in compensation.

Not playing fair over taxi service

AN OPPORTUNISTIC driver on the Isle of Tiree has found himself on the wrong side of the law after being accused of operating a makeshift taxi service during the island's music festival.

Police received reports of a man allegedly driving with a taxi sign on his windscreen, picking up passengers and dropping them off in various parts of the island last Saturday.

The man is now subject of a report to the procurator fiscal for operating a taxi without a licence and insurance.



A WATCHFUL EYE: Oban lifeboat deputy coxswain Finlo Cottier checks the Kommandoren as the lifeboat tows the vessel to safety

Summer season sunshine keeps lifeboat crews busy

WITH the west coast of Scotland experiencing some of the hottest temperatures of the year and the number of visitors hitting its peak, the area's lifeboat crews have been kept on high alert, writes Euan Paterson.

A 70-ton sailing boat had to be taken under tow by Oban lifeboat when it lost power on Sunday evening in the Firth of Lorne.

The power of the Trent class lifeboat came into its own as the Kommandoren was towed towards

Oban Bay at around 6.30pm. During the short trip, the sailing boat managed to regain power and was able to berth under her own steam at the North Pier.

Oban lifeboat, one of the busiest on the west coast, was recently launched on its 2,000th 'shout'.

Last week, a yacht undertaking a transatlantic crossing from Bermuda to Largs had to call on Islay lifeboat for help after breaking down just short of its final destination.

The 31-foot yacht *Tribulation* developed engine and rudder problems on July 15 near to Dubh Artach skerry, 18 miles west of Colonsay. The yacht, with a lone sailor on board, was attached to the lifeboat by a tow rope and taken to Port Askaig for repairs.

The island lifeboat was re-launched three days later to assist the 10-metre yacht *Nautilus* and its two-man crew after it fouled its anchor off Carsaig Island in the Sound of Jura.

This is **YOUR** newspaper.

And **YOU** could be the one to **make it happen**

SENIOR REPORTER

Fort William

Based in our Fort William office we are inviting applications for a senior reporter.

As the position will be based in Fort William, knowledge of the area would be an advantage.

Financial assistance for accommodation where relevant may be available for the first three months.

We offer a good, competitive salary

- + private health care
- + enhanced pension
- + life assurance
- + excellent benefits and great working conditions

We want to hear from you if you have the appropriate experience and qualifications:

- ✓ Journalism
- ✓ Shorthand
- ✓ Ambition and enthusiasm
- ✓ Talent, self motivation and commitment
- ✓ A full current driving licence

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Please apply by email with full C.V. and contact details to: ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk

Corporate stationery
Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, comp slips

Personal stationery
Matching paper & envelopes,
postcards, address labels

krisp print

Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,
Main Street/Longrow South,
Campbeltown PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

Andy reaches his goal

WINNING the Scottish Highland Football League goal of the year and battling a painful arm injury saw the captain of Fort William Football Club win more trophies, than his club in the last year.

Despite it all Andrew Martin, 28, is hopeful about next season and doesn't take any of the credit for his achievements himself.

The goal of the year was scored in January, from 40 yards against Buckie. The final score of that match was three all, and Andy had his highest score of the season.

The Fort William man is a bit of a stranger to the back of the net - having scored only a few goals this season and that doubled his figure of the previous year.

The centre back isn't upset about his low tally of goals. In fact he says it is a bit of a miracle that he is playing at all.

Lifting his left arm to show an arm length scar, Andy tells The Oban Times, that every game this season has been painful.

He said: 'I got my arm caught in a winch last year and it broke

FOOTBALL

my arm. I went through major reconstructive surgery in order to repair the injury.

'It was very painful and I am still not back to full strength.'

Girlfriend Rebekah Bell, a personal trainer, was one of the people who helped to get Andy back to health.

Andy continues: 'There was a lot of physio between November to March and I am just getting back to normal now.

'It is still sore when I am playing, but I couldn't give up football. It was just one of those things that I had to do.'

Andy has been playing football with Fort William FC since he was a boy - he played for the under 12s before joining the first team at the age of 15.

Despite the clubs lack of success in the league this year scoring only 35 goals and winning only one match, Andy has won player of the season, club man of the year and will now add the goal of the year to his trophy cabinet.



Andy Martin (left) accepts his Scottish Highland League goal of the year 2014 trophy from former Scotland and Aberdeen player Brian Irvine. 15_130goal1

Winners of Millies Triple's Trophy

BOWLS

YOUNG Jay Brown presents the winners of the Millies Triples shield at the Railway Bowling Green Inverlochty to (left to right) Bill Clark, Gogs Hamilton, Elizabeth Kennedy the runners up were George MacKay, Lynne Donald, Christine Kane.

Other members of Millies family are also in the picture.

Photo: Anthony MacMillan



Hole in one at Skye tournament

GOLF

A TEMPERATE day for weather and golf was held on the Isle of Skye last weekend, with a hole in one, and some fine playing on the course.

The islands annual tournament saw 88 players take to the course from 6.50 am playing all the way through to 6.40pm.

June Miller, from Loch Carron, made a hole-in-one on the 14th using a five-iron club to produce a 'magical shot'.

The day at the seaside course paid off for players who came from as far a field as Nairn, Dalmailly, Bishopbriggs and Elderslie.

The Isle of Skye Golf Club looks over to the Isle of Raasay and inland to Gamaig, one of the Red Cuillins.

Most of the nine greens have an alternate tee giving a different approach if players want a second time around.

The small club is run by a committee and ground staff to keep the fairways and greens in excellent condition.

Results: Gents Scratch Competition - 1) James MacDonald (Elderslie) 69 bth, 2) Murdo Gordon 69, 3) Sandy Ross 72.

Gents Handicap Category One (0-12) - 1) Stewart Johnston 69 (11) nett 58, 2) Fraser Donaldson (Bishopbriggs) 75 (12) 63, 3) John Allan Macleod 77 (12) 65.

Gents Handicap Category Two (13-28) - 1) Kenny Macpherson 76 (19) nett 57, 2) Chris McColl (Dougalston) 72 (13) 59 bth, 3) Chris Hanley 77 (18) 59.

FOOTBALL

Ladies Scratch Competition - 1) Lyn MacColl (Carrick Club, Loch Lomond) 82, 2) Karen Starr (Lochcarron) 88.

Ladies Handicap Competition - 1) June Miller (Lochcarron) 95 (33) nett 62, 2) Donalda Johnston 91 (23) 68.

Professional Golf Association coach Bill Murray will be visiting for four days this year. Coaching will be available for all abilities including beginners, gents, ladies and juniors, both individually and for groups. Non-members welcome.

The timetable is now available and sessions can be booked through the clubhouse.

Pre-season friendlies for Fort William

FOOTBALL

FORT William travelled to Inverness to take on Clach last Friday evening and although the Lochaber side played well they went down 3-1.

On Monday night the Fort took on Ross County reserves at Claggan Park but lost 6-2 to an impressive young County side. The Lochaber club have been drawn against Edinburgh City in the preliminary round of the Scottish Cup.

The game will be played in Edinburgh on Saturday August 16

Annual fundraiser makes a huge difference

GOLF

THE ANNUAL Harris Ross Open three person Texas scramble will take place on July 27.

The popular event raises funds for Star for Harris, this year the tournament commemorates five years of fundraising in memory of a Lochaber youngster.

Star for Harris was founded following the tragic death of 14-month-old Harris Ross from medulloblastoma - the most common malignant childhood brain tumour - in 2010.

The Ross family, from Corpach near Fort William in the Scottish Highlands, started STAR for Harris to raise awareness about childhood cancers and support those affected.

Harris's mum, Tanya Ross, a teacher, is keen to support the campaign. 'STAR for Harris is passionate about raising awareness about cancer symptoms as Harris was so late in getting diagnosed.

'Early diagnosis can save lives and can also lead to children living with less life-long side effects from their illness and treatment. Everyone needs to be aware.'

Last year, Gus Ironside, the Brain Tumour Charity's operations manager for Scotland welcomed the generous donation from Star for Harris after the group raised more than £6,000.

'These funds will help us to get a HeadSmart symptoms card into the hands of every single parent in Scotland.

'We're honoured to be able to distribute HeadSmart cards and information packs in Harris's name - he has played a vital part in spreading awareness about this devastating disease.'

Nail biting finish in darts final

DARTS

THE FINALS of the Tradewinds Summer Darts League were brought to a nail biting conclusion.

Last Friday, July 18, and after a night of top-class darts the last match was between Martyn Cameron and Duncan Rogers.

Duncan raced to a three legs to nil lead before some clinical finishing from Martyn levelled the game at 3-3. It was then down to a last leg decider.

Scoring was matched all the way with Martyn getting to the double first and hitting double 20 to win the match.

The defeated semi finalists were James Whyte and Darren Sutherland. The consolation final was won by Alex MacInnes

Quickest game of the night was a 14 dart leg from Duncan Carmichael and Duncan Rogers.

Highest checkout of the night was a magnificent 170 from Darren Sutherland, his second of the league.

Other high finishes were, John Woods 145, James Whyte 126, Martyn Cameron 120, 104, Duncan Carmichael 113, Duncan Rogers 112, 180's were scored by Martyn Cameron twice, Duncan Rogers twice, Duncan Carmichael and John Woods.

Welfare results

FOOTBALL

RESULTS of Uisdean MacDonald Memorial cup ties played last week - Lundavra 3, Caol Utd 2; Ballachulish 4, Caol Cosmos 0; Lochaber 3, Nevis Range 2; Inverlochty 2, Mallaig 7.

Semi final draw - Mallaig v Ballachulish; Lochaber v Lundavra.

Hartson's Heroes join ex-Celt John for Ben Nevis charity challenge

FORMER footballer John Hartson is bringing 120 supporters - dubbed Hartson's heroes - to tackle Ben Nevis for the final time this weekend.

The 39-year-old, and wife Sarah from Spean Bridge, are taking part in the BraveHart Challenge to mark the fifth anniversary of John's cancer battle and raise funds for his charity, The John Hartson Foundation.

The couple recently celebrated the birth of their third daughter Paige Faith.

The ex-Celtic star has spent a lot of time in Spean Bridge with in-laws Katherine and James

McManus, as he recovered from his gruelling treatment for testicular cancer, which had spread to his lungs and brain, in 2009.

Inspired by the beautiful Highland landscape, he pledged to scale Ben Nevis when he was well. On July 14 2010 - exactly a year after he was fighting for life and on his daughter Lina's second birthday - John made his dream come true and completed the first BraveHart Challenge, with 70 supporters, raising thousands of pounds for his Foundation.

This year's walk takes place on Saturday (July 26) and is followed by a party in the Nevis Centre to thank everyone in the area for their support while raising more vital funds for the Foundation.

The BraveHart Bash features lively Scots dance band The Tatties - whose mash up of traditional and modern styles ranges from ceilidh classics to Bryan Adams and Biffy Clyro.

Volunteers will also be collecting for the charity in Fort William town centre on Saturday.

John, who also starred for Arsenal, West Ham and Wales, said: 'We are grateful for the support everyone in the area has shown over the years and we'd love to see as many people as possible at the Nevis Centre for what we're sure will be a fantastic night.'

The BraveHart Bash takes place in the Nevis Centre, An Aird, Fort William, on Saturday, July 26, from 9pm. The evening - which is for over-18s only - includes the chance to win a number of great raffle prizes.

Tickets cost £10 per person and must be booked in advance by contacting John Hartson Foundation Fundraising Manager UK Libby Emmerson by email libby@johnhartsonfoundation.co.uk or call 07961 543254.

CHARITY TREK



John and Sarah Hartson who will be scaling Ben Nevis this weekend. f30hartson1no



Pairing up for success

BOWLING THEM OVER: The Railway Bowling Club held the Stewart Cup on Saturday. The Inverlochty club held its annual balloted pairs cup. The winners were Allan Lawrie and Agnes Boyle (centre) with runners up Elizabeth Kennedy and Tam Rodgers.

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk



WEATHER

Thursday Sunny
Winds light south easterly
Temperatures 15°C to 24°C

Friday Thundery showers
Winds light south south westerly
Temperatures 15°C to 22°C.

Weekend Outlook Heavy rain showers on Saturday
Light rain showers on Sunday
Winds light north north westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 19°C.



TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, July 17, 2014** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date		am		pm	
Thur	04.15	3.2	10.11	1.3	16.14 3.3 23.00 1.4
Fri	04.50	3.4	10.53	1.2	16.52 3.6 23.39 1.3
Sat	05.24	3.6	11.31	1.0	17.30 3.7 ** ** *
Sun	00.14	1.2	05.59	3.7	12.08 0.9 18.05 3.9
Mon	00.47	1.2	06.33	3.8	12.44 0.9 18.39 3.9
Tues	01.20	1.2	07.06	3.8	13.18 0.9 19.12 3.9
Wed	01.53	1.2	07.37	3.8	13.50 1.0 19.42 3.9

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

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Ferry Crossings/Sea States			
Oban to Barra/South Uist		Moderate	
Oban to Coll/Tiree		Moderate	
Kennacraig to Islay		Moderate	