

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 7953

Thursday, July 30, 2009

www.obantimes.co.uk

75 pence



Your 4 page guide to Tennents' West Highland Week 2009

Mull mother convicted of fraud in London

A MULL mum-of-four was enjoying a rural life in an island village while claiming more than £30,000 in housing benefit - for a £750,000 city-centre home in London.

Sarah Eedle, aged 47, formerly of 29B Claremont Square, London, was sentenced at Wood Green Crown Court, on July 3 to 100 hours community service having pled guilty on June 9 to three counts of making false statements in order to obtain housing and council tax benefits.

Eedle was also ordered to repay £30,346.88 in housing and Council Tax benefits.

The court heard that Eedle moved to Leob Croft Bungalow, Bunessan, Isle of Mull, around five years ago but never stopped claiming benefit for the house she was trying to purchase from the council in London.

Serious
In sentencing, Judge Carr said that the offences were serious and would normally attract a custodial sentence.

This week, a spokesman for Islington Council said: 'Eedle had applied to Islington Council to purchase 29B Claremont Square under the Right to Buy scheme and a price of £364,000 had been agreed in July 2006. 'However, Eedle had already put the flat up for sale.

'We understand she was attempting to broker a deal whereby the buyers would loan her the money to purchase the property from the council and she would then sell it to them after the Right to Buy purchase had gone through.

Viewings
'The sale price increased from an initial £550,000 to as much as £750,000 and there have been over 30 viewings over a period of two years.'

Row escalates over funding for housing elderly

A ROW has broken out between Argyll's MP, a local housing association and the local authority following the increased charges for elderly residents of sheltered housing.

Earlier this month *The Oban Times* reported how residents in 12 housing complexes are facing increases of £10 a week in charges on top of rent increases. Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) says it is having to bring in the new charges to pay for services, including community support assistants, lift maintenance, laundry and window cleaning which are not covered by tenants' rent.

However Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid has this week claimed that Argyll and Bute Council and the Scottish Government are to blame for 'cutting' the previous 'Supporting People' grants made available to housing associations.

While Mr Reid lays the blame with the council and SNP government, the housing association called on Argyll and Bute Council to restore the 'Supporting People' grant it had received up until last year until it was stopped by the council.

Mr Reid said: 'The SNP run the Scottish Government and, with their Independent allies, run Argyll and Bute Council. They are the party who are

responsible for this cut. I have written to Councillor Donald McIntosh, the SNP councillor with responsibility for social services, and urged him to give back to ACHA the money they need to avoid this rent increase.'



Councillor Donald McIntosh
'Simply a cheap attempt to score political points'

Councillor McIntosh replied: 'For Mr Reid to try to draw Argyll and Bute Council into this issue well over a year after the date agreed for supporting people funding to be paid up until is simply a cheap attempt to score political points.

'As well he knows, any service arrangements or service charges which ACHA chooses to introduce is now solely a matter for ACHA, not the council.'

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council said that the local authority had an agreement with

ACHA at the time of the stock transfer in November 2006 that it would continue to provide the Supporting People funding until March 31 2008.

'Prior to the stock transfer, the sheltered housing warden service operated by the council as landlord had never received any financial support from the Supporting People budget,' said the spokeswoman.

'Individual tenants were not charged any service charges for the warden support services provided. Rather, we chose to pay for the service from the general pool of all tenants' rents. In the same way that the council has to deal with finite resources, it is a matter for ACHA to decide its own priorities regarding how its budget is spent.'

ACHA chief executive Alastair MacGregor said: 'ACHA has made it clear if Supporting People funding is restored by the local authority to assist the organisation in providing services to elderly people in our sheltered housing complexes then we would invest this in supporting our tenants.

'In the meantime the association will continue to provide a sheltered housing service with wardens with the resources we have available, without any grant at all, unlike other housing associations in Argyll and Bute and beyond.'



Laura MacCuish will be the face of the Royal National Mod 2009. 07_131miss02

Lovely Laura is crowned Miss Mod

A NORTH Connel woman has become the first Miss Oban Mod for more than 30 years after she was chosen from entrants at the Mod's final fundraising ceilidh.

Laura MacCuish, aged 22, went along to the ceilidh at the Argyllshire Gathering Halls with a friend and only decided to enter the competition on the night.

So it was with some shock that Laura accepted the Miss Oban Mod 2009 sash, a prize of £250 and tickets to see The Vatersay Boys during Royal National Mod week (October 9-17).

But Laura, a student nurse at Paisley University, admits she is now looking

forward to her ambassadorial role. She said: 'I was really surprised to win but I'm really pleased about it.

'I have never entered anything like this before so it was a real shock when they announced I had won. I only went to the ceilidh for a night out.

'I don't speak Gaelic, although my grandparents were Gaelic speakers.'

Runners up in the competition were Eilidh Collins and Lauranne Gibson.

The ceilidh featured Noeleen NicColla from Donegal, double gold medalist Gillebride Macmillan from Uist and Freeland Barbour and the Occasionals.

Mother of five admits supplying heroin

A WOMAN who admitted supplying heroin has been released on bail.

Donna Duffy, whose address was given as c/o Cornton Vale Prison, Stirling, was remanded in custody in May after being charged.

Duffy pled guilty at Oban Sheriff Court last week to supplying the Class A drug on May 8 and 9 at Oban train station and other locations in the town and in Glasgow.

Sentence on the 36-year-old mother of five was deferred for reports and she was released on bail to allow a drug treatment and testing assessment to be carried out.

Airport hero honeymoon on Islay

GLASGOW Airport hero John Smeaton and his American wife Christy MacPhedran spent their honeymoon last week on the Isle of Islay.

The couple were married at Balgonie Castle in Fife on July 18.

Former baggage handler Mr Smeaton became a national hero in 2007 after taking on two bombers who had driven a burning jeep filled with explosives into Glasgow Airport.

Games and shows

WITH the Highland games and rural agricultural show season in full swing *The Oban Times* brings you the action from Inveraray, Kilmore, Lochaber, North and South Uist, Tiree, Kilchoan and Mull.

See Pages 9,10,11 and 16.



Former Islay women dies after Great Western Road accident



Valerie Thomson of Glasgow and Islay.

AN INVESTIGATION into the tragic death of a former Islay woman on Great Western Road, Glasgow has led traffic police to Oban.

Valerie Thomson, wife of Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association (GG) conductor Kenny, died after an alleged hit and run incident on Glasgow's Great Western Road.

The Home Economics teacher died from her injuries following the incident last Friday at 5.30pm. She was 60 years old.

On Tuesday police removed a large trailer from the yard of an Oban garage, as part of their on-going investigations.

It is understood the garage has no connection to the incident.

Gaelic teacher
Originally from Portnahaven, Isle of Islay, Valerie lived in the west end of Glasgow with her husband. She leaves behind two children and three grandchildren.

Valerie's brother Angus Ferguson, who is president of the GG, said: 'The family has gathered around Kenny at this sad time. Valerie was very family orientated and had lots of friends. She loved cooking and always enjoyed putting on a big spread for everyone at choir events.'

Mrs Thomson, a fluent

Gaelic speaker, had taught for a couple of years at the Glasgow Gaelic School and latterly at Glasgow Academy. Her death has shocked the Glasgow Gaelic community and many of those involved in Gaelic music, who have sent messages of condolence to the family.

Family friend Duncan MacDonald sang with the GG and is now a member of Oban and Taynuilt Gaelic choirs. He said: 'Choir members across the country who knew Kenny and Val will be absolutely devastated. Val was the kindest person under the sun and had a tremendous sense of humour.'

MacGillivray's ~ Seafood ~

Come along and sample our fantastic new menu for 2009.

All produce is fresh and caught locally

MacGillivray's Seafood
Railway Pier, Oban
Open 7 days from 10am to 10pm

THE BOATHOUSE RESTAURANT
KINGAIRLOCH

Thursday: 11am - 8pm • Friday: 11am - 8pm
Saturday: 11am - 8pm • Sunday: 11am - 3pm
*8pm last orders

At the head of Loch a'Choire • To book call: 01967 411 232

Free moorings available

Stunning lochside location • Seasonal & locally sourced produce • Lunch & dinner • Private hire • Wireless internet access

West Coast Motors
SERVING PEOPLE SINCE 1954

NEW for 2009
*Shuttle service between Dunstaffnage Marina and Oban Town Centre with connections for Kerrera

Service operates on 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 7th August 2009

• Single £1.50 • Return £2.50 • Full timetable available online
(*additional journeys to 405 Oban - Appin timetable)

Tel: 01586 552 319
www.westcoastmotors.co.uk

Heroin charge for Mull workman

A MULL labourer who admitted possession of heroin was fined £300 at Oban Sheriff Court last week.

The court heard that police officers on patrol had stopped Andrew Duffy, aged 29 of Torlochan Byre, Gruline while he was driving on the Isle of Mull on April 25 this year.

When he was later searched at Craignure Police Office, 0.2g of the Class A drug was found to be in his possession.

Defence agent, Alyson Wilson said that Duffy had never been before the court.

Mrs Wilson said: 'He tells me this was just a totally foolish thing to do.'

'He purchased the heroin in Oban; it was for his own personal use.'

Passing sentence, Sheriff Douglas Small acknowledged that Duffy was a first offender.

Hospital row almost ends in jail for Oban woman

SHOUTING abuse and swearing at a doctor and nurse at Lorn and the Islands Hospital resulted in a £500 fine for an Oban woman.

Oban Sheriff Court heard last week that Karen McGillivray, of 13c Corran Brae, was found slumped against a wall by police, just after midnight on April 11 this year.

The 48-year-old hotel worker was taken to the accident and emergency unit at the Lorn and Islands Hospital by the police to receive treatment from medical staff.

Defence agent Sandy Mitchell said alcohol was the cause of his client's behaviour.

Mr Mitchell told the court: 'She remembers very little about the whole thing.'

Passing sentence, Sheriff Douglas Small said the accused had 'narrowly escaped' a period of custody at Cornton Vale women's prison.

Sheriff Small said: 'People who work in the hospital should not be subject to this type of behaviour.'

Future of Isle of Rum nature reserve goes to consultation

ISLANDERS and visitors are being asked to comment on plans for new visitor facilities on the island of Rum's national nature reserve.

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) plan to develop a range of 'high quality visitor

facilities' which it hopes will improve enjoyment and understanding of the reserve.

A public consultation exercise will run until October 11 this year aimed at finding out what people think about proposals for the

management of the reserve over the next six years.

Susan Davies of SNH said: 'This consultation is important because it allows people to tell us what they think about the reserve and its management.'

Rum holds a special

interest for many people and we'd be delighted to hear their views.

'This is a chance for anyone with an interest in Rum to have a say on what they think its future management should include. I am also particularly keen to

get feedback from visitors who travel across to Rum and stay on the island during their visit to the reserve.'

Rum is one of the oldest nature reserves in the country, attracts around 10,000 visitors a year, and

boasts a mountain-top colony of Manx shearwaters, around a third of the world's population.

It was also the base for the first sea eagle reintroduction programme in 1975 and has golden eagles and a population of otters.

One year ban for driver who caused Muckairn crash

A MAN who drove down the wrong side of the A85, sending another car swerving into a ditch and injuring its passengers, has admitted careless driving.

Oban Sheriff Court heard last week that Robert Anton of 36 Golfhill Drive, Alexandria, had been negotiating a tight bend near Muckairn on April 8 this year when he crossed onto the opposite carriageway.

Prosecutor fiscal Craig Harris said Anton hit the wing mirror of an oncoming car causing another car to swerve to avoid him.

'That caused the vehicle to skid off the carriageway into a ditch,' he said.

Mr Harris added that as Anton returned to the correct side of the road a third car had to take evasive action.

The incident was reported to the police by other motorists and Anton also admitted failing to stop and give his details after an accident.

Defence agent Gordon Seaton said the 57 year old had been suffering ill health which affected his driving, and had since sold his car and returned his licence to the DVLA.

Sheriff Douglas Small banned Anton from driving for one year and ordered that he re-sit the driving test before taking to the roads again. Anton was also fined £300 for driving without due care and attention.

Sheriff Small said: 'I'm duty-bound to ensure that you do not drive again unless you are fit to drive.'

Oban thief stole from cars in garage

AN OBAN man who admitted stealing cigarettes, a car stereo and other items from cars in a garage has been ordered to do 100 hours of community service.

William Burns, aged 29 of Room 6, Donmor Lodge, took the items in July of last year. At Oban Sheriff Court last week, Sheriff Douglas Small told Burns: 'You cannot commit crimes and expect to get away with it.'

Uists put Art on the Map

Twenty-eight venues offering photography, sculpture, watercolours, mixed media, oils and acrylics, and crafts such as stained glass, pottery, book-binding, and handspinning



Corinna Krause, left and Judith Entwisle-Baker, right, organisers of the Uists' annual Art on the Map exhibition.

THE UISTS' annual art festival is now underway with 28 venues and 36 artists exhibiting over the next month.

Art on the Map is in its sixth year, showcasing the work of local artists in garages, sheds, schools, hotels and private homes. Locations span a 70 mile stretch from Berneray in the north to Polochar at the southern-most tip of South Uist.

Inspired
Much of the art on show is inspired by the island landscape and environment and includes photography, sculpture, watercolours, mixed media, oils and acrylics, and crafts such as stained glass, pottery, book-binding, and traditional handspinning.

There is also a wide range of creative workshops for the public to take part in throughout the month-long event.

Judith Entwisle-Baker, a landscape artist based in North Uist who is organising the event with Corinna Krause, said Art on the Map had become a regular fixture for visitors.

She said: 'There are people who come to the islands during Art on the Map because they want to see the art and do the workshops, so there's a wider economic benefit.'

'For the artists, exhibiting also gives you confidence, it's like an actor on stage with an audience, and a kind of shallow-end exposure to being commercial about your art, finding out what people want to buy.'

'It's also important as a source of revenue for quite a lot of artists. In 2007 we know that around £20,000 was generated in direct sales from Art on the Map.'

This year the event was boosted by Homecoming Scotland funding, enabling improved publicity, marketing and signage.

Homecoming 2009 also sparked the theme, Arrivals and Departures, for this year's Art on the Map exhibition at Taigh-Chearsabhagh centre in Lochmaddy, showing one work from every artist taking part.

Art on the Map runs until August 15.

Oban Bay dolphins may be under threat warn experts

DOLPHINS may be frightened away from Oban Bay if watchers continue to scare the mammals.

The summer visitors normally stay for a day or two but this year the mammals have stayed for a few weeks. The small pod has become a feature of boat tours and visitors to the esplanade. However a conservation group are calling for watchers to be vigilant and not frighten the mammals away.

The Tobermory-based Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust (HWDT) is

particularly interested in the dolphins and is urging watchers to tread carefully.

Laura Mandelberg, HWDT Sightings Officer, said: 'It is unusual for this species to turn up in a busy, inshore area like Oban Bay, and even more unusual for them to still be here several weeks later.'

'The dolphins appear to be healthy and behaving normally - they arrived of their own accord and will move out of the area when they are ready to do so. It's great for us all to be able to see them, so it's in both our

best interests and theirs to make them stay a pleasant one and not to disturb them as they feed, rest and look after their young. It's also important that boats stay far enough away to avoid any risk of injuring the animals - especially as the group includes calves.'

'People should watch the dolphins without disturbing them. Common dolphins are naturally inquisitive and often approach boats to bow-ride but be careful not to split the dolphins up, especially mothers from their young.'



A dolphin playing happily in Oban Bay. The mammals have been visiting for a few weeks and watchers want them to stay safe in the bay.

Argyll-based smokehouse strikes gold in national taste awards

A SMOKEHOUSE in Argyll will have to make room in its trophy cabinet for more silverware after the Guild of Fine Foods awarded it four gold stars at the Great Taste Awards 2009.

Smoked organic salmon, flaky roast smoked Scottish salmon, smoked eel and smoked Loch Etive trout from Inverawe Smokehouses were all praised for their exquisite taste and quality.

Owner Rosie Campbell-Preston is absolutely delighted that the products have been recognised for the sixth year running.

Mrs Campbell-Preston said: 'It is always a great compliment when Inverawe products win awards but to achieve such accolades from the Guild of Fine Foods, which sets the benchmark for speciality food

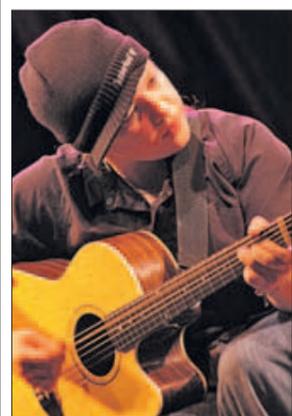
throughout the UK, is a wonderful achievement.'

'With almost five thousand entries this year, we are proud to be among those that have won an award, particularly as the decision comes from some of the finest chefs and leading food critics in the business.'

Inverawe Smokehouses, run by the Campbell-Preston family, has been producing its award-winning products from the banks of Loch Awe since 1974.

Since 2004 Inverawe has won many bronze, silver and gold awards at the Fine Food Awards, as well as a Highlands and Islands excellence award. The firm has also won a supreme champion award at the International Food Exhibition for its organic salmon.

Bodega to spark up Piping Live!



Tia Files of Bodega at Piping Live! in 2007.

WEST Highland band, Bodega, will open this year's Piping Live! festival along with the Red Hot Chilli Pipers on August 10.

The week-long festival incorporates the Piping Live! Glasgow International Piping Festival and The World Pipe Band Championships.

More than 16,000 pipers and performers, along with 50,000 visitors from 16 different countries, are expected to descend on Glasgow during the week.

Bodega last played the festival in 2007 and guitarist Tia Files, from Oban, said: 'We cannot wait to play at Piping Live! in Glasgow again this year.'

'It is always so much fun and the standard of piping the event brings together is impressive. We look forward to sharing a stage with some of the world's greatest piping talent.'

www.mgmtimber.co.uk

Suppliers of Quality Timber and Building Products to Trade and Public

- Decking & Fencing
- Hardwood Flooring
- Sheet Materials
- Wetwall
- Doors
- Trusses
- Laminate Flooring
- Windows
- Insulation
- Aggregates
- Cement / Plasters
- Block / Brick

Special Offer
Decking
Timeless decking
£1.09 per metre
38mm x 125mm

Parador flooring products now available

Scotland's Timber Merchant of Choice

t: 01631 563948
Lynn Road, Oban
www.mgmtimber.co.uk

Perth - Inverness - Oban - Dundee
Glasgow - Dunfermline - Glenrothes
Edinburgh - Wishaw - Grangemouth
Prestwick - Hillington

THIS MONTH IN YOUR NEW LOOK SCOTTISH FIELD... NOW ON SALE

READ... SPLENDID ISOLATION: The 10 most gorgeous places to get away from it all.

LAST DAYS OF ST KILDA: Memories of a community's final farewell to island life.

TORRIDONIAN TITANS: A journey in search of the giant trout of Loch Damph

TOBERMORY'S DISTILLERY: How its harbour was the key to Tobermory's fortunes.

EDZELL GARDEN'S ROYAL PAST: The walled garden at Newtonmill, where the Queen Mother once walked.

WIN... A PHOTOGRAPHIC HIGHLAND SAFARI: in the company of expert photographer and nature writer Polly Pullar, plus photo accessories.

DISCUSS... HAVE YOUR SAY: Share views, rate whiskies or restaurants, or submit book reviews on our forum at www.scottishfield.co.uk

'Extraordinarily drunk' Islay man faces jail

AN ISLAY man who took his motorbike for a spin when he was 'extraordinarily drunk' may face a custodial sentence, Campbeltown Sheriff Court heard last week.

Kevin MacLean, aged 36, of Anfield Cottage, Shore Street, Bowmore, pled guilty to driving on the A847 near Bruichladdich, Islay, on April 25 while four-and-a-half times the legal drink/drive limit.

Police were called to an accident at 4.25pm after MacLean, a first offender, came off his bike.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson asked for reports before sentencing. She said: 'This was a lethal level of alcohol. You were extraordinarily drunk. We will look at all possibilities of disposal for this serious offence.

'That will clearly include considering a custodial sentence.'

Easdale boat shed plan refused

A PLANNING application to renovate an old boatshed on Easdale Island has been refused by councillors on conservation grounds.

A special meeting of Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee last week heard that Easdale Island Cottages Limited had applied for planning permission to renovate the boatshed and turn it into a store.

Planning officials had recommended that approval be granted with certain conditions, despite six objections from neighbouring residents.

A motion by councillor Neil McKay to refuse the application read: 'This is in an important conservation area. The design has quality but does not fit in this zone. It does not contribute to the character or appearance of the area.'

Councillor McKay's motion was carried by four votes to two.

Dalmally man is India expert

A JOURNALIST and historian from Dalmally will, next March, lead a unique journey through a part of the world on which he is a respected and acclaimed expert.

India travel specialists Pettitts has teamed up with John Keay - who has also reported from the country for the BBC and *The Economist* in a career spanning four decades - for an 18-day tour.

Beginning in Mumbai and drawing to a close in Delhi, the comprehensive itinerary traverses the vast states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, journeying deep into the sub continent from the Arabian Sea to the Western Ghats and the Deccan Plateau.

Drink drive arrest

AN 18-YEAR-old man has been charged with an alleged drink-driving offence after he failed a roadside breath test.

The man was stopped by police on the A85 as he approached Oban.

Councillors back unique deal between landowner and community

A UNIQUE development which will see a landowner gift land to an Argyll community in return for the right to build seven houses has been given planning permission by councillors.

A special meeting of Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee last week heard that Kilniver and Kilmelford Community Council had applied for planning permission to build seven homes, a playing field, a woodland walkway, car parking and improvements to recycling on land adjacent to Kilmelford village

hall. The meeting heard that the community council recently met with planning officials to discuss the development. A letter had also been received by the landowner stating that he was willing to gift land for the playing fields, woodland walk and car park to the community in return for seven housing plots.

Planning officials had recommended the application be refused as it did not comply with planning policy.

However at the meeting Councillor

Neil McKay put forward a motion which read: 'This new application will fill in an area that could well be considered as a gap site and any development will in fact round off this inlet of the loch.

'This development will deliver a significant number of important and much needed community benefits to the village of Kilmelford and adjoining settlements.

'While the application is in certain respects in conflict with policies, those conflicts are not as acute as indicated by the planning

officials because the application site is properly described as an infill site.'

The motion was unanimously supported by the area committee, whose chairman Councillor Duncan MacIntyre said: 'We commend the community council and the landowner for getting together and moving forward with a development that will enhance the area.

'We have overwhelming support for what they are trying to achieve. This is a unique development,

something that should be highlighted in the community and across the country.

'I want to assure the community that their good work is protected and will be incorporated into planning conditions when this is discussed with the council's planning and legal departments.'

Councillors heard that the application will now be put before the council's protective services committee in August this year before being put before the Scottish Government for approval.

Oban man admits supplying heroin

A MAN found with wraps of heroin and £390 in his flat admitted at Oban Sheriff Court last week supplying Class A drugs.

The court heard that police went to Martin McLeod's home at 4 Royal Bank Buildings, Stevenson Street, with a search warrant.

They found 15 small wraps of heroin as well as one larger quantity, with a total street value of £350 to £500.

The 27-year-old denied further charges of possession of heroin and throwing the drugs out the window to obstruct officers' investigations. These pleas were accepted by the Procurator Fiscal.

Sentence was deferred until August 17 for reports.

Speaking from the dock, McLeod appealed to the Sheriff, Douglas Small, to release him on bail until that date, to allow him to take part in a detox programme.

Sheriff Small remanded him in custody however, saying: 'I'm prepared to get reports but I will not be giving him his liberty.'

Big black cat spotted at North Connel

A LARGE black cat was spotted on the prowl near Connel Bridge last week by a tourist who had anticipated viewing the areas' less exotic wildlife.

Visitor Neil Cunningham was holidaying with his family in Lochnell Cottage, on the shores of Loch Etive, at North Connel.

At around 11pm, he was on the deck of the property admiring the view when he heard a panting noise.

He said: 'I was looking out towards the water when I heard a noise and this large, muscular black cat appeared. I could almost touch it, it was so close.'

Mr Cunningham said he didn't have time to be alarmed: 'It was over in a flash. I heard it; I saw it; it was gone, moving very fast.'

He added they had expected to enjoy the wildlife of Argyll on holiday, but such a large creature was not expected: 'We have seen foxes, we saw an otter yesterday,' he added, 'but we didn't expect to see this.'

Woman admits carrying drugs to Islay

A WOMAN who claimed she was acting as a drugs courier for a member of her family on Islay was admonished at Campbeltown Sheriff Court last week.

Carol Docherty, aged 21, of 21A Maple Drive, Johnstone, admitted supplying cannabis at a hearing in February, when she was ordered to be of good behaviour.

Defence agent Sandy Mitchell said that Docherty, who said she was carrying the drugs to an aunt that lived on Islay, was full of remorse for the incident.



Rona Wilkie will play at the inaugural Scotland County Highland Games in Oban's twin town of Laurinburg.

Argyll musician bound for Scotland County Games

AN ARGYLL musician has been invited to play at the inaugural Scotland County Highland Games in Oban's twin town of Laurinburg, North Carolina.

Fiddle player and Gaelic singer Rona Wilkie was nominated to play at the games (October 2 to 4) by Argyll and Bute Council Gaelic policy officer Donald MacLeod, who is also involved in the annual high school exchange programme between Oban and Laurinburg.

Mull connection

Rona, who is studying history at Edinburgh University, grew up on Mull but her family came to Oban four years ago.

She said she was excited by the prospect of playing at the event and running 'cultural workshops' in the county's schools but the 21-year-old is no stranger to the US.

Rona said: 'I have been to the US before and I am just back from Montana, where I was teaching at a fiddle camp, and last year

I was in California teaching. You generally get a really positive reaction from people over there and it is a learning experience for me too, because of the many different styles of fiddle music I hear.

Style

'A lot of their music derived from what we play so I am really looking forward to hearing what they do in North Carolina. Maybe the east coast style is even more similar to what we play.'

Rona will travel to Scotland County at the end of September and stay for a week.

Organisers of the Scotland County Highland Games are expecting an attendance in the thousands and will display five pipe bands, amateur athletic competitions, Scottish dance demonstrations and solo piping and drumming competitions.

Special children's athletic events will also be held, where participants will wear a kilt provided by the games committee.

Tourism booming on Hebridean beaches

'Demand for rooms this summer has been phenomenal'

FRAGILE Hebridean economies have reported a visitor boom - thanks partly to the effects of the economic recession.

Having witnessed a rise in the number of UK visitors this summer, accommodation providers in the islands believe cash-strapped tourists are holidaying closer to home this year.

The Coll Hotel has hardly had a room free for more than five months to the end of September.

'This has been one of the best summers in the 25 years we've been in business here and could well turn out to be an absolute record,' said co-owner Julie Oliphant. 'We're turning people away almost every day because we simply don't have availability. There's still the occasional room left until the end of September but we've been sold out for months and are already taking bookings for next year from people who couldn't get in this time.'

Mrs Oliphant said that the island has also benefited from Highland Airways' introduction of direct flights from Oban. Paul Graham is the owner

of An Taigh-osda guesthouse on Islay and also chairman of Islay and Jura Tourism and Marketing Group.

'Very good season'

He said: 'Our occupancy in May was 92 per cent and in June it was 97 per cent. In August, out of 150 room nights, we have eight left.'

'To be honest we were pretty much booked up for the summer in May.'

'Islay and Jura, as a whole, is reporting a very good season.'

'My brother lives on South Uist and he says Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) has made a huge contribution to the number of people visiting the Western Isles but we don't have RET here - although we would welcome it.'

Hotels in Tobermory, Mull, are reporting higher than average bookings. Rebecca Gallagher from the Park Lodge said: 'We are Josie Jump's house, from the BBC *Balamory* programme, and this is only our third season on Mull.'

'This year has been good and although some of the self catering properties are claiming that business is

quite slow, we are doing well.

'Perhaps it is because people are booking for three or four days at a time and want a hotel. Whatever it is, this season has been good. The weather has helped tremendously.'

Tobermory resident Cathy Kain, aged 90, said: 'This year has been one of the busiest I have known. At the Highland games last Thursday there was a huge international turnout.'

Aileen McDonald is operations director at Atlantic Edge Hotels, which owns the Scarinish Hotel and the Tiree Lodge Hotel on Tiree.

She said: 'We recently took on the lodge, which was a calculated risk, but it has really paid off for us because the demand for rooms this summer has been phenomenal.'

'The island as a whole has been incredibly busy but it is not foreign visitors that have made the difference - our market this summer has been British people who are spending their money more carefully because of the recession.'

Loud midnight music leads to £300 fine

A ROW between neighbours over the volume of music ended up in Oban Sheriff Court last week.

Timothy Gregory, of 9 Richard Court, Oban, pleaded guilty to shouting, swearing and challenging a neighbour to a fight, after complaints about the noise coming from his flat after midnight on April 9.

Gregory, aged 30, also admitted committing

a breach of the peace and threatening two police officers who came to resolve the situation.

Fining Gregory £300, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'If there is a repeat of this type of behaviour - playing loud music, causing a disturbance - and you are brought back to court, I won't have much hesitation in imposing an ASBO on you.'

Connel residents raise their campaign against over-sized road signs

A VILLAGE is stepping up its campaign against new signs they say are over-sized and badly placed.

The electronic height-warning signs were put in up Connel last month, powered by wind turbines and solar panels. Residents say the signs were inappropriately placed next to protected foreshore and blocking sea views popular with

visitors. A public meeting in the village last week agreed to demand a meeting with Transerv and to find an alternative site for the signs.

The meeting heard more than 100 people have signed a petition opposing the signs. Lloyd Halliday, petition organiser and owner of a bed and breakfast, said both locals and holidaymakers had added their names to the campaign.

He said: 'One German couple who are regular visitors to the area said they found it most distressing.'

Letters have also been written to councillors, Alan Reid MP and Jim Mather MSP.

Harry Powell, secretary of Connel Community Council which called the meeting, said the most galling thing about the situation was there had been no discussion with

the community about the size or location of the new signs: 'There was no prior notification about this. There was no consultation really about what was going to be put in,' he said. 'Many people have made the point that it is a sledge hammer to crack a nut.'

He also read a letter which had been received from Scotland Transerv, which said bridge-strikes

over the last three years had cost £100,000 in repairs and caused over-night closures and power cuts in North Connel.

While villagers were not convinced the enormous signs were necessary, most accepted they were here to stay and agreed to propose an alternative site to Transerv and ask for a meeting along with local councillors.

Go to the Index!

THE ONLY TELEPHONE DIRECTORY WHICH IS LOCAL TO OBAN!

Available from:
 Soroba Stores, Pitt Stop,
 Dunollie Stores,
 Bridge of Awe Service Station,
 Tourist Information,
 Taynuilt Post Office Garage,
 Soroba Road Filling Station,
 Co-op, Hannah's,
 Albany Stores, WH Smith,
 McColls, Connel Village Store,
 Benderloch Supermarket,
 Dunbeg Stores and Tesco

Oban Index 2009

OUT NOW

The Oban Index has all the local numbers you need. Available from all good newsagents, local supermarkets and the Oban Times office.

Firefighters and police tackle the diesel spill in Miller Road, Oban.

Lorry punctures its own diesel tank

ARGYLL and Bute Council staff worked desperately to stem the flow of 300 litres of diesel in Miller Road, Oban, after a large lorry punctured its own fuel tank last Wednesday.

The lorry was attempting to reverse into Oban High School when the incident occurred. Firefighters and police were quickly on the scene and were joined by workmen from Argyll and Bute Council in using sandbags to control the spillage.

Although most of the diesel was contained, around 20 litres of the fuel got into the town's sewerage system. Police and fire services closed the road while the clean-up took place.

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency was made aware of the incident.

Corporate stationery
 Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, comp slips

Personal stationery
 Matching paper & envelopes, postcards, address labels

Wedding stationery
 Invitations, order of service, menus, place cards, thank you cards

Event stationery
 Invitations, raffle tickets, thank you cards

Promotional material
 Posters, flyers, leaflets, calendars, tickets

Photocopies/Laminating
 Colour double sided copies up to A3. Laminating up to A3

krisp print

Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,
 Burnbank, Burnside Street, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6JD
 Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk www.krispprint.co.uk

Glencoe gathering

A CLAN gathering with a difference will take place in Glencoe on Saturday – thanks to a chance visit by two Americans to the village.

New York couple Ryan and Penny Littrell called at Alistair and Ros MacDonald's home in 2007 to talk about Glencoe and MacDonald ancestry, and the two men wondered if they could be related.

After DNA research Ryan and Alistair found out they were distant cousins, related to dozens, possibly hundreds, of people across the globe with a common ancestor – one Angus McDonald of Achtrachatan, who lived in Glencoe in the 1700s. MacDonalds from USA, Canada, Glasgow and New Zealand, all tracing their line back to Angus, will attend the Year of Homecoming celebration.

Race returns

THE SKYE Bridge 10k road race makes its return on Kyleakin Gala Day on Saturday after a gap of two years.

Organiser Jonathon MacKinnon was delighted with the interest shown in the race since the decision to restore it to the athletics calendar was made.

'Anyone wishing to register on the day can do so from 11.20am at Kyleakin village hall,' he said.

Workshop fun

FORT William Library is holding a felt-making workshop next Wednesday, August 5, from 2 to 4pm.

The event, open to adults and children aged seven and over, forms part of the 'Sithichean Sgraitheach' Skye Faeries exhibition launch at the library. More information on 01397 703552.

Newsdesk
01397
703003

Handbag warning

WOMEN have been reminded to remain vigilant with their handbags, after police received a report of a theft from a handbag in an Oban pub over the weekend.

The woman had left her handbag unattended for a short time and when she returned found a quantity of cash had been stolen.

Visitor injured on Staffa

WHILE conducting inspections on passenger vessels in the vicinity of Staffa, the Coastguard vessel Hawk was last week alerted to an incident on Staffa.

An American visitor had fallen on steps on the island and had sustained a head injury.

The crew of the Hawk landed on the island and carried out first aid before evacuating the lady to Fionnphric and then on to Bunnassan Surgery for treatment.

Two appear on assault charges

TWO OBAN men appeared at Oban Sheriff Court on charges of assault.

Simon Avni, aged 18, of 5G Colonsay Terrace, and co-accused Allan Beaton, aged 29, of Corran Brae, denied the charges.

Avni is accused of an alleged assault on July 25, while on bail. Beaton is accused of allegedly assaulting a man with a bottle, on the same night, both at Corran Brae, Oban.

Woman arrested

POLICE were called to an Oban town centre pub following a disturbance involving two women.

As a result a 24-year-old woman was arrested for an alleged assault on an 18-year-old woman.

The incident occurred in the early hours of Sunday morning.



John Wattzman, Underwater Centre employees and Fort FC players Jonathon Hewitt and Danny Macintosh, and Steve Ham at the cheque handover. 10_f31under01

Underwater Centre dives into sponsorship deal with Fort FC

THE INTERNATIONALLY renowned Underwater Centre has been named as Fort William FC's main sponsor for season 2009-10.

The deal, worth £10,000, will also see the successful Loch Linnhe-based subsea training and trials centre offering behind the scenes business advice and guidance to the club's board.

The centre's present management team bought over the business after it went into receivership five years ago, turning it into one of the world's top providers of subsea training – and now want to help transform Fort FC's fortunes.

The sponsorship move came after new Fort FC chairman John Wattzman and vice chairman Derek McGillivray were appointed to the club's executive committee.

General manager of the Underwater Centre Steve Ham was impressed with the new committee's commitment and passion and its youth development policies – and took

the plunge. He said: 'I was encouraged to see how the club's finances had been brought back to an even keel.'

'Credit has to be given to the previous executive who did an excellent job in eradicating substantial debt and have left the new executive on a much healthier financial footing.'

'This is an opportunity to give back to the community, and I believe a successful football team could enhance the feel good factor that has already been developed by the likes of our local shinty, rugby and boxing clubs.'

A 'delighted' Mr Wattzman said: 'The Underwater Centre is a major employer in the area and at the hub of the Lochaber community so it's a very fitting partnership.'

'This partnership is a new start for Fort William Football Club and we are confident that, with the support of The Underwater Centre, we will go from strength to strength.'

High Street plan vote

ROSS, SKYE and Lochaber planning councillors will on Tuesday rule on Kilmartin Ashford's revised application for a £7.5m hotel and shops project on the former Grand Hotel and MacTavish's Kitchens site on High Street, Fort William.

North British Windpower's four-turbine windfarm plan at Druim Fada, above Corpach, will also be considered. Both are recommended for approval.

Village site revamp gets go-ahead

A £68,000 project to turn a derelict site in the centre of Kinlochleven into public space has been given the go-ahead.

Work on transforming land next to The Ice Factor gets underway on Monday August 17. Kinlochleven Community Trust is putting up £30,000, but needed external match funding to progress.

Development officer Moira Hartley told *The Oban Times*: 'Kinlochleven

Community Trust is pleased to announce that the final two funding applications, LEADER and Awards for All, have been approved, which means our regeneration project can now go ahead. KCT will also part fund the project along with Kinlochleven community donations and fundraising, the Scottish Community Foundation, Highland Council and the Co-operative Community Fund.'

School roll tops 150 for first time

KINLOCHLEVEN High School will start the 2009-10 session with more than 150 pupils for the first time.

The roll numbered only around 100 in 2000-01, but since then has flourished under the dynamic leadership of Jim Sutherland - now head at Lochaber high - and present head teacher John McGilp.

Mr McGilp told *The Oban Times*: 'Jim

came into Kinloch like a breath of fresh air and started to turn things around, and stopped the flow of pupils from South Lochaber up to Lochaber High School. The new building and the astroturf have obviously also made an impact. The staff we have here currently are very good. Combine this with small class sizes and as a result we are getting pretty good exam results.'



Corporal Peter MacGregor, left, Highlands and Islands' Young Piper of the Year, and Connor Sinclair, under 15s champion.

Ullapool soldier wins Highlands and Islands' Young Piper of the Year

Crieff boy, 13, wins junior event in Uists

AN ULLAPOOL soldier is the Highlands and Islands' Young Piper of the Year after a hard-fought contest in Sgoil Lionacleit in Benbecula.

Corporal Peter MacGregor, aged 27, is currently serving with the Royal Regiment of Scotland in Germany and has finally taken the coveted trophy after competing for the title for the last five years.

He said: 'There was heavy competition today. There are more players coming in from outside, and standards locally are on the up, which raises the game.'

'I'm very pleased to have won.'

In the under-15 category, Connor Sinclair from Crieff swept the board clean.

The 13-year-old went home with armfuls of silverware having won every category in his event.

Connor attends the City of Edinburgh Music School, tutored in piping by Andrew Wright.

Connor said: 'There have never been pipers in my family before, but my papa

was a drummer in Comrie Pipe Band. I used to watch him, and knew I wanted to be a piper.'

Alexander Levack of Maryburgh won the under-18 title, while Mairi MacInnes of North Uist, Pol Carlin of Benbecula and Ailean Steele of South Uist took the local titles.

In the junior section, Anndra MacIsaac of South Uist won the open chanter and Connor MacAulay, also of South Uist, won the novice piping.

Organised by the Uist and Barra Piping Association, the championship is now in its 19th year, and this year attracted more than 50 participants.

Junior events judge John Angus Smith said: 'I was very impressed with the standard of play.'

'I judged the same competition last year and not only is there a significant increase in the number of competitors, there is also a significant improvement in the standard of play.'

Seal protest hunger striker experiences health problems

HUNGER striker Mark Carter, who is now in week eight of his protest against the shooting of common seals, says he has been experiencing health problems and has lost two-and-a-half stone in weight.

Mr Carter, from Bonawe, says his hunger strike is a last resort, used to highlight the shooting of the UK's seals and the need for 'real' Marine Protected Areas around the coast.

He said: 'The population of the country's common seals has taken a dramatic decline over the last two years; nearly 10,000 common seals have 'disappeared'. That's a huge one third of the country's total numbers. Seals have been targeted by both fishermen and salmon fish farmers.'

Mr Carter's fast is due to



Mark Carter.

last the three months of the common seal 'close' season. He eats a slice of toast with his medication each day.

He is asking supporters to help by signing the online petition at <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/stopsealshooting/>

Town traders need influx

A TRADE association that has been running in Oban for 10 years faces an uncertain future since its committee fell to three members.

Oban Town Centre Traders Association, which has 25 member businesses, is now looking for members to join the committee. The committee has been instrumental in organising and funding the town's Christmas lights and reindeer parade each year.

Association chairman David Finlayson said: 'It has been 10 years since we formed and it would be nice to see an influx of

new committee members to carry on with the current commitments.

'Maybe it is a reflection of the falling number of small businesses but I believe we still have a buoyant town centre, which many towns don't have.'

Tackle

We have plenty of members but we just need a few more of them to come onto the committee because then we can tackle all the issues we need to in the town centre.

'As the committee has diminished we have had to look at how much we can cope with.'

Good show from Argyll pipe bands

KINTYRE Schools Pipe Band retained their novice title at the European Pipe Band Championships.

The Band, led by Pipe Major Andy Gibbs, swept the opposition aside at Greenock to make it two in a row.

Highland Council found to have breached Data Protection Act after theft of laptops

The stolen laptops contained sensitive personal information, including health records

HIGHLAND Council has been found to be in breach of the Data Protection Act (DPA) following the theft of two laptop computers from the authority's Inverness HQ.

Two laptops, one of which contained information about personal injury claims and related paperwork, were stolen from a locked office in November last year.

The laptops contained personal details relating to around 1,400 people, including medical information. Both laptops were password protected and stored in a locked office, but they were not encrypted

and no additional physical security measures were in place.

After an investigation, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) found the council had broken the DPA by failing to safeguard the records properly.

Important

Assistant information commissioner for Scotland Ken Macdonald said: 'The stolen laptops contained sensitive personal information, including health records.'

'I urge all councils and their executive teams to ensure that data protection is treated as an important part

of corporate governance. 'Safeguarding sensitive personal information must be embedded in their organisational culture. No public body can afford to take risks with personal details, least of all health records.'

Highland Council Chief Executive Nigel Dodds has signed a formal undertaking that all portable and mobile devices containing personal data, including laptops, are encrypted by September 30 this year.

Security

The council has also agreed to ensure that physical security measures and

procedures will be adequate to prevent the theft of devices containing people's personal details.

No NHS health records were involved, only provided by claimants in support of benefits claims, and the ICO has accepted the extra measures being put in place.

Personal data

Mr Dodds said: 'The council and its staff take the protection of personal data very seriously and, while we can not be responsible for the criminal theft of our property, I have signed the undertaking to ensure our security measures are enhanced.'

Call for urgent rethink on Gaelic education

EXCLUSIVE
By STEPHEN NORRIS

GAELIC education came under further scrutiny this week after a prominent fèisean movement member urged a rethink of current policy.

Ann Stewart, aged 23, from Invergarry, who teaches simple Gaelic to young children through Fort Augustus-based Fèis Gleann Albainn, claims Gaelic medium education is potentially divisive and ignores English-speaking children keen to become Gaelic speakers of the future.

Ms Stewart, who has just completed a year's Gaelic at Lews Castle College campus on Benbecula and is returning to Aberdeen University after the summer holidays to complete her degree in the language, warned only a single Gaelic speaker native to Glen Garry remained and radical action was needed to make the language more accessible to the majority.

Her comments follow last week's *Oban Times* exclusive, where Gaelic committee councillors Donald Cameron and Drew Millar clashed over whether Gaelic medium education in the Highlands was working.

Ms Stewart said: 'I don't

think it's fair to pump all the money into Gaelic medium. You are missing a whole catchment of kids in primary school who have no knowledge of Gaelic,' she said. 'If you give it to all children rather than the select few, you will get some continuing it in the high school, and being so interested in it that they may have a bigger chance of continuing it further and maybe get a job in it.'



Critical: Ann Stewart. 10_f31ann01

'I met people on Uist who went through Gaelic medium and you would not know they had Gaelic at all, because they would not speak it.'

'When you look at the Irish situation where they are forced to speak it at school, they give it up as soon as they get the chance.'

She added: 'Children who go to a school with Gaelic medium almost resent each other, they really don't speak,' she said.

'Two people I was at the college with went to the same primary school, one went through Gaelic medium, while the other did not.'

'They were in the same playground at lunchtime. The Gaelic kids stuck with the Gaelic kids and the English kids stuck with the English kids. If they had not gone to college, I don't think they would have spoken at all.'

'The mother of the girl, who has Gaelic, never sent her through Gaelic medium because she thought it was potentially dangerous and did not like it. I think it would be helpful if schools were bilingual because both English and Gaelic would be seen as equal.'

'If they could give a little bit of money to each school, that could train up a teacher who can teach a little Gaelic regularly to keep kids interested in it.'

'At the fèis the kids absolutely loved Gaelic – from one year to the next they remembered the words, it was absolutely amazing.'

Gaelic committee chairman Eilean a' Cheo (Isle of Skye) councillor Hamish Fraser said he was conscious more parents were becoming aware of the value to children of being bilingual at a time resources for Gaelic's development were lacking. The shortage of teachers in Lochaber and Portree high schools and throughout the region was 'a cause for concern', he said, and the council was working with Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the government to seek a satisfactory solution.

He added: 'All primary and high school pupils have had, and will continue to have access to Gaelic medium education from beginner to saturation levels and the council will continue to pursue that course of choice. A two-tier system and elitism is not, and never will be, the council's objective.'



LORN LINES
You can email your Lorn news to lornlines@obantimes.co.uk

ISLE of Kerrera landowners John and Jo Grange are happy to let the owners of yachts at the island's marina land their helicopters in their field – as long as they make a donation to one of two charities.

The Granges, who live at Mount Pleasant, opposite Oban Marina, ask yacht owners to donate to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI) or Alzheimer's Scotland in return for landing space.

The first of these donations was recently made by a regular visitor to the marina, who granted £250 to the RNLI.

Oban Lifeboat coxswain Ronnie MacKillop, who accepted a cheque from Mr and Mrs Grange, said: 'I think Mr and Mrs Grange have come up with a great idea.'

'In this particular situation, the donor owns a boat at the marina, which he uses quite regularly, and, as a sea-going man, appreciates the value of the RNLI.'

'Donations like these are the life-blood of the RNLI and without these contributions we could not continue the good work we do.'



Oban Lifeboat coxswain Ronnie MacKillop accepts the cheque from John and Jo Grange.

□ □ □

Rockfield Primary Parents Council received a cheque for £500 from the MacQueen Brothers Community Fund.

Dale Kupris chairman of the parents council was on hand to accept the donation. He said: 'This is the best fund I have ever applied to.'

'I applied for the money on Monday and I was able to pick up the cheque on Wednesday. Normally when you apply for money you wait for months and they come back and say no.'

The money for the fund is raised through re-selling furniture donated to MacQueen Brothers, the Oban-based removals and storage firm.



Graham MacQueen of MacQueen Brothers presents a cheque from the MacQueen Brothers Community Fund to Dale Kupris, chairman of Rockfield Primary Parents Council

□ □ □

BARCALDINE Primary pupil Charlotte Collins left primary school to go to high school with a perfect attendance record for the whole seven years she was at the school.

Pictured, right, is Charlotte with Oban North and Lorn councillor Elaine Robertson, who handed out certificates to all the pupils with perfect attendance this year.

Charlotte's attendance record was described as a 'commendable achievement' by head teacher Jeanette Morrison.



OBANTIMESTALK
TELL US YOUR NEWS FROM YOUR AREA AT OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.OBANTIMES.CO.UK



Dunbeg residents hear of new roads and housing developments in their village

RESIDENTS in Dunbeg had the opportunity at a recent meeting to question those involved in the development of their village.

Gregor Cameron of West Highland Rural Solutions, a subsidiary of West Highland Housing Association (WHHA), gave an outline of all the developments on the cards for the village.

These include Highlands and Islands Enterprise plans for a science park at Dunstaffnage, West Highland Housing Association's hopes to build new housing, the

Scottish Association for Marine Science's (SAMS) expansion of its education facility and Argyll and Bute Council's plans for new roads into Dunbeg.

Liaison officer

Residents heard that it was not yet known which of the two new roads would be built first, if at all; that there was no funding in place as yet for any kind of housing development and that certain road improvements along Kirk Road were tied-in with planning permission for the first phase of the science park.

'Because we recognise the issues with the road we are offering to have someone who the community can get to know, a liaison officer,' said Mr Cameron.

He said the association wanted the community to be involved in the developments.

Some residents had concerns about the construction traffic on Kirk Road during the extension to the existing Argyll College to accommodate new facilities and then the first phase of the science park.

Residents were assured that the heavy traffic for SAMS

would finish before the science park started.

Elaine Walton of SAMS said that as the association was paying the contracts it could also dictate the hours traffic was allowed up and down the road.

Lesley McInnes, chief executive of WHHA, said that the housing association was probably three to four years away from getting underway in Dunbeg.

'That is actually beneficial because money is so tight for us and a longer lead up time will be useful,' she said.

As carers close one door another opens

THERE will be no loss of service to carers in North Argyll when the Quarriers Centre closes its doors on July 31 – because on August 1 a group of local people are steering it in a new direction.

New directors are planning a party to celebrate.

To mark the group taking over the reins at the centre an open day is being held at the Carers' Centre in Albany Street, Oban on August 1. Visitors can join with members of staff, and members of the Board of Trustees, in celebrating a new beginning.

Phillip White chairman of the steering group said: 'We have been greatly encouraged by the strong support from the community and staff at the carers' centre. A lot of work lies ahead but whatever it takes we are determined that this will result in the continued operation of this valuable service.'

Centre manager Ruth Moody said: 'August 1 will be a very significant day for us. I am thrilled at the prospect of the carers' centre becoming an independent company with charitable status. Staff are looking forward to developing the service and the fundraising strategy that will secure the continuation of the service.'

Dalmally man threw rocks at Taynuilt house

A DALMALLY man who pled guilty to breaking windows by throwing rocks has been ordered to pay £550 in fines and compensation.

Oban Sheriff Court heard last week that James Robert George McKay, of 1 Scott Terrace, had gone to a house in Taynuilt at 2am on December 27, 2008 to resolve a disagreement. However, when he arrived he went into the garden, picked up three rocks and threw them at two ground floor double-glazed windows.

Defending McKay, Edward Thornton said: 'This incident is completely out of character for him; he is normally a hardworking young man.'

Passing sentence, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'I sincerely hope I do not see you back in this court again.'

Man drove while banned

AN OBAN man admitted at Oban Sheriff Court last week that he drove a car while disqualified.

The court heard that William McConnel of Room 3, Ross House, Breadalbane Lane, was banned in 2000 and, although the period of disqualification had expired, he had not yet re-sat the driving test.

On April 12 he was stopped by police driving on Corran Esplanade with only a provisional licence, no supervision, insurance or 'L' plates.

Sentence was deferred until August 4 for McConnel to return to court with his driving licence.

Good news for Oban x-ray patients

NHS claim long-term cover identified

GOOD news for stressed-out patients in Argyll who have had to wait for up to one month for the results of x-rays taken in Oban.

Health chiefs in Argyll are hoping new locum doctors will reduce patients' waiting times for x-rays from Oban's Lorn and Islands Hospital.

Retired

The previous consultant radiologist in Oban retired in February last year and for more than 16 months the service in Oban has been covered by a succession of short-term locum consultants.

When locums are not available staff from Raigmore Hospital in Inverness have been drafted in to cover clinics in Oban, but NHS Highland say this has been kept to a minimum as patients were waiting too long for results.

After enquiries by MSP Jamie McGrigor NHS Highland has now said that it is hopeful that long-term cover for the service has now been identified.

In a letter to the MSP, NHS Highland said: 'Within the past year, when we have been unable to appoint a locum, as a contingency we have received assistance and support from colleagues at Raigmore Hospital.'

The statement added that NHS Highland have tried to minimise this because of the need for x-rays to be physically transferred back and forth for reporting and validation.

'Unfortunately the lack of locum consultant cover over recent weeks has made it necessary to seek further support from Raigmore and we acknowledge the shortcomings of this arrangement and seek to minimise the distress caused to patients in the wait to obtain their diagnostic results,' continued the statement.

The situation has been further compounded because the Oban and Inverness hospitals work on different IT systems, a hangover from when Oban was part of NHS Argyll and Clyde.

David Whiteoak, locality manager for Oban, Lorn and the Isles, said: 'We recognise that this is not ideal and this was one of the reasons why we have been conducting a review of radiological services in the Lorn and Islands Hospital.'

'This review is planned to be completed in the near future and we will then be able to move forward and plan a positive future for this service.'



The scene on the A85 on Thursday last week.

Family escape injury in A85 road crash

Car 'graveyard' claims yet another vehicle

A FAMILY escaped uninjured when their car left the road at the notoriously dangerous bends on the A85 at Muckairn.

The car left the road last Thursday morning – around the same time that a long line of slow-moving westbound traffic was on the road, hampered by two large lorries. The result was a severe backlog of motorists.

The Volkswagen Golf was the only car involved in the incident.

The section of road from Muckairn to the bottom of Fearnoch Hill, near Taynuilt, sees at least one accident every week.

Scotland Transerv, which is responsible for maintaining trunk

roads in Argyll, has identified the road as a cause for concern and has made representations to the roads authority, Transport Scotland, which is considering implementing safety measures.

Decision

A spokesman for Scotland Transerv said: 'The scheme is with Transport Scotland and we await their decision.'

In February this year the Muckairn to Fearnoch stretch of road was labelled 'a graveyard for cars' by nearby landowner Lorne Nelson.

His comment followed a period of three days when two road crashes occurred on the stretch.

MSP is 'impressed' with local social enterprise projects

NOW that the summer recess from the Scottish Parliament has started MSPs are hitting the constituency trail.

Impressed

Highlands and Islands MSP Rhoda Grant spent four days in Argyll recently meeting constituents and visiting businesses, organisations and public services to talk to people on the ground. On two different days, Ms Grant spent time with representatives from Oban Forward, Oban police and Atlantis Leisure.

'I am really impressed with what Atlantis are doing and it shows what a social enterprise can

develop; it is a big organisation to be run as a social enterprise,' she said.

Ms Grant also visited Lorn and Islands Hospital in the town, where she was keen to hear how healthcare was developing in rural communities.

The MSP is an advocate of people in rural areas receiving the same standard of treatment as anywhere else even if it is delivered in a completely different way, and said she was aware that it cost more to deliver than in urban areas. 'We need more resources in rural areas to ensure that people have the same level of care,' she added.



Highlands and Islands MSP Rhoda Grant at Lorn and Islands Hospital in Oban during her visit to the town.

15_t29rhoda01

HULLABALOO

www.hullabalooScotland.co.uk

Back to School Childrens Shoes

GEOX THE SHOE THAT BREATHES | **PRIMIGI** | **Lelli Kelly** | **RICOSTA** | **BULLBOYS** | **superfit**

Noel, Skechers & Richter

start rite

7 Combie Street, Oban
Tel: 01631 570894

SALE CONTINUES NOW 40% OFF ALL SUMMER STOCK

Islay

Your correspondent is Susan Campbell: 01496 850215

Islay Half Marathon 2009

THE 22ND annual Islay Half Marathon race will be held on Saturday August 1. The event started in 1986 and involves a 13-mile, 192 yard run from the village of Bowmore out to Islay Airport and back.

Kilchoman Community Gala Day

KILCHOMAN'S annual fun day will be held on the afternoon of Saturday August 1 at Port Charlotte Playing Fields. There will be a demonstration of rescue techniques by Islay's emergency services and Royal National Lifeboat Institution, children's races, games, stalls and a car boot sale.

Smaull Song

THIS year Smaull Song begins on Saturday August 1 with a short performance by Còisir Ghàidhlig Ìle, Islay's Gaelic Choir. The choir will sing 'works-in-progress', following on from their afternoon's workshop with choir conductor Iseabail Mactaggart and Mary Hill, Chief Coach at the Royal Academy of Music in London.



The Inverawe girls get ready for their 13-mile trek through Edinburgh to raise cash for breast cancer charities.

'Inverawesome' girls step out for breast cancer charities

WOMEN from Inverawe Smoke House completed the overnight Moonwalk through Edinburgh on June 20 and raised £4,180. After warming up and getting a team photo in their bras, the group crossed the start line at 12.20am on their 13-mile trek.

Lucy MacLean, marketing director at Inverawe Smokehouses, said: 'We all had brilliant fun taking part in the Moonwalk and would like to thank everyone who sponsored us and for helping raise such a great amount for breast cancer charities.'

'There was an amazing atmosphere with volunteers and well-wishers lining the streets throughout the night to cheer everyone on which really encouraged each of us to keep going until we reached the end.'



Archaeologist Dr Kate MacDonald shows BBC reporters Craig Anderson and Eilidh MacAskill finds from the threatened site on Baleshare beach.

Uist youngsters 'dig' summer archaeology school

YOUNGSTERS in the Uists had the chance this week to find out what it's like to be an archaeologist on one of Scotland's most threatened coastal pre-historic sites. Armed with cameras, shovels and trowels, participants in Access Archaeology's first summer school have been learning methods of excavation at a threatened ancient settlement on Baleshare beach, North Uist.

wheelhouses, during which a number of significant finds came to light, including the lower half of a human jawbone. Coastal erosion has revealed signs of more wheelhouses at the north end of the beach, and early probings have already yielded pottery fragments, animal bones and a rare chunk of flint.

The site was chosen by BBC Scotland as part of its feature on important Scottish archaeological sites threatened by coastal erosion. Reporters Craig Anderson and Eilidh MacAskill visited Baleshare beach to record inserts for Reporting Scotland and BBC Alba.

graduated with a Diploma in Opera Studies from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Dance in Glasgow, and Rebecca Johnstone, who will be auditioning for London music colleges this autumn. This evening is admission free, and everyone is welcome to Ionad Chaluum Chille Ìle, the Columba Centre, Bowmore, starting at 6pm.

Cycling event

THIS year's Homecoming 'Ride of the Falling Rain' cycling event will take place on Sunday August 2. The route will again cover 100 miles (162kms) using

various circuits of Islay's roads, leaving from Debbie's at Bruichladdich at 10am and heading south towards Kilchiaran for the opening miles. The ride will also finish at Bruichladdich in late afternoon. Cyclists can join for just part of the ride, or go the full route.

Lifeboat gala day

ON SUNDAY August 2 the annual RNLI fundraising fun day will be held from 2 to

5pm in the grounds of Islay House, by kind permission of Captain Tom Friedrich.

The day will feature cream teas, games, music and dancers, stalls, home baking, demonstrations and a raffle.

Disclosure checks course

ISLAY Volunteer Development Project is running a course on August 6 in the Howat Room, Mactaggart Centre, Bowmore, about the need or otherwise for Disclosure checks for volunteers in local organisations. The course will be run

in conjunction with Argyll Volunteer Centre and is seeking to counter some of the myths which put people off volunteering.

Eleanor MacKinnon, Training Manager for the Volunteer Centre, welcomes the opportunity to work with the newly established volunteer project on Islay and Jura. She said: 'Many people are put off volunteering because they think they need to go through rigorous Disclosure checks. This course is designed to make local organisations aware of recent changes to the process of Disclosure checks. It is

important to remember that while children and vulnerable adults need to be properly safeguarded, organisations also need to take a balanced view of the likely risks, and that guidance is given about the proper level of vetting, if any, needed to support a group's activities.'

June report from Provost of Lochaber, Allan Henderson

THE RECENT Ferries Review meeting in Mallaig brought out an excellent representation of all ferry users and representatives. I am sure that the committee was left in no doubt of the desire by the communities to restore the Mallaig to Lochboisdale service, upgrade the Mallaig to Armadale service to all year round with extended hours and to get a modern fast passenger service for the Small Isles running at hours to suit workers.

young people prepared for the rigours of the fishing industry. Bill Clark has been leading on new signs for Arisaig Community Council and all three councillors jointly have been able to fund new signs for The Land Sea and Islands Centre as well as Prince Charlie's departure spot at Loch nan Uamh. These signs will prove a great asset to the tourism industry as well as reminders of our violent past for locals.

As Provost I had the pleasure of presenting awards to many youngsters who have put in many hours of voluntary service. The range of voluntary skills never fails to amaze me. Congratulations to everyone who dedicates time to this sector, and especially to umbrella organisation Voluntary Action Lochaber. Again I was involved in Frazer Coupland and Co's Ten under the Ben, on a scorching hot day, when almost 1,000 pitted themselves against the clock and themselves, individually, in pairs, trios and teams of four for 10 gruelling hours in the shadows of Nevis Range.



The Kilchrenan school pupils pictured at the garden party.

Kilchrenan primary pupils entertain

KILCHRENAN Primary School pupils recently entertained parents, grandparents and local senior citizens at a garden party in the school grounds. The pupils produced the entertainment themselves without the help of teachers. Highlights included excellent versions of 'Food Glorious Food' and

'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious'. Three primary seven pupils, who will be moving on to Oban High School after the holidays, gave a talk on their days at Kilchrenan Primary School. Tomas Palmer was awarded an excellence prize for his hard work and helpfulness during the school year.

25 Years Ago Those Were The Days The Oban Times Thursday August 3, 1989. Oban wins Mod... Common Good Fund rescues Argyll Cup... Islands sold to Shropshire farmers...

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD. Across: 7 Chicken, not edible! (6) 8 Jewelry metal (6) 9 Throw in a game (4) 10 Figure found on board (8) 11 Give water (7) 13 Church assembly (5) 15 This is on the cake (5) 17 Associate (7) 20 Early flower, in winter weather (8) 21 Booty (4) 22 Shrubby plant with a milky juice (6) 23 He found it!! (6) Down: 1 Devoid of people (6) 2 Cry out (4) 3 Teach (7) 4 Compound formed from organic acid and alcohol (5) 5 Reply to expulsion of air! (5,3) 6 Smooth, in music (6) 12 Contagious skin disease (8) 14 One who takes as one's own (7) 16 Provider of shade (6) 18 Milky (6) 19 Holding one's piece (5) 21 Breed (4)

Sponsored by Wallace Optometrists. For people who really care about their eyesight. Call today and book your comprehensive eye examination. Wallace Optometrists 0845 230 EYES (3937)

Fergie's Folk



by Fergie MacDonald

A SLIGHT deviation from my usual music topic. As a young man I competed in field and track events for 10 years on the Highland Games circuit, so I feel reasonably qualified to comment.

The aroma of newly cut grass, embrocation and wintergreen, coupled with bagpipes and loudspeakers, leaves me with memories embedded in my mind.

My ceilidh band was invited to perform at the Braveheart Games every Thursday night throughout the summer so I have had the opportunity to observe this spectacle from close range.

The man responsible for this truly wonderful tourist attraction is the great man himself - Hamish Davidson. Hamish was probably the greatest pound for pound heavy events athlete of our time. Although only five feet seven inches in height, he was Scottish and World Highland Games Champion for the best part of two decades. One must remember that some of these guys are six feet six inches and weigh in around 20 to 25 stones. World champions like Geoff Capes, Arthur Rowe, Bill Anderson and the American contingent were made to look second raters when Hamish showed up on the games circuit. Hamish Davidson performed at Highland Games in Australia, USA and Canada to name but a few. His world record for the 22 pound ball still stands to this day. The distance was 51 feet one inch - the mind boggles!

To put this in perspective, many of our local highland games athletes win the 16 pound ball with maybe a 30 foot putt. Hamish did 51 feet with the 22 pounder. That about sums it all up.

This respected gentleman now promotes heavy events worldwide. After last Thursday's games, he

jumped into his car and travelled to London to a Highland games strongman event in Hyde Park. A five hour commentary for television is some going after motoring all night.

Now these fantastic events are held in the Old King George Park. The atmosphere is electric. The heavy events are spectacular to say the least. Hamish Davidson can call on the very top guys who do the modern games circuit. The visitors are treated to a bonanza of world class heavy events, ie caber, ball, hammer and the strongman events. This programme is supported by Lochaber Wind Band, conducted by John White. Then we have Moira Robertson's Lochaber Pipe Band marching in full highland dress - what a spectacle.

Graham Brooks, manager of the adjacent leisure centre, tells me that it is nearly 40 years since the last Highland games were held in the King George V Park.

This games heavyweight extravaganza is the only mid-week tourist attraction in the Lochaber area during the summer.

It is a credit to the Lochaber and district powers that be who had the forward vision to see that the Braveheart Games were a major contributory factor to the Lochaber tourism industry. They got it right again when they nominated Hamish Davidson to promote the Thursday night Braveheart Games. Well done to the councillors.

This tourist attraction would not be possible if it were not for Hamish. It takes a 'big' name to command the respect and adulation of these top world class heavyweight champions to attend the Lochaber Braveheart Games. To these ends the right man is in place - Hamish Davidson.



Hamish and Fergie in fine form at the Braveheart Games. 10_f31hamish01

Lochaber and Lochalsh housing cash boost

TWO PROJECTS for 24 affordable homes in Lochaber have been saved thanks to funding by a Highland charity.

Highland Housing Alliance (HHA) Charitable Trust awarded Lochaber Housing Association (LHA) £104,000 towards 24 affordable homes in Glenacross, Morar, and in the first phase of the Upper Achintore development in Fort William to ensure the houses will be built. Both sites have proved expensive to develop because of difficult ground conditions.

The trust also awarded Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association £76,101 to provide a covered walkway at Dornie for an elderly peoples' housing project.

HHA chief executive Susan Torrance said the trust's board of trustees grants were awarded to boost affordable housing availability and help cut homelessness.

She said: 'We need to ensure the trust continues

to make a difference to improve the lives of people across the Highlands. We are currently seeking partners who may be able to contribute to the trust funds and we are also working with housing associations to help them access funding to save projects in future.'

LHA's David Cottier said: 'We are delighted to receive this funding from the trust which means we can continue to build much-needed affordable homes for local people.'

'The site at Glenacross, Morar, will consist of two and three bedroom homes. It will be a very expensive site to develop and to put in the infrastructure such as roads, water and electricity.'

'The first phase of the site at Upper Achintore will be a development of 21 affordable flats. The developer will also be building 27 private flats when the private market picks up again.'

'The whole site has the capacity for up to 300

homes, half of which would be affordable. The trust has stepped in to fill the shortfall in funding for the link road which will open up the hillside, construction of which is currently well under way.'

'These contributions by HHACT will enable both developments to go ahead which will make a real difference to the communities concerned.'

LHA director Lachie MacDonald said their development featured eight homes for elderly people and a purpose-built elderly day care centre, forming a social hub.

He said: 'We would like to thank the trust which has stepped in to fund an essential covered walkway which will run between the elderly persons' homes and the day care centre.'

'The covered walkway will make life easier for elderly residents as they make their way from their homes to access the services of the day care centre whatever the weather.'

Fine for brandishing fence post

A CAOL man who brandished a plank of wood at friends after an evening of drinking has been fined £450.

At Fort William Sheriff Court last week, Alexander Williamson, of 4 Glenmallee Terrace, admitted disorderly conduct. He denied a second charge of having an offensive weapon, which was accepted by the crown.

Procurator Fiscal Janine MacDonald said the 19-year-old was reported to police after he was seen swinging the fence post in the garden of a house in Caol on May 1.

Defence agent Hamish Melrose said 'a bit of banter' had broken out between Williamson and his friends and all three of them picked up pieces of wood.

Warning Williamson that another court appearance would be likely to result in a jail sentence, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'Bear that in mind in the future and please try to grow up a bit.'

Fisherman forgot knife was in public place

A FISHERMAN who admitted bringing a large knife into a Kentalen hotel has been fined £750.

Matthew Crowder, aged 21, of 5 Hillside, Trossachs Road, Aberfoyle, had been on a fishing trip in the area on April 12 when the incident took place.

Defence agent Stephen Kennedy said Crowder had the knife for filleting fish. He added the accused had left his rods in the water and gone to the Hollytree Hotel, forgetting the knife was on his belt. Crowder denied a further charge of refusing to leave the premises when asked, which was accepted.

Sentencing Crowder, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'I'm going to impose a substantial fine to bring home to you and others that you cannot carry knives in public places.'

Got a story for The Oban Times? Call our reporters on 01397 703003.



Together again: Bobby and Isabel Mathers, left, are reunited with Kenny MacRae and Katherine Haldane, their best man and bridesmaid in 1959.

Golden Caol couple celebrate with best man and bridesmaid

A CAOL couple celebrated their golden wedding on Saturday night with their best man and bridesmaid from 50 years ago among the guests.

Bobby and Isabel Mathers tied the knot at Duncansburgh Parish Church on July 21 1959, with best man Kenny MacRae, and bridesmaid Katherine Stewart, Isabel's cousin, in attendance.

The four were reunited at Caol Community Centre for Saturday's anniversary celebration, with Katherine, now Haldane, travelling from Gorebridge in Midlothian for the big day.

Instead of giving gifts, the 120 guests were asked to donate to Crossroads Care Lochaber - and raised £1,110.

Bobby and Isabel had the hall decorated

with wedding photographs - and the receipt from their wedding reception in Fort William's Highland Hotel for 84 guests' food and drink, which came to the princely sum of £53.

The bill from MacRae and Dicks taxis for 10 hires, some to Torlundy, totalled £2.6s. Friends and relations came from as far away as Stornoway and Corby for Saturday's 'do'.

'It was nice to have the four of us there - it was lovely to meet up and get together,' Isabel told *The Oban Times*. 'A lot of people don't have that - that's life after all. It was a wonderful night, the only thing wrong was that it passed too quickly.'

Bobby and Isabel have two daughters, Linda and June, and five grandchildren.

Man threatened to jump off dam

A MAN threatened to throw himself 400ft from the Laggan Dam to the River Spean below, prompting a two-hour stand off with negotiators trying to talk him down.

Holidaying families watching the May 30 afternoon drama were ushered away from the spectacular viewpoint, off the A86 east of Roy Bridge, by Northern Constabulary officers, who called in mediators and mountain rescue.

Police earlier received a call to say Robert Ross, aged 52, of Elfhillock Croft, Drummur, Keith, was threatening to harm himself at the giant hydroelectric dam on Loch Laggan, which supplies water to Rio Tinto Alcan's smelter at Fort William.

When officers arrived, Ross removed his glasses and shouted: 'Leave

me in peace. If I want to jump, I will,' before moving towards the edge.

After more than two hours, mediators persuaded Ross to come away from the edge and arranged for him to speak by telephone to his partner.

Defence agent Hamish Melrose told Fort William Sheriff Court the onshore oil engineer had been under a degree of stress and he was acting out of frustration. He added it was a one-off incident.

Ross admitted breaching the peace by perching on the edge of a sheer drop close to the dam and threatening to jump in the presence of police officers and members of the public.

Admonishing Ross, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'I accept that at the time you were under some stress. I do hope there will be no repeat of this type of behaviour.'

Volunteers needed to save shop

SAVE the Children's shop in Fort William could close by December unless more helpers come forward, the charity has warned.

The Cameron Square outlet has been trading for more than 20 years, but imminent retirements of several long-term volunteers has prompted an urgent appeal for new faces. Retail manager for Scotland Rob MacMillan said Lochaber people had been 'incredibly generous' in helping the shop raise £600,000 for children in need since it opened. He said: 'We're always hugely grateful for whatever time volunteers can give. Even an hour a week is a great help.'

Anyone interested should contact Natasha Marshall on 0131 527 8227 or phone the shop on 01397 705811.

Geopark points the way with Torlundy sign project

A PROJECT to upgrade signs at Forestry Commission Scotland's North Face car park at Torlundy has been completed.

The culmination of several months' work carried out by the commission and various local and national groups, the final part of the project involved placing several large engraved boulders by Lochaber Geopark.

Geopark chairman Noel Williams said: 'There has been a lot of effort put in to get all the information together and construct this facility. From an Earth Heritage point of view this is now a superb location for teaching about the amazing events that took place when

Ben Nevis was formed. The large boulders that we have brought here show clearly the distinctive rocks that make up the separate mountains of the Nevis Range.'

'Even those without a geological background can identify the different rock types and relate them to the hills above.'

Ruari Watt, for Forestry Commission Scotland in Lochaber, said: 'This is a very busy starting point for visitors from near and far so it's important that their first impression really sets the mood for what they are about to experience.'

'The boulders represent the geology of the hills, but they also give youngsters a

great place to play and the new signs offer lots of useful information on the forest trails, as well as potentially life-saving information, such as the latest avalanche conditions. We're delighted with the result, and very grateful to everyone who has worked to make this project such a success.'

The car park, the starting off point for thousands of walkers and climbers each year, also features new interpretive boards with information about guides and services, geology, mountaineering history and avalanche and mountain safety advice. John Muir Trust, Lochaber Geopark, the Mountaineering Council of

Scotland, Nevis Partnership, Outdoor Capital of the UK, Sport Scotland Avalanche Information Service and local climbers and guides all contributed to the project. Main funders were the Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Highland Council through the Geopark. This week, Lochaber Geopark is running a geology festival together with the Highland Council Rangers and the National Trust for Scotland to highlight the fascinating story of how Lochaber was formed. Details at www.lochabergeopark.org.uk.



Noel Williams and Keith Hoole of Lochaber Geopark, with Ruari Watt, right, of Forestry Commission Scotland.

Portree police appeal for witnesses to Skye hit and run

PORTREE police are appealing for witnesses after a hit and run incident on the A87 Invergarty to Skye road on Saturday.

A man walking half a mile west of Inverinate between 11.30am and 12.30pm was struck by an unknown vehicle, which failed to stop. The pedestrian sustained serious injuries and was taken to Broadford Hospital for treatment. Police are particularly keen to trace a family of tourists, possibly Chinese, who gave the pedestrian a lift to Eilean Donan Castle shortly before the accident occurred. Any other witnesses should contact Portree Police Station on 01478 612888.

Reader Subscription Offer
4 issues for only £5

A brand new and exciting magazine promoting the best Mull and Iona have to offer

To subscribe contact our subscriptions department on 01631 568000

Lochside man jailed for biting girlfriend's face

A LOCHSIDE man drew blood by biting his girlfriend's face during a fight about a tattoo, a court heard.

Mark McManus, aged 32, of 6 Mossfield Apartments, had been drinking with his partner at their home on September 27 last year when the couple began to row in the early hours of the morning. Procurator Fiscal Janine MacDonald told Fort William Sheriff Court.

Bleeding
McManus sank his teeth into the woman's face between the upper lip and nose, leaving her bleeding with bruising and swelling on her face. Butterfly stitches were later applied in hospital.

McManus, who pled guilty to the assault, had initially been put on

probation for the offence on February 19, but was brought back to court last week for breaching his probation order for the second time.

Defence agent Stephen Kennedy said the argument had centred around a tattoo on McManus's back featuring the name of an ex-girlfriend.

The accused was punched and kicked and 'he started off trying to defend himself' before he overreacted. McManus did not have a violent disposition, said Mr Kennedy.

Chances
Sheriff Douglas Small said McManus had exhausted his chances of avoiding prison by failing to attend probation appointments or complete community service and sentenced him to 108 days in prison for the original offence.

Subscribe to The Oban Times & West Highland Times

To subscribe* complete the form below, call Subscriptions on 01631 568000 or subscribe online at www.obantimes.co.uk/shop

Please tick your choice

1 months	6 months	1 year	2 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
U.K. £22.00	£32.00	£58.00	£100.00
Rest of World	£35.00	£55.00	£175.00

I would like the Oban Fort William Edition (Tick appropriate)

Deliver to (Name) Mr/Ms.....
Address.....
Postcode.....

From (if different from above).....
Address.....
Postcode.....

I wish to pay by Cheque, payable to Wyvex Media Ltd for £.....
I wish to pay by Credit/Debit Card. Please debit my account for £.....
Card Number..... Expiry Date.....
Start Date..... Issue No.....
Card Verification Number (Last 3 digits on back of card).....
Name on card (block capitals please).....
All subscribers please Sign..... and Date.....

Please return to: Subscriptions Department, Wyvex Media Ltd, P.O. Box 1, Oban, Argyll, Scotland PA34 4HB. Tel: 01631 568000

*Subscribers should note that to keep down the cost of postage, some special supplements may, on occasions, be excluded from the subscribers' editions of the paper

holiday west highland free

holiday west highland free

Your holiday starts here! Discover 500,000 readers

CAIROGATE HOTEL

The essential guide for a great holiday in the West Highlands & Islands

Pick up a copy today from your local Tourist Information Centre and most tourist attractions

01631 568000

Bàta teasairginn a' sàbhaladh dàibheir Mhuilich

Thug bàta-teasairginn an Obain cuideachadh do bhoireannach eiginneach a bha a' dàibheadh ann am Muile.

Fhreagair am bàta brath a fhuair iad aig 4.40f Dimàirt a chaidh.

As dèidh dhith carbad-èiginn fhaighinn bho Thobar Mhoire dha Creag an Fhuair, chaidh am boireannach, 62, a thoirt dhan Oban sa bhàta-teasairginn mus deach a toirt dha Ospadal Latharna 's nan Eilean le trioblaidean dàibhidh.

Sgaol na seirbhisean èiginn agus eòlaichean dàibhidh brath rabhaidh as dèidh dha triuir dàibhear an am beatha a chall ann an còig làithean ann an Caol Muile aig toiseach a' Chèitein am bliadhna

Taic airgid airson buidhnean mhnathan

Thathas a' brosnachadh buidhnean mhnathan ann an Alba gus cuir a-staigh airson taic airgid suas gu £5,000.

Tha £135,000 gu lèir ri fhaotainn tro Ùghdarras Mhnathan na h-Alba aig Urras Chòimhearsnachd na h-Alba a chuireas taic ri boireannaich 's caileagan ann an suidheachaidhean mi chothromach ann an Alba.

Gus cuir a-staigh air a thon no airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh fhaighinn, faodar buidhnean fios a chur dha sgioba taice Ùghdarras Mhnathan na h-Alba aig 0141 225 6670 no tadhail air www.scottishcf.org/grantsforwomen.

Ministear na Gàidhlig a' moladh an Obain mar àite Mòid

Ministear na Gàidhlig a' comharrachadh an Obain airson cleachdadh a' chànain

Tha ministear na Gàidhlig, Micheal Russel, san Oban andiugh, Diardaoin, gus coinneachadh ri comataidh eagrachaidh a' Mhòid Nàiseanta Rìoghail.

Gabhaidh am Mòd àite san Oban thairis air deich làithean san Dàmhair le farpaisich bho gach ceàrnaidh an t-saoghail a' gabhail pàirt ann am farpaisean seinn,

bàrdachd agus ciùil. Thuir Mgr Russel: "Bha mi toilichte coinneachadh ri comhairlichean ionadail an-dè gus cluinntinn mu phlanaichean airson Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail na bliadhna seo - tachartas air leth cudromach ann an mìosachan cultarach na h-Alba. Bidh am Mòd a' cur ri ìomhaigh na Gàidhlig agus a' brosnachadh tuigse a' chànain. Tha mi toilichte gu bheil e a' tilleadh dhan Oban; baile a tha

gu mòr airson ionnsachadh agus cleachdadh na Gàidhlig. Thairis air an deich bliadhna fichead a dh' fhalbh, chaidh còirichean 's aithneachadh na Gàidhlig a leudachadh. 'S e bhith ga neartachadh an ath cheum gus àireamh luchd-labhairt a' chànain àrdachadh. Tha an t-uabhas obrach rimholadh ach tha mi den bheachd gum feum sinn tuilleadh a dhèanamh fhathast gus ionnsachadh agus cleachdadh

na Gàidhlig a bhrosnachadh. 'S ann an-dràsta a dh' fheumas sinn toiseachadh gus am bi i na cànain làitheil san àm ri teachd. Tha mi a' moladh Tim an Obain airson na h-oidhirp aige. Tha na duilleagan mìosail Gàidhlig seo anabarrach math agus thug e brosnachadh dhomh cluinntinn mu luchd-naidheachd ag ionnsachadh a' chànain. Sin na dh' fheumas tachairt gus an cànain as seinne ann an Alba a shàbhaladh.



Ministear na Gàidhlig, Micheal Russel

Stiùireadh ùr air a chruthachadh airson pròiseactan beaga uisge

Air sgàth 's àirdeachadh san àireamh de sgeamaichean beaga uisge ann an sgìrean dùthchail an h-Alba, chaidh stiùireadh ùr a chruthachadh gus dearbhadh gu bheil iad a' freagairt air irean àrainneachd agus laghan dealbhachaidh.

Feumaidh daoine a tha a' beachdachadh air sgeama a chur air bhonn cead fhaotainn bho Ùghdarras Dion Àrainneachd na h-Alba agus bu chòir gun tèid sgrùdadh a dhèanamh cuideachd le ùghdarras ionadail air eagal 's gu bheil cead dealbhachaidh a dhith. The SEPA ag ràdh gu bheil iad air bileagan stiùireadh a' cur ri chèile gus am bi am pròiseas iarrtais cho simplidh 's a ghabhas.

Thuir Lynn Buntan à SEPA gun urrainn do phròiseactan beaga uisge a bhith nan cùis airgid agus nam pàirt de dhealbhadh leanntainneach.

'S urrainn dhaibh cuideachd ged-thà, buaidh mhòr a thoirt air àrainneachd an uisge mura tèid an làimhseachadh gu ceàrt agus 's e sin an t-adhbhar gu bheil sinn a' comhairleachadh gum bu chòir do dhaoine bruidhinn rinn airson cuideachaidh agus stiùiridh.

An-dràsta, tha buannachdan mòra an cois tuathanaich uisge agus faodar taic airgid fhaotainn gus cumhachd glan mar seo a dhèanamh.

Tha na cisean a' cosg £588 airson iarrtas ceadguthailleadh air £1,000 gach bliadhna airson cis bhith-beò ach, chan fheumar sgeamaichean a tha a' dèanamh nas lugha na 2 megawatt cisean a phàigheadh.

Leabhar Chruidh-Ghàidhealach air a chur air bhog ann an Gàidhlig

Tha leabhar mòr-chòrdte mu beathach ainmichte Gàidhealach a-nis ri fhaotainn ann an Gàidhlig.

Chaidh "Highland Cattle Galore" le Una Cochrane fhoillseachadh ann an 2008 agus bhon uair sin chaidh eadar-theangachadh le Joina NicDhòmhnaill às na Hearadh agus Anna NicPhàdraig à Leòdhas.

Tha an dreach àraid seo, Crodh Gàidhealach Gu Leòr, ri fhaighinn aig prìs £7.99 bho bhùth Chomhairle nan Leabhraichean ann an Glaschu no an companaidh foillseachadh, Stenlake Publishing.

Tha an leabhar ùr a' mineachadh eachdraidh nan crodh Gàidhealach, dròbhaireachd agus bhuidh agus nam beathaichean fhèin. Tha an t-ùghdar air dealbhan, sean agus ùr, a chruinneachadh a bharrachd air sanas agus ealain airson an leabhair àlainn seo.

Ceist air a togail mu sporain chraicinn ròn

Chaidh cèist a thogail leis a' BhPA Seumas MacGriogair mun bhuidh a bhios air gnìomhachas an Eididh Ghàidhealach bhon chasg Eòrpach air bàthair chraicinn ròn.

Ann an cèist sgrìobhte, dh' fhaighnich e an tòiseachd ministearan deasbad le luchd-gnìomhachais nan sporan gus droch bhuidh a sheachnadh.



Mairead Challan agus Dr. Anna Nic'Illosa aig cèilidh anns na Beanntannan Blue Ridge, Carolina a Tuath.

Bha dithis sheinneadairan a' riochdachadh na h-Alba o choinn ghoirid aig tachartasan Gàidhlig ann an Carolina a Tuath.

Ghàidhlig a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealach ann an Banner Elk, Carolina a Tuath. Chaidh iad cuideachd dha Geamaichean Grandfather Mountain far an robh iad nam breitheamhan aig a' Mhòd, os cionn bhuidheann luadhaidh agus a' gabhail òrain

ann an Teanta Ghàidhlig Dhòmhnaill, a bhios a' brosnachadh dhaoine gus ùidh a ghabhail sa chànain. Tha mòran Ameireaganaich air Gàidhlig ionnsachadh as dèidh nan geamaichean seo a fhrithealadh.

Obraichean uisge beatha sàbhailte ann an Earraghaidheal

Cha tèid obraichean a chall aig làraich Diageo ann an Earraghaidheal as dèidh dhan chompanaidh atharraichean structair a dhèanamh aig na làraich aca ann an Alba.

Dh' innis an companaidh gu bheil iad a' dol a dhùnadh na làraich pasgaidh aca ann an Cill Mhearnaig agus an Taigh stàile ann an Port Dundas, Glaschu le 900 obraichean a' dol a bith.

Chaidh na mìltean air stailc air sràidean Chill Mhearnaig gus casaid a ghabhadh dùnadh na làraich pasgaidh Johnnie Walker sa bhaile. Chaidh a chur ri chèile le Comhairle Siorrachd Adhair an Ear, mar phàirt den chaidreabhas a tha na aghaidh.

A dh' aoindeoin seo, thèid 400 obair ùr a chruthachadh tron leudachadh làraich pasgaidh a thacras ann am Fìobha.

Cha bhi buaidh aig na h-atharraichean seo air Eilean Ìle far a bheil na taighean stàile Caol Ìle, Lagavulin agus Port Ìle air an ruith le Diageo. Cha bhi buaidh nas motha air taigh stàile Talisker san Eilean Sgitheanach no Taigh stàile an Obain.



Beachd Ailein

Tha mi ag aontachadh gu tur leis na beachdan a nochd an Dotair Micheal Foxley air na tha san amharc aig a' Phòileas mu Thuaith gus astar chàraichean a chasg air leithid an A82 le bhith a' cur chamara air na sgrìoban dìreach as am faigh càr seachad air fear nas maille.

Tha fios aig dràibhear sam bith a tha air beagan eòlais fhaotainn a' siubhal rathaidean na Gàidhealtachd gur e an carbad slaodach a tha gu math tric ag adhbharachadh tubaist. Ach 's e firinn na cùise gun e gealtachd dràibhear an dàrna carbad anns an t-sreath as ciontaiche uile gu lèir. Chan eil dad càrr le cuideigin a' gabhail an rathaid gu socair fhad 's nach eil sin a' cur bacaidh air luchd-siubhail eile, agus tha e deatamach gum bheil cothrom aig carbadan faotainn seachad. Ach nach tric a chithear sreath mhòr fhada air an rathaid is an dàrna càr ri earball an fhìr air toiseach ach gun e a' dèanamh oidhirp sam bith a dhò seachad.

An dèidh beagan mhiltean den seòrsa suidheachadh sin tha cuideigin a' callteidinn agus a' feuchainn air adhart. Tha na càraichean ro fhaisg air a chèile agus nuair a thig an èiginn chan eil dòigh air faotainn air ais gu taobh ceart an rathaid is tha tubaist a' tachairt. Crathaidh na dràibhear an as a' chiad dà char an cinn gu glic, gum mhothachadh gur iad a bu chòireach.

Le bhith a' cur camara air na beagan sgrìoban dìreach air am faigh càraichean seachad air a chèile gu sàbhailte tha am poileas dol a chur ri mì-fhoighidinn agus feigr luchd-siubhail. Tha fhios gum biodh e fada na b' fheàrr dòighean fhaotainn gus dràibhear oideachadh gun a bhith a' cur bacaidh air daoine eile. Ma tha deich carbad ann an sreath air chùl cuideigin tha còir an dràibhear sin, agus an dàrna fear, a chomhairleachadh.

Tha soidhnichean rathaid a' cur an cuimhne dhràibhear an gum bheil bacadh ag adhbharachadh tubaistean, agus nach annasach gum biodh am poileas dol a chur ris an t-suidheachadh sin!

Road signs in various places across the country remind drivers that 'frustration can cause accidents' and that they should avoid impeding other travellers. But as any driver with experience of Highland roads well knows such advice goes unheeded by many motorists, and long convoys of slow moving traffic are commonplace.

Given the awareness of the danger of driver frustration in these situations would it not make sense to see police pulling over the first and second vehicles in convoys to advise them on road discipline? It is frequently the timidity of the second driver, and his proximity to the lead vehicle, that causes the build up.

It is astonishing that Highland police propose exacerbating driver frustration by situating speed cameras on the few stretches of the A82 on which it is safe to overtake.

By all means curb reckless speed, but surely treating the cause of driver frustration would also make sense.

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

Duaisean mòra airson tuathanaich èisg an taoibh siar

Tha Tuathanaich Mara Albannach (TMA), fear de na buidhnean tuathanaich èisg as motha air an taoibh siar, air duais a chosnadh aig na Duaisean "Beatha Mara Albannach" airson an treasaibh bliadhna às dèidh a chèile.

Tha na duaisean, a chaidh a chur air bhonn le Oighreachd a' Chrùin, a' comharrachadh soirbheachadh agus adhartas gnìomhachais na mara ann an Alba, le bhith ag aithneachadh nam feadhainn as soirbheachail agus a' toirt aire dhan gnìomhachas fhèin.

Aig fàilteachas ann an Dùn Èideann o chionn ghoirid, bhunaich TMA an duais "Tuathanas as Fheàrr" airson na làraich aca aig Loch Spèilbhìdh ann an Eilean Mhuile.

'S e seo an dàrna bliadhna dhaibh an duais seo a bhunaichadh leis gun do choisinn iad airson na làraich aca aig Loch Lishorn ann an 2008.

Bha adhbhar ghairdeachais eile aca le Stefan Jamieson, a tha os cionn na làraich ann an Loch Neibhis faisg air Malaig, a' buannachadh Manaidsear na Bliadhna. Tha an duais a' comharrachadh mhanaidsearan a tha air fìor-shoirbheachadh dhan ìre gun d' thug iad buaidh mhòr air na tuathanaich/companaidhean aca.

Thuir Jim Gallagher, manaidsear TMA, "Tha sinn air leth pròiseil gun do bhunaich sinn na duaisean mòra seo."

"Tha iad nam fianais den obair mhòr a rinn an sàr sgiobaidh aig Loch Spèilbhìdh agus stiùireadh 's soirbheas Stefan aig Loch Neibhis."

"Tha na dhà eisimpleir seo a' sealltainn nan ìrean àirde de dh'obair bheathaichean mara agus am proifeasantachd a tha san obair tuathanaich againn."

Inneal leantainn airson Iolaire Uibhist a Tuath

Tha an t-isean a tha ann am meadhan "Golden Eagle Watch" an Rìoghachd Aonaichte air falbh bhon nead le rudeigin àraid na chois.

Tha gluasadan an isean agus a phàrantan air a bhith air an coimhead le còrr 's còig ceud neach ann an Uibhist a Tuath aig làrach sònraichte a chaidh a chur air dòigh leis an RSPB, aig a bheil pròiseactan mòra. Tha na h-àmanna amhairc a-nis air sgùir.

Mar phàirt de phròiseact gus gluasadan isean iolairean duibhe a sgrùdadh, chaidh inneal clàraidh a cheangal leis ann am poca beag mu thimcheall.

Thèid an t-inneal a ruith le bataraidhean a' tomhas 80g agus tha adharail fad sia òirlich a' tighinn às aig a' mhullach. Tuitidh an eige às a chèile thairis air còig bliadhnaichean agus aig a' cheann thall, tuitidh an t-inneal dheth cuideachd. Leis gu bheil an t-isean aig meud inbhich mar-thà, chan fhàs ach itean gus a' fèithean bho sheo air adhart.

Thuir Jamie Boyle, Oifigear an RSPB ann an Uibhist a Tuath gun robh e coltach nach do chuir e dragh air an isean agus nach robh ùidh aig a phàrantan ann nas motha.

"Chan eil mòran eòlais againn mu ghluasadan iolairean duibhe as dèidh dhaibh an nead fhàgail gus am bi iad nas aosta. Gu ruige seo, chan eil an t-isean air gluasad fada air falbh bhon nead agus tha sinn an dùil gum fuirich e airson na h-ath trì no ceithir mìosan gus an cur a phàrantan teicheadh air. Chaidh oidhirpean mì-shoirbheachail fheuchainn

gus fios a chur air iolairean duibhe roimhe ach tha an teicneòlas air leudachadh 's meud nan inneal air lughdachadh 's mar sin, cha bhi e fada gus am bi barrachd tuisge againn air iomadach seòrsa eòin."

Guh-iomlan, chaidh inneal leantainn a cheangal ri naoi isean iolaire duibhe am bliadhna air feadh na h-Alba, sna h-Eileanan an Iar, ann an Siorrachd Rois, Taobh Siar na dùthcha, Earraghaidheal agus Siorrachd Phèairt. 'S ann stèidhichte ann am Beannach a tha an companaidh, Natural research, a tha air cùlaibh pròiseict gus dearbhadh càit an tèid iolairean dubha agus na h-àrainneachdan a tha cudromach dhaibh aig an aois ud.

Tha e a' cosg mu £7 mìle airson inneal cheangal ri iolairean dubha 's an

leannatainn fad còig bliadhnaichean. Thuir neach rannsachaidh a' phròiseict, Ewan Weston, 'S urrainn dhuinn tòrr fiosrachaidh a lorg mu ghluasadan iolairean duibhe, ma thaghas iad gluasad no ma bheir na pàrantan orra sin a dhèanamh agus na buannachdan aig gach slioghe. 'Thèid fiosrachadh mu isean Uibhist a Tuath a sgaoleadh gach darra latha gu dreagaire fad sia uairean a thide. 'Chi sinn far a bheil e, cho faisg ri 350m bhuaithe agus ionnsachaidh sinn an t-uamhas mu dheidhinn nan co-dhùnaidhean a bhios aca gus cumail beò. Feumaidh iad biadh agus sàbhailteachd a lorg bhon a bhith a' taghadh àrainneachd ùr agus feumaidh iad dachaigh a lorg dhaibh fhèin.'

Comunn Eachdraidh Bhèarnaraigh gus co-labhairt àraid a chumail ann

Tha Comunn Eachdraidh Bhèarnaraigh gus co-labhairt àraid a chumail ann an Talla Chòimhearsnachd Bhèarnaraigh an ath Dhihaoine, 7mh An Lùnasdal air a' chuspair "Tilleadh Dhachaigh."

Le luchd-labhairt bho Bhèarnaraigh, tir-mòr na h-Alba agus Canada, 's ann mar phàirt de "Tilleadh Dhachaigh 2009" a bhios an tachartas latha seo.

Tòisichidh cùisean aig 10m le iomadach tachartas a ghabhas a-staigh taisbeanadh air Imrich sa Ghàidhealtachd sna h-Eileanan leis an Dr. Ailean Turner a tha a' fuireach air an eilean, mineachadh air beatha làitheil Bhearnaraidh san naoidheamh linn deug le Iain Eairdsidh Moireasdan agus taisbeanadh leis an Urramach Ruairidh MacLeòid, ministear Eaglais na h-Alba air an eilean, airson fichead bhliadhna, mu dheidhinn ainmean àite Bhearnaraidh 's nan cilean faisg air.

Thèid iomradh a dhèanamh air Gàidheil ann an Canada san òraid mu dheireadh sa mhàdain nuair a bhios deasbaid aig Russel MacLain à Oregon, Ameireagaidh,



Iasgairan Bhèarnaraidh air bòrd bàta Ghriomasaigh a chaidh a thogail san naoidheamh linn deug

mun rannsachadh aige air a' chuspair ud. Feasgar bidh deasbaid ann le iasgairan 's luchd nam bàta ionadail mun mhuir 's na h-Eileanan beaga timcheall Bhèarnaraigh, taisbeanadh air obair a' Chomuinn Eachdraidh agus còmhraidh mu sheann 's nuadh Ghàidhlig air an eilean. Cricheanachidh an latha, ma bhios an t-side freagarrach, le cuairtean timcheall an eilein no turas sa bhàgh ann an eathar

traidiseanta Bhèarnaraidh. A' bruidhinn as leth a' Chomuinn, thuir Dr. Turner; "Bheir an co-labhairt seo cothrom dhan luchd-frithealaidh, coigrich no muinntir an àite, pàirt a ghabhail ann an tachartasan "An Tilleadh Dhachaigh" bho shealladh Bhèarnaraidh. Tha an tachartas cuideachd na chothrom gus obair a' Chomuinn thairis air na dhà bhliadhna a dh' fhalbh a thaisbeanadh, bhon a chaidh obraiche fhasadh bha cothrom againn tòrr a

bharrachd a dhèanamh ann. Tha mi cinnteach gum bi ùidh aig daoine sa chlàr-ama againn agus tha sinn ri fughairt gus fàilte a chur orra gu Beàranaragh air an 7mh An Lùnastal. Chan eil cosgais oifigeil aig an latha 's tha lòn ri fhaotainn cuideachd airson beagan airgid. Thèid dannsa a chumail sa talla aig deireadh an latha le Calum Iain MacCorcadail. 'S ann an ath latha a bhios Cuairt Urrais Leabhraichean nan Eilean dha Eilean Phabaidh.

Record breaking day at Kilmore



IT WAS a record breaking day at the Kilmore and Kilbride Highland Games – and not only for the sunshine.

An international crowd saw youngsters and veterans take part in all the usual Highland Games fayre with a local flavour of haggis hurling, wellie boot throwing and pillow fighting. But with record breaking attempts by local youngsters the games are also a training ground for athletes.

Three burly-men, John Jans, Berle Conrad and Shaun Borelan, from Ontario spent their last day in Scotland competing at the heavy weight events.

The Canadian men who compete at events throughout north America said there was nothing like the Scottish crowd, especially the one at Kilmore, to help them compete well.

Despite the veterans going home empty handed they hoped they might return again next year to take the caber-tossing crown from Stephen King of Inveraray. Mr King said: 'I would like to see them try.'

Neil MacQueen, of Luing,

took on the heavy weights in a veterans 200 metre race – but the fisherman was thrown over by the men after only 50 metres.

The day belonged to Kilmore youngster, David Clunie. He broke the open high jump record – leaping over the bar set at 1.81m.

His record attempts will stand him in good stead for his new course of study in sports science at the University of the West of Scotland.

The win was especially poignant as the athlete has only recently recovered from an injury, sustained in the same event. He said: 'The games are a great place to try out your fitness and compete with people at all levels.'

Other long standing records broken on the day were Hayley Steward in the open long jump at 4.91 metres she also threw a winning 35.1 metres in the ladies shot putt while David Colthart threw a ground breaking junior shot put of 59.8metres.

Jock McColl, chieftain of the games, said: 'It is a very good turnout this year and with a good number of competitors it has been a very successful games.'



You can't keep a good man down: David Clunie has been sweeping up trophies and medals at Highland Games throughout the area. 15_131kilmore03



In it for the long run: junior female race competitors. 15_131kilmore02



Male ambition: with fewer boys taking part in dancing competitions this little lad won throughout. 15_131kilmore06



Ryan McInnes, aged 14, from Oban High School, played in the junior piping competitions. 15_131kilmore01



John Jans, Berle Conrad and Shaun Boreland from Ontario made a special trip to the games. Sadly, the Canadians went home empty handed. 15_131kilmore08



Oban High School C Band pupils were out in force to entertain the crowds at the games. The band gave a great performance despite many of them still being at primary school. 15_131kilmore05



Winner: despite not taking gold, silver or bronze at the SPCA Dog Show Bertie the spaniel is a winner. The two-year-old dog was saved moments before he was to be destroyed and now lives in Kilmore with nine-year-old Emily Hendry. 15_131kilmore07

No expense spared for Charles Kennedy at Lochaber games

A CROWD of around 3,800 spectators were treated to a warm sunny day for the 38th Lochaber Highland Games held at An Aird, Fort William.

There were some fun and games before any events got underway this year.

March

Chieftain of the games, The Right Honourable

Charles Kennedy MP, led the march along the High Street only to meet part of his entourage, The Clann, going in the opposite direction at the underpass.

The Jacobite warriors were somewhat late in leaving the field and had missed the start of the procession, but soon fell into line for the short march back to An Aird.

Address

Provost Henderson welcomed everybody on behalf of the Lochaber area committee of Highland Council and Charles Kennedy gave his formal opening address, assuring the crowd that absolutely no parliamentary expenses were involved in his attendance!

The Cow Hill race saw 26 entries, a huge increase to previous games.

Trail

That made for a much more visible trail of runners on the hill when viewed from the park and the eruption of applause in the stand was unprecedented when winner, Inverlochy's David Rogers arrived back on the field.

The Ewen Bowman tug-o-war just gets more popular by the year, with the Nevis Radio team proud winners this year encouraged by manager David Ogg, who was assisting Eric Mackenzie with announcing once again.

In the Ben Nevis Distillery Heavy events Malcom Cleg-horn took the open shield and local winner was David Horne.

The selection of stalls was very different this year with physics buskers demonstrat-



Games chieftain Charles Kennedy MP and Provost of Lochaber, Allan Henderson, lead the procession around the games field. 10_131games03



Alastair Beaton of Inverness Harriers wins the 100 metres at Lochaber Games. 10_131games04



David Horne in the 16lb stone event. 10_131games05



Michael Bisland from Fort William launches the hammer. 10_131games02



Fort William's David Hart with an attempt in the 16lb stone event. 10_131games06

Mull Games are highlight of the year



Loudest cheer: Heavy weight competitor James Cadzow was well received by the crowd. 15_0310b06

FANTASTIC weather and a 'great' international crowd made this year's Mull Highland Games a real success.

But the real winners of the day, held at Erray Park in Tobermory, were the Mull children who took part in their droves.

Kathy Kain, aged 90, and her sister Florence Maclean Woods, who have attended the games since 1947 said that the games were the highlight of their year - and that the 2009 competitions were the best yet.

And Kathy should know, as her husband, on returning from active service in Asia in 1947, re-constituted the games.

Support

She has attended every single one since.

Most of her family are involved in helping to organise it along with wide support from the Mull community.

But Kathy said: 'It is because the whole community join together that the games are so successful.'

'It is good to see everyone

involved, from Sir Lachlan MacLean to the local children - this is a family day to be proud of.'

Certainly, there was a lovely lunch provided, the refreshments tent was bustling with laughter and friendly rivalry, but it was the warm welcome that Muileachs extended to every visitor that makes Mull Games a special occasion.

The 'natural amphitheatre' at Erray Park also makes for easy viewing of the competitions - and of course, for spotting friends in the crowd and competing on the field.

Cheers

The loudest cheers of the day were for Kilninver heavy weight James Cadzow, of Duachy.

He had made his way from his job in London to take part in the events.

Perhaps the accountant had brought a bus load of supporters with him.

Little Holly MacLean of Tobermory, and Dervaig, was delighted to win two gold medals for her pas de bas and pas de bas with high cuts - and her whole family,

turned out to see her compete and cheered her on.

A highlight of the day was the march into the games from the Mull and Iona Piping Society.

Around 400 spectators cheered the small band of pipers onto the park while they played favourite Scottish tunes such as Highland Cathedral.



Lovely Holly MacLean from Tobermory and Dervaig said that winning her first ever gold medals was a 'good' experience. 15_0310b05



Dancers with attitude: Placed dancers in the Highland Fling competition. 15_0310b01



Local competition in the long jump impressed the judges. 15_0310b14



Clear the way for a long, long jump. 15_0310b11



Antipodean fling: Sword champion Cara Broughton from Australia is in Scotland for six weeks. 15_0310b03

MacIntyre Clan: presenting the Hop, Step and Leap Cup to David Clunie, of Kilmore, in memory of Kenny MacIntyre. Pictured right making the presentation are the MacIntyre family: Kenny junior, Elizabeth, musician Colin, Ceara, Ruari and race-winner Bethan. 15_0310b08



Toddler taming: tough competition in the under fives race. 15_0310b07



Strong man Gregor Edmunds. 15_0310b09



Sunshine and showers made for a spectacular Mull Highland Games. 15_0310b15

Sunny skies attract the crowds to North Uist Highland Gathering

SUNNY skies attracted record crowds to the North Uist Highland Gathering yesterday.

In its picturesque site at Balelone Farm with views

out as far as St Kilda, the gathering drew more than 1500 people, almost equivalent to the total population of North Uist.

There were record num-

bers of piping entrants too, with 14 in the under 15s, and 19 in the adult section, the highest ever seen at the North Uist gathering.

Heavyweight numbers were healthier than at the South Uist games earlier in the week, with 11 competitors in the heavy open.

They included South Uist champion Ranald Fraser, joined by fellow Lewis man Ali Finlayson up against strong competition from North Uist locals, Douglas MacLean and Donnie Maclean, and Isles MP Angus MacNeil.

Strong

Adult athletics entries were also strong, especially in the 18-24 age group.

North Uist Amateur Athletics Club coach Mairi Leveck said she was delighted to see so many former members coming back to compete in the games.

She said: 'This age group represents the first generation of youngsters who had grown up with the club.'

'They've now left the island but are coming home to continue to participate.'

'They're even bringing their partners too, who are joining in.'

For the first time, the North Uist Games featured pre-school races, which had high numbers of tiny participants ready to keep the athletics tradition of the island alive.



Heavyweight Ali Finlayson of Ness, Lewis at the North Uist games.



Flying high at the North Uist Games.



Sgoil Lionacleit pipe band provided entertainment at the North Uist games.



One of the competitors at the start of the hill race at North Uist Games.



Sir Patrick Grant helps Skye piper Seamus O Baoighill of Skye tune up at the North Uist Games.



Heavyweight Ranald Fraser of Tostachulish, Lewis puts everything into the heavy competition at the North Uist Games.

South Uist tradition alive and well

THE South Uist Highland Games confirmed that the games tradition is alive and kicking in the islands, with a strong gate and particularly strong dancing and piping competitions.

Early showers gave way to warm, sunny conditions bringing more than 2,000 people to the showground, up on last year.

Also on the up was the number of piping competitors, with 26 adult entrants, prompting a third platform to be laid out for the first time ever in the games' history.

Piping

Senior piping judge, Neill Mulvie of Stirling and Bahrain, has judged for the last 25 years at the South Uist Games.

He said: 'These games have always had a very strong reputation in piping circles.'

'Standards are so much better than when I was learning 25 years ago.'

'There is a big resurgence in juvenile piping on the is-



This year's South Uist Games heavy champion Randal Fraser of Tolstachulish on Lewis.

lands because there is money being put into teaching, and a better quality of teaching. It's great seeing so many youngsters playing.

'Piping has extended into folk music and has more prestige, it's something that young people want to do.'

Champion

Open piping champion was John Angus Smith, resident in London, but of South Uist and Eriskay parentage.

Open chanter winner was 11 year old Anndra MacIsaac of Ormaclit.

Participation in the heavy competitions remained low this year, with only eight competitors.

Overall champion was Randal Fraser of Lochview, Tolstachulish, Lewis. The 26 year old fish-farmer was

third in last year's Glenfiddich Tour for under-25s.

He said: 'There's a good mini-circuit of throwers on



This year's games saw strong participation in the Highland Dancing events reflecting the popularity of dancing among youngsters on the islands.

the islands which makes for good competition for me, and brings on younger throwers for the future.'

Among the heavyweight competition yesterday was Isles MP Angus MacNeil who despite just entering his 40th year, and the sedentary nature of Westminster life, came second in weight over the bar - although at a height of almost two feet less than Mr Fraser.

Local heavy champion was Douglas MacLean of Bayhead, North Uist. In athletics Rory MacLure won the 220, the 440 and the 880 yard races and took the Finlay MacDonald Memorial Chal-

lenge trophy. In dance, Iona Matheson won the Dannels Nan Eilean trophy.

South Uist games chairman Angus MacDonald has been involved with the games for 40 years.

He said: 'Piping has never been stronger at the games, but the number of heavies is down.'

Tuition

'The young are more into the athletics and the piping and dancing these days.'

'We tried having tuition for the heavy events a few years ago, but interest dwindled away.'

'On the other hand dancing is very strong this year, with competitors coming from all over, including Barra and the mainland.'

'Next year there are people wanting to come over from Canada for the dancing competitions.'



Open chanter winner was Anndra MacIsaac, aged 11 from Ormaclit.



John Angus Smith, originally from South Uist, won the open piping competition.



Pictured above is Rory MacLure, winner of the Finlay MacDonald Memorial Challenge trophy.



The locals beat the tourists in the tug o' war competition.

Inveraray celebrates Clan Campbell homecoming

INVERARAY Highland Games normally attracts crowds from around the world but this year it was extra special.

This year, Scotland's Year of Homecoming, the Clan Campbell gathered from all four corners of the globe to celebrate at Inveraray Castle, welcomed by Their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Argyll.

The games has always attracted the top names in dancing and piping as well as heavy athletes, and this year there was a new trophy for

pipers with a silver kilt pin for the winner of the open piobaireachd in memory of Dr Leslie Craig.

Host

The games also played host to the World Caber Tossing Championship, won this year by Poland's Sebastian Wenta.

On the field the games' joint vice-convenor Stephen King celebrated his silver anniversary in the world of the 'heavies'; the Argyll Estates worker first entered Seil Games as a 15-year-old back in 1984.



These young dancers took part in the Highland Dancing events. 06_030inv17



Campbeltown athlete Gary Turner leads the 800 metres race. 06_030inv22



Two Inveraray and District pipe bands and the Oban High School Pipe Band merged to lead the march to the games field. 07_030inv01



Athletics competitor Toby Corner from Inveraray was one of many locals taking part, along with visitors, in the heavy and athletics events at the games. 030inv12



His Grace, The Duke of Argyll, welcomes members of the Clan Campbell who had journeyed from across the world to attend the games during Scotland's Year of Homecoming celebrations. 07_030inv04



Ann Craig and her family presented a new piobaireachd trophy in memory of Dr Leslie Craig, won by Angus MacColl of Oban. 06_030inv30.



Callum McMillan, Iain Livingstone, Grant McLaren, Mark Stark and Steven McNail of Inveraray Pipe Band. 030inv16

Taynuilt Highland Games results

Best Open Athlete (Gents): David McLaughlin, Kilchrenan
Best Local Athlete: David McLaughlin, Kilchrenan
Best Junior Local Athlete: Everest Marshall, Taynuilt

Athletics

Mens 100 yards
 1 David McLaughlin, Kilchrenan
 2 Fraser Brydon, Oban 3 Iain McDowall, Isle of Mull
200 yards
 1 David McLaughlin, Kilchrenan
 2 Iain McDowall, Isle of Mull 3 Fraser Brydon, Oban
Quarter mile
 1 David McLaughlin, Kilchrenan
 2 Iain McDowall, Isle of Mull 3 Fraser Brydon, Oban

Half mile
 1 Craig Tomison, Isle of Mull 2 Fraser Brydon, Oban 3 Luis Rubino, Spain
Long jump
 1 David McLaughlin, Kilchrenan 2 David Beckett, Isle of Mull 3 Iain MacDowall, Isle of Mull
High jump
 1 David McLaughlin, Kilchrenan 2 Iain McDowall, Isle of Mull 3 Stuart Tomison, Isle of Mull
100 yards
 1 Everest Marshall, Taynuilt 2 Rhoda Charlton, Taynuilt 3 Abbe Brown, Oban
220 yards
 1 Rhoda Charlton, Taynuilt 2 Joy Palmer, Kilchrenan 3 Rebekah

Gunn, Glencoe
Quarter Mile
 1 Silvia German, Spain 2 Fatima Lofana, Spain 3 Rebekah Gunn, Glencoe
Half mile
 1 Everest Marshall, Taynuilt 2 Rhoda Charlton, Taynuilt
Mile race
 1 Craig Tomison, Isle of Mull 2 David McLaughlin, Kilchrenan 3 Fraser Brydon, Oban
Long jump
 1 Everest Marshall, Taynuilt 2 Briony McLaughlin, Edinburgh 3 Roanne Lilley, Taynuilt
Tug o' War
Gents winner: Taynuilt Shinty Team
Ladies winner: Taynuilt Ladies



Heavy competitor Bruce Robb hoists the Nant Stone. 16_031tay02

High Jump 1 Ian McDowall, Isle of Mull 2 Stuart Tomison, Isle of Mull 3 Fraser McMillan, Taynuilt
Long Jump 1 Ian McDowall, Isle of Mull 2 Stuart Tomison, Isle of Mull 3 Thomas Whelan
Shot Putt 1 Ian McDowall, Isle of Mull 2 Stuart Tomison, Isle of Mull 3 Thomas Whelan
Heavy events Open results champion: Bruce Robb; runner-up; S Aitken
Light hammer
 1 S King 2 S Aitken 3 B Robb
Shot
 1 B Robb 2 N Elliot 3 D Dowson
28lb weight for distance
 1 B Robb 2 S Aitken 3 D Dowson
Caber
 1 B Robb 2 N Elliot 3 S King
Nant Stone
 1 B Robb 2 D Dowson 3 S Aitken
Heavy hammer
 1 S Aitken 2 B Robb 3 S King

56lb weight over bar
 1= B Robb/C Wand 3 S Aitken
Local events
Champion: Andrew Servant; runner-up David McLaughlin
Light hammer
 1 Andrew Servant 2 Ewan MacDonald 3 Nick Charlton
16lb shot
 1 David McLaughlin 2 Andrew Servant 3 Ewan MacDonald
28lb weight for distance
 1 Ewan MacDonald 2 Andrew Servant 3 David McLaughlin
Caber
 1 David McLaughlin 2 Andrew Servant 3 Martin Chandler
Piping - Open
Best open piper: Andrea Boyd
 March 1 Andrea Boyd 2 Bill Geddes 3 Alaistair Henderson
Strathspey and Reel 1 Andrea Boyd 2 Bill Geddes 3 Alex Gehriggl
Piobaireachd 1 Euan Dewar 2 Tom

Glover 3 Ian Marshall 4 Callum McColl
Jig 1 Andrea Boyd 2 Alaistair Henderson 3 Bill Geddes
Local
Best local piper: Alaistair Henderson
Best overall junior: Ewan Henderson
March 1 Alaistair Henderson 2 Calum MacLean 3 Jean Morrison
Strathspey and Reel 1 Alaistair Henderson 2 Euan Dewar 3 Ian Marshall
Junior Open
March 1 Ewan Henderson 2 Aaron Hussain
Strathspey and Reel 1 Ewan Henderson 2 Aaron Hussain
Junior local
March 1 Ewan Henderson 2 Aaron Hussain
Strathspey and Reel 1 Ewan Henderson 2 Aaron Hussain

The Oban Times

& West Highland Times

RET - a double-edged sword?

WHEN the road equivalent tariff (RET) was introduced late last year on ferries to selected Hebridean islands the Scottish Government risked alienating many islands.

Now with islanders on Tiree and the Western Isles enjoying low ferry fares and huge numbers attracted to cheap island holidays on

Tiree and the outer Hebrides, islanders on Islay, Mull and Arran could be forgiven for being a little green-eyed.

But what is the benefit to these islands if the infrastructure can't cope and tensions develop as they have on Tiree? With around 18 months to go in the RET pilot it may be a while before we find out.

Glasgow Letter

Piping Live

OVER the next two weeks I shall try to give as much information as possible about the Piping Live festival which starts on Monday August 10.

During the week there are many events, most of them free, at a variety of venues and each evening there are ticketed concerts.

The opening concert will take place on Monday evening in the Old Fruitmarket when the Red Hot Chilli Pipers, who have taken more than the piping world by storm, will be joined by Bodega, the young group of talented musicians who formed when they were pupils at the Traditional Music School in Plockton.

The same evening Wallace Piping, in association with the College of Piping Radio, will feature a variety of individuals and bands starting at 7pm on Renfrew Ferry.

This will be free and a buffet will be provided but booking is necessary. For tickets telephone 0141 954 1234.

Again on Tuesday evening there is a choice of events with the Royal Concert Hall featuring the popular international quartet competition featuring six pipe bands, all belonging to Grade One.

Along the road in the Lord Todd Bar at the University of Strathclyde, Fred Morrison and friends will be on stage from 8pm.

Last week I gave details of the Battlelines to Barlines concert in St Andrew's in the Square on the Wednesday at 7.30pm.

This will have a Gaelic focus and will feature some of the west coast's best known musicians.

There is even greater choice on Thursday evening when the Royal Concert Hall will be the place to be if you are interested in the shared heritage of fiddle, clarsach and other stringed instruments and piping music.

This will be in the Strathclyde Suite and will feature Gordon Walker, Glenfiddich Solo Piping Champion 2008, and the equivalent award winner for fiddle, Raemoun Jappy, along with several others.

There will also be a Pipes and Peace concert in Oran Mor at 7.30pm and the Lord Todd Bar will be the venue for a Piping Recital Challenge between Angus MacColl, Stuart Liddell, Alan Bevan and Alasdair Gillies.

On the eve of the World Pipe Band Championships, the Concert Hall is the venue

Argyll Community Housing Association

FOLLOWING the letter 'ACHA and council play the blame game', published last week, we have been asked to point out that the statement 'ACHA was allowed to do away with wardens in sheltered housing' is untrue.

In fact, Argyll Community Housing Association employs 20 wardens and 11 relief staff in its 11 sheltered housing complexes in Argyll.

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.



The Oban Times sails into Norway

Pat MacLean, formerly coxswain of Oban lifeboat, reads his *Oban Times* in the town of Kirkenes, the most northerly town in Norway and close to the Russian border. Pat was on a fjord cruise on *M/S Nordkapp*, named after the North Cape of Norway, with a group of Oban friends. Pat was actually photographed and featured on the front page of *The Oban Times* he is holding. We would like readers to send in flashback photographs and photographs of *The Oban Times* being read in far flung places. Please send prints to *The Oban Times*, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

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

ACHA employs 20 wardens

Sir,

On behalf of Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) I wish to address the inaccurate statement contained in a letter from Duncan Graham, *The Oban Times*, July 23.

The correspondence stated: 'Unbelievably ACHA was allowed to do away with wardens in sheltered housing.'

ACHA employs 20 wardens and 11 relief staff in our 11 sheltered housing complexes in Oban, Benderloch, Mull, Dunoon, Sandbank, Inveraray, Ardriahaig, Tarbert, Lochgilhead, Rothesay and Islay.

If Mr Graham doubts my word, I am happy to arrange a visit for him to meet our warden staff in our complexes.

There is clearly a lot of anger in Mr Graham's letter. ACHA has no difficulty with the thrust of his argument that fair and consistent funding for sheltered housing should be a priority. ACHA has made it clear if Supporting People funding is restored by the local authority to assist the organisation in providing services to elderly people in our sheltered housing complexes then we would invest this in supporting our tenants. In the meantime the association will continue to provide a sheltered housing

service with wardens with the resources we have available, without any grant at all, unlike other housing associations in Argyll and Bute and beyond.

Alastair MacGregor, Chief Executive, Argyll Community Housing Association, Albany Street, Oban.

School hostel concerns

Sir,

Not all parents believe that moving Glencruitten Hostel under the management of Oban High School is the required solution.

It seems Argyll and Bute Council give staff new job titles and salaries but they are no better trained, experienced or led than they were previously. For too long now children have been coming home at weekends shattered and telling tales of pupils drinking, sexual activity, staying up late and bullying. Parents have been admitted to the hostel by pupils and allowed to roam unchallenged and without a greeting from staff.

The children in Glencruitten are not a bad bunch of children, quite the opposite in fact, and it is a credit to them that they achieve what they do. We have complained to councillors who have listened and been helpful but we are left with the same staff and regime who have failed island children for

too long now. Parents have been reluctant to speak to the press about these issues in the past but we have been left with no alternative. We have been told in the past that our fears were unfounded but earlier this year in *The Oban Times* it was admitted that hostel pupils under achieve more than any other high school group. Oban High School staff have commented on hostel pupils regularly falling asleep in class. In the past it was an academic advantage for pupils to be in the hostel as they had supervised study and access to dedicated high school staff. These facilities remain in the hostel so the problem obviously lies elsewhere.

Name and address supplied.

Positive feedback

Sir,

I am writing in response to the serious allegations made in the recent article regarding Glencruitten Hostel.

The management of the hostel, including representatives from social work and education, regularly visit the islands to discuss developments within the hostel. The overwhelming feedback from these visits is that parents and children are very positive about the service offered. Inspections of Glencruitten Hostel by the Care Commission are

thorough evidence-based processes which canvass a wide range of opinions. The recent inspection did not find any concerns which would have related to these allegations. The Community Services department is committed to continually improving the service at the hostel. As part of this, the department has put in place closer working arrangements between the social work and education services, and looks forward to continuing this work with parents and children in the future.

Councillor Donald McIntosh, spokesperson for Social Services, Argyll and Bute Council.

Bertie Lamont

Sir,

Your coverage of the Taynuilt Games brought back happy memories of lengthy childhood holidays spent on Loch Awe at Dalavich in the 1940s.

In particular I remember Bertie Lamont who ran a haulage business in the area and could be relied upon to transport folk from remote parts to the games and ceilidhs in his ex-USAF ambulance or cattle float.

Bertie had a reputation as a Games 'heavyweight' and to the pupils at Dalavich School he was a local hero. I wonder if any readers remember Bertie from those days?

John Hannah, Scotstoun, Glasgow.

Islay Letter

Portnahaven fling

CATHIE Thomson's annual 'Fling at the Fair' ceilidh in Rhinns Hall, Portnahaven, attracted a large crowd of local and visiting families and raised £971 for the Yorkhill Leukaemia Fund.

A host of artistes entertained with great gusto and among those raising their voices in song were Hannah Gillies, Alasdair Currie, Ruairaidh MacKinnon, Andrew McCowan, Eoin Brown and Ryan Johnston who also displayed his Gaelic reciting skills as did Natalie Dunn. Filling the guest artist spots were Ethel MacCallum of Tiree and Inveraray, and Mod gold medallist and Ceolraidh Ghaidhlig Ghaschu choir conductor Kenneth Thomson. The Bownmore primary school folkgroup set toes a-tapping as did Islay Accordion and Fiddle Band. Further instrumental music came from piper Malcolm Feist, fiddler Neil Oliver and chanter player Tracy Baker who also gave a dancing display with her sister Sophie. Further Highland dancing was provided by Stacy Hughes. Children's games amused the youngsters, the supper spread overwhelmed and the raffle prizes were as varied as they were numerous.

Raft race

MEMBERS of the local Royal National

Lifeboat Institution branch fund-raising committee leave no stone unturned in their money making activities.

Their latest venture was the raft race which saw 18 entrants compete in the placid waters of Leodam Bay. The raft creations were ingenious and provided much interest among the supporters.

Top prize in the ladies' section went to 'HMS Bryony', the 'Winsome' men proved victorious in their efforts, and an energetic crew of youngsters, aptly named the 'Vital Sparks' took first place in the junior class. The winners received a raft of prizes and the event culminated with dancing in Ramsay Hall.

Visiting entertainers

MOD GOLD and traditional medallist Paul MacCallum and ace accordionist and Scottish dance band leader John Carmichael were in sparkling form when they both entertained a capacity crowd in Port Ellen Masonic Lodge on July 18.

Giffnock-based John's wizardry on the keyboard was evident in his solo spots and even enticed many of the patrons on to the dance floor. His 'inter item' jokes provoked gales of laughter and he may have a new career as a 'sit down' comedian.

Paul, from North Glendale in South Uist, is one of Gaeldom's most popular and eagerly sought after singers. He

struck gold at the national Mod in Stirling 22 years ago and was awarded the traditional medal two years earlier at Lochaber. His effortless and relaxed performances are always well received as is his song choice and his Port Ellen programme lived up to expectation.

Volunteer retires

BOWMORE resident Bella MacCuaig has retired after more than 20 years devoted service as a volunteer with the local branch of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service.

Her two decade long contribution has not gone unnoticed as she has received the group's 10-year service badge, the commemorative medal acknowledging her 15-year period as a volunteer and the badge which recognises her 20-year service with the island branch.

When Bella first entered the volunteer service she was heavily involved in the team that delivered 'Meals on Wheels' in the Bownmore district.

In more recent years she has cheerfully participated in the trolley service at Islay Hospital and at Gortanvogie Eventide Home.

It is fitting that Bella's many years of service were recognised by the charity group and everyone wishes her a long and happy retirement from volunteer duties.

Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bownmore, Islay, PA43 8JX. Telephone 01496 810658.

A VIEW FROM THE TOWER

By McCAIG

Some holiday!

THERE have always been anarchists who constantly pursue those who work in national and local government with a sort of malicious hatred that can't be justified except in their own devious minds.

Each year at this time the question of MPs' holidays gets them a sort of spurious publicity. With both Parliaments in recess currently, they have a fair number of column centimetres to fill where the latest inanities of some headline grabbing politician would have provided copy fodder to keep the supply up to scratch. Instead, the weary journalist, deprived of 82 days 'holiday' about which so much fuss is being made - and having to do with no more than half of that number - vents his/her spleen on those who are absent from the House of Commons for those days. There's claims they must be spending them in some expensive holiday resort in some part of the sun-drenched world when the crabbit correspondent should know that the conscientious MP/MSP is working pretty hard in and on behalf of their constituency.

Of course, there are a minority who do use up a fair percentage of these 82 days doing research in California, Capetown or Cannes where the sun shines more frequently, the lifestyle is more exotic and 'networking' can be more fun. But this recess of all recent recesses will not be seeing conspicuous expenditure after the expenses scandal and an unusually high percentage of public, high profile hard work on constituency business aided by media releases to prove that they are working and taking a tan anywhere.

Now, there are MPs and MSPs of my acquaintance who have never treated this recess nor any other as an excuse of 'put the feet up' and have a snooze. Usually these are in widely scattered rural constituencies.

When I was in the company of our local MP Alan Reid at the Clan MacDougall Homecoming Dinner a few days ago I asked him how many engagements he had in the following few days. It averaged out a three a day as well as dealing with an enormous postbag. And that's pretty well the pattern throughout the infamous 82 days. If he has a holiday at all it's never more than a week. The same applies to Sir Jamie McGrigor and Jim Mather who has ministerial duties to fulfil as well. I could go on: Charles Kennedy, John Farquhar Munro, David Stewart, even Angus Brendan MacNeil. Why doesn't some 'investigative' journalist do research into how many days holiday those who would persecute politicians have during the same period?

Maybe the Tories will take up your proposal, Jim, but don't hold your breath!

that claims the offspring of the working classes are still not getting a proper share of student places in courses for medicine, law and other professions because their parents or guardians don't have the 'clout' that dynasties within these professions have.

This is still being said more than 50 years on. I don't reckon it to be so today. The only reason that it has been wheeled out now is that the Labour Party, bereft of policies that are attracting voters back to the fold, as the Norwich North by-election amply illustrated, is always one that those who haven't got into the university of their choice trot out.

As far as the 'class' system is concerned it certainly went out of the window at least half-a-century ago.

From my days at Edinburgh University there were medical students, now retiring as highly qualified and highly successful consultants, with no family background in the profession who gained admission on their academic merit and an interview, which proved they had common sense.

Yes, the legal profession does appear on the surface to be an almost closed shop, but isn't.

The outstanding figure from a very humble background is Lord MacKay of Clashfern whose father was a railwayman. His Lordship has been Lord Chancellor, a Lord of Appeal and reforming politician.

The reason for the latest 'report' is a form of inverted snobbery from those who have 'not quite made it' and are looking for a scapegoat.

Another public holiday?

I'M DELIGHTED that Professor Jim Hunter, formerly chairman of Highlands and Islands Enterprise, has suggested that as a result of this Year of Homecoming, there should be an extra public holiday in Scotland to commemorate the Diaspora.

I'm all for Scotland having one - as we seem to miss out compared to the rest of Europe - and it doesn't matter whether England has one or not. But I can't see us getting it.

You will remember that when the Scottish Parliament came into being the SNP had, as part of its manifesto, that Saint Andrews Day should become a public holiday.

When Alex Salmond became First Minister everyone expected the necessary legislation would be presented very quickly. But it has never come. Numerous excuses have been presented, mostly to do with antipathy of employers' organisations and imminent national financial catastrophe, which Mr Salmond seems to have endorsed.

Maybe the Tories will take up your proposal, Jim, but don't hold your breath!

McCraig

Your letters

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, *The Oban Times*, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

My Village Tighnabrauaich

What makes Tighnabrauaich special to you?

Its location, the scenery, the fact that I have lived here all my life. It is a great place to bring up children, a lot of people are put off by the fact that children have to go to secondary school in Dunoon and have the option of staying in the school hostel, I feel this is an advantage and prepares young people for life after school.

Tighnabrauaich feels remote but in fact is only two hours from Glasgow.

Does Tighnabrauaich have an interesting history?

I think it does. The village started as a 'doon the watter resort'. Wealthy Glasgow merchants building large villas to use as holiday houses.

The neighbouring village of Millhouse had a gunpowder works in the 1800s, the explosives being transported by boat from Kames.

My own family originally came to the area to work in the gunpowder works making bags to put the powder in.

Tighnabrauaich is also the home of Kyles Athletic Shinty Club, the most successful team in the south of Scotland. It is also renowned for sailing in the waters around the Kyles of Bute, which are world famous.

How important is history and heritage to Tighnabrauaich?

History is always important. With the population changing all the time it is very important young local people know the history and heritage of their village.

How would I describe Tighnabrauaich to someone who has never been there?

A village that seems remote - but isn't.

The views from the road into the village are spectacular. I travel extensively throughout Argyll and the Islands in through some of the best scenery in the world but the feeling you get driving down the hill into Tighnabrauaich on a beautiful sunny evening is hard to explain.

Try it for yourself and then you will then know what I mean.

THERE can be few more beautiful places on a warm summer's evening than the Kyles of Bute and the village of Tighnabrauaich.

Local businessman Ronnie Irvine, whose family have been linked to the area for generations, views the changes that make the village what it is today.

Ronnie explains to Oban Times reporter Louise Lee why, for him, Tighnabrauaich is such a special place.



Happy at home in Tighnabrauaich, Ronnie Irvine with his wife Fiona

Were you born in the village?

I was actually born in hospital in Dunoon 24 miles away but I have lived in Tighnabrauaich all my life.

On leaving school I joined our family business and have been fortunate to live and work in Argyll, making many friends over the years through business connections in Argyll, the islands and beyond.

How much has Tighnabrauaich changed over the years?

A lot. The whole way of life has changed, life has got faster. People are always in much more of a hurry.

Transport links are better,

enabling people to get out of the village easier, but this has come at a cost. I feel local shops are suffering because of this.

Tighnabrauaich has become much more of a weekend village - lots of people owning holiday homes. That means that property prices have risen making it harder for young people to buy homes.

Have you a favourite place or building?

My favourite building has got to be Ardess - the home of our business. This has been in our family since 1860 and the history of the Irvine family and the business of Andrew Irvine &

Son are steeped in this building.

My favourite places are the playing fields watching Kyles Athletic or sailing on the waters of the Kyles - that's the most relaxing place in the world for me.

What is your favourite time of year in Tighnabrauaich?

It has got to be the summer.

As a child, playing on the beach, as a teenager, when the place got busier with dances and more girls.

As an adult, the sailing and other sports available in the village.

The scenery, the people, the freedom, the safe environment, the fact that is easily accessible. Most people who come here come back year after year.

Is there anyone famous from Tighnabrauaich?

I don't think so, the place itself is famous, it doesn't matter where you go in the world you always meet someone who has been here or knows someone who lives here.

What are the challenges facing Tighnabrauaich and how could it be improved?

We need to get community spirit back. I feel this has been lost over the years.

There are a lot of projects going on the go but there are always factions within any village who only focus on the negatives, we are all to blame - locals and incomers alike.

Some people are afraid of change, others move here and want to change things forgetting



'The views from the road into the village are spectacular'

why they moved here in the first place.

We have got to find some form of reliable employment to attract younger families to the village and enable local youngsters to stay and live here.

There is hope - because a few apprentices have been started in the last couple of years and the new marina development at Portavadie will help, but we need more help and direction from the government and the council.

I know money is tight - but sometimes areas such as Tighnabrauaich are neglected in favour of large projects based in the main towns in Argyll.



BOAT TRIPS
Enjoy sightseeing trips or sea angling in the Kyles of Bute on the converted fishing boat Morag. Trips depart from Tighnabrauaich Pier on the Kyles of Bute.

If you are visiting the Loch Lomand or Cowal area why not get out and enjoy the beautiful Kyles of Bute from the water. These 1 or 2 hour trips are ideal for families and guaranteed to keep the kids happy in any weather. The Morag is a stable and safe vessel for viewing the spectacular scenery and varied marine life. Seals, porpoises and dolphins are regular sightings, as well as a huge variety of bird life. Groups of up to 10 can be embarked, and as well as all the necessary safety gear, the vessel is equipped with buoyancy aids for children of all ages. Longer trips for picnics or visiting the Isle of Bute can also be arranged.

Contact Donald on 01700 811 538 or 07799661493(M) to book your trip or visit www.dmarine.co.uk



Ardlamont Estates

Come and relax in our beautiful surroundings. Experience our breath taking views across the sweeping lawns to the sea and views of Arran, Bute and the Mull of Kintyre.

The new Coach House Square area offers a Garden Centre, Craft-Shops, Tea Room, Carriage Drives and Hacking, open 7 days a week 11:00 - 4:30.

Ardlamont House offers something for everyone, from intimate family weddings, video and film crews to shooting and fishing parties.

For those who are looking for self-catering accommodation the Estate have many cottages to let, all of which have been totally refurbished to extremely high standards.

Enjoy our wonderful gardens and nature trails taking in our extensive wildlife including Sea Eagles and Peregrines.

Ardlamont House also offers their private yacht, available for charter with crew.

To find out more and enjoy the peace, tranquillity, and spectacular scenery
Tel: 01700 811364 or E-mail: enquiries@ardlamont.com
www.ardlamont.com

www.tig-gallery.com

DRONMA
August 3rd - September 5th
inspiring art...

TIGHNABRAUAICH GALLERY
01700 811681 . PA21 2DR



AN LOCHAN
Tighnabrauaich

Locally caught shellfish, fish and game
Moorings, 11 comfortable rooms

www.anlochan.co.uk 01700 811239

Andrew Irvine & Son

Carpet Suppliers and Fitters
Family owned business serving Argyll and the Isles

Offering a wide selection of carpets.

Tel: 01700 811 255
Mob: 07768 555847

Duncan's VILLAGE STORE
Kames Tighnabrauaich Open 7 days

Sample the local Venison when in Tighnabrauaich and enjoy our award winning butcher meat from Richard H McIntyre.

Tel: 01700 811356

• Newsagents • Grocers • Off Licence

POST OFFICE

TIGHNABRAUAICH POST OFFICE
Open 9am - 5.30pm Mon, Tue, Thur & Fri
9am - 1pm Wed & Sat

Choose from a wide selection of Ironmongery, Stationery, Gifts and Toys. Postcards, and Cards for all occasions.

M.G.I HAIRDRESSERS

Open Monday to Saturday
9am - 5pm
Late night Wednesday

www.thehighlandtheatre.co.uk for full listings and future presentations

Cinema www.thehighlandtheatre.co.uk
The Highland Theatre
George Street, Oban, PA34 5NX - Box Office: 01631 562444

From Friday 31st July for 7 days

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF BLOOD PRINCE	Cert 12A 143min DAILY 11.30, 2.30, 5.30 & 8.30 (Except Monday 3rd)
BRUNO	Cert 18 81min DAILY 9.30
G-FORCE	Cert PG 88min DAILY 11.30, 1.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30
THE BEAT THAT MY HEART SKIPPED	Cert 15 107min MONDAY 3rd August MUTH FILM CLUB 8.15

From Friday 7th August
G. I. JOE - 12A

CINEMA LISTINGS

Harry Potter And The Half Blood Prince

CERT 12A
Harry Potter is finally back and Voldemort is tightening his grip on both the Muggle and wizarding worlds and Hogwarts is no longer the safe haven it once was. The Young wizards are facing new challenges and dangers in the wake of Lord Voldemort's return. The Harry Potter films just get better and better...it's a wonderful adventure, brimming with action, love, drama, humour and dazzling performances. It is cracking stuff and bound to be the hit of the summer. David Yates returns to direct, after helming "HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX." And if you've been living under a rock it's based on the incredibly popular novel written by J.K. Rowling.

Bruno

CERT 18
Sacha Baron Cohen, the creator, star, writer and producer of Borat and Da Ali G Show has created the gutsiest, craziest and most dangerous comedy to be released in mainstream theaters. In Bruno, Baron Cohen introduces moviegoers to the next character from his award-winning series: a gay fashionista who

is the host of the top-rated late night fashion show in any German-speaking country... apart from Germany. Bruno's mission? To become the biggest Austrian celebrity since Hitler. His strategy? To crisscross the globe in the hopes of finding fame and love. Bruno pushes the boundaries further than Borat ever did.

G-Force

CERT 'PG'
Disney animated/live action feature about a team of trained secret agent animals: guinea pigs Darwin (Sam Rockwell), Juarez (Penélope Cruz), Blaster (Tracy Morgan), Mole Speckles (Nicolas Cage), and fly Mooch (Edwin Louis). The team takes on a mission for the US government to stop evil billionaire Leonard Saber (Bill Nighy), who plans to destroy the world with household appliances. Before they can accomplish their mission, the government shuts them down and they are sentenced to a pet shop. Darwin, Juarez, Blaster, Speckles, Mooch, and their new friends Hurley (Jon Favreau) and hamster Bucky (Steve Buscemi) will escape the cage to defeat the villain, stop his threat, and save the world. Great fun stuff for all the family.



Pipers call the tune at McCaig's Tower

PIPERS and dancers braved the midges last week to entertain tourists at McCaig's Tower after Oban and Lorn Lions Club had organised a series of five performances over the summer in a bid to raise funds. The fourth of these gatherings took place last Thursday when Oban pipers and the Eilidh MacInnes Highland Dancers provided the entertainment. Pictured are some of the pipers from Oban Pipe Band who took part. 07_01pip01

Tiree launch for Skipinnish album

A TREAT was in store for Tiree's residents and visitors when Skipinnish launched their fourth album, *Live from the Ceilidh House*, at a concert last Saturday, at An Talla, Tiree's community hall. The launch gig, as you would expect, was a sell out and after a champagne toast the band quickly got to work providing the audience with some first class traditional Scottish music from their new album. As the band got fully into their flow a Highland Schottische was followed by several toe-tapping jigs. Keen to share the limelight Rachel Walker joined them to sing in Gaelic. Rachel also produced the songs on the new album and

as ever it was a delight to hear her voice effortlessly soar and dip with the nuances of the songs chosen for the evening. Singer Norrie MacIver was clearly enjoying himself on his first visit to Tiree. Influenced by Runrig and Bob Dylan, his youthful voice was reminiscent of a young John Martyn. **Talented** The talented Scott Wilson was also on stage most of the evening playing various instruments. Angus MacPhail has a natural easy banter and it was easy to feel as though everyone in the hall, including the musicians and singers on the stage, were part of his large and extended family. Skipinnish were joined on

stage by local band Skerryvore who played a couple of their own compositions from their new album which were rapturously received. Effectively the concert was a warm-up for the dance which followed. From beginning to end the dance floor was full of spirited dancers having a great night out. Several local people said the dance was amazing which makes one wonder how visitors found it if they had never been to a Tiree dance before? The last word has to go to Skipinnish's Tiree boy Angus MacPhail, who said: 'We have to thank everyone on Tiree. Skipinnish and Skerryvore have a lot of support here and we both greatly appreciate that.'

Blues night sees 'Stretch' return to Mull

A BLUES, jazz and country night at the Park Lodge, Tobermory will see a former Mull guitarist return to his roots. August 7 will see Iain 'Stretch' MacFadyen take to the stage with Mike Parker, a Perrier award winner who has played on countless blues and jazz recordings and at one time hosted his own show on Radio Four. 'Stretch' moved to Edinburgh about 15 years ago from the island of Mull, and has been slinging his guitar around the world ever since. Stretch said: 'Mike has one of the best voices of any singer I have heard, so make August 7 a date on your calendar - you won't be disappointed.' To reserve tickets call Geoffrey or Rebecca Gallagher on 01688 302430.

TIMESFORUM
Have your say on the forum at WWW.OBANTIMES.CO.UK

MALLAIG & MORAR highland games
Lovat Memorial Field, Morar
Sunday 2nd August 2009
Midday start
Traditional Highland Games with heavy events, Junior heavy events, athletics, piping, highland dancing, and a cross country race.

OUT NOW

Mull & Iona Life

The cut of choice
The call of the sea
Torosay: a castle with characters

WIN A copy of 'Light & Pledge' Courtesy of Torosay & Torosay page 44

The next edition of this exciting magazine is available now

pick up your copy today

01631 568000



Donald Black. 17_031black01

Black is harmonica marvel on tour

DONALD Black continued his tour of the west last Thursday night at Skipinnish Ceilidh House Oban where he held his audience spellbound with a collection of lively traditional sets and haunting slow airs. Particularly well received was *Keil Road*, a beautiful melody written to celebrate Donald's strong Benderloch roots.

Prizewinners join chamber orchestra for Oban evening

PRIZEWINNERS Peter and Valerie Jones joined the Scottish Chamber Orchestra at St John's Cathedral - thanks to *The Oban Times* and the musicians. Despite the 30 strong band and entourage getting lost in the town's one way system performers made it in plenty of time to congratulate the prizewinners before their one night performance. Orchestra organiser Michael Ferguson said: 'Peter and Valerie are fans of the ensemble so we were pleased that they won the tickets. 'We welcomed locals and many tourists of various nationalities into the concert, all eager to hear the ensemble. Both the programme and players were praised by the audience - it was another great evening.'



The prizewinners with Alison Green, Harry Johnstone, Iona Garvie and Alec Frank-Gemmill. 15_031chamber02

F.W. Holroyd Gallery & Framer

Originals by Alan Anderson

Starts 4th August • Tue - Sat 10-5pm
Full framing service on site

Old Ferry Road, North Ballachulish
Just off the A82, north of the Ballachulish Bridge
01855 821 277 www.holroydgallery.co.uk

Folk rockers promote single

OBAN and Glasgow band Washington Irving rocked their home town earlier this month when they played the Argyllshire Gathering Halls. Supported by label mates Ross Clark and The Scarfs Go Missing, the band played their first concert in Oban for a year promoting debut single, *The Magician*, out on Instinctive Raccoon records. The concert followed a string of dates including Inverness and Thurso.

Notes and quotes

Blair is worth the wait!

The magic that is The Blair Douglas Band is on the road for the first time in almost 20 years. Stornoway, Oban and Glasgow played host to Blair and his band over last weekend and the Oban audience lapped it all up at the Ceilidh House. Western Soul followed his Gaeltacht Cajun opening number and the audience was swinging. Kate Martin's Waltz and Nelson Mandela's Welcome to Glasgow had the feet tapping some more - and then the Soldier's Lullaby featuring the marvellous breathy vocals of Kathleen MacInnes brought us back to earth. The song was written for Rose Gentle who lost her son Gordon in the Iraq War. Blair's social conscience came to the fore and he did not miss the politicians! But that's what inspires a lot of what Blair does - that social awareness of world events and their repercussions - and tunes that have been inspired by the New Orleans Floods and 911 to highlight two. Angels from the Ashes touched hearts round the world and not least in New York when he released it in honour of the lost souls of the Twin Towers atrocity. Alongside Kathleen MacInnes in the band are accomplished and established musicians of the like of Chas Stewart on leading guitar and Gordon Gunn, the Session A9 fiddler from Wick. Both got a P45 on the night - for cheek, but I suspect will have been reinstated by the time they got to Glasgow. Blair joked that he might be a solo performer by then!

Ferrets and Pensioners!

Dave Gibb arrived in Oban after six years in Wanlockhead, the highest village in Scotland. The escape was welcome, he told us, especially after spending time with the pensioners and ferret fanciers club at Christmas. He is a great player, his finger-picking style adding to his cleverly written lyrics. A great comedy song came from the close encounter with the chronologically challenged members of the community that gave us Hope Springs - a TV drama with which I have only a passing experience. He uses a Gaelic/Scotts word. A word that roughly translates as 'manure'. Scottish history fascinates Gibb and his research suggests that the Livingstones cut down the bones of James of the Glen at Ballachulish and spirited them off to a better place - that was fine - but to disparage the Campbells in their own territory was dangerous - but the words were out! He was quick to apologise when we talked but we had been so entertained we were willing to forgive. Dave Gibb - Singer, Songwriter and comedian. He is some boy!

Irish Country

Kieran Goss was on the phone last week for a wee chat. The singer from County Down in Ireland has a marvellous voice and writes great songs in an easy listening country style. I first came across him supporting Don Williams in Glasgow a year or so ago. Williams was on what was probably a farewell visit and had the audience spellbound for nearly two hours with all the hits - Gypsy Woman, Amanda, Till all the Rivers Run Dry. It was terrific, made all the more so because Goss had warmed the audience beautifully. Goss has an 'amazing ability to reach out to his audience and connect with them in a very special way' said the legend of country music Don Williams. Out of my head was a highlight and we all loved his chatty opening act. Well, the big news is Kieran has plans to tour Scotland himself and Oban is in his sights, as are Skye and Inverness. So check out Mr Goss and his fine songs and be ready for the Spring Tour.

Pink Paradise

While the original Pink Floyd make up their differences and plan the future having played all the great gigs of the past - the Surrogate Pink Floyd hit Oban's Corran Halls last Saturday with an assault of aural and visual senses to delight the quality audience. Lead singer Jer tells me he sees it now as traditional that SPF is in Oban in July. The Glasgow Fair Saturday is the traditional day for the city to empty and head for the coast. Sitting having a chat looking out over Oban Bay he waxes lyrical about coming up to play the Corran Halls. 'There is nothing like this in Parkhead,' he muses, looking down the Sound of Kerrera, 'so it is very special for us to come here and play this great hall - we love it!'

Chust Sublime!

We have been looking forward to the return of the Mull Theatre to Benderloch and Easdale with the latest wheeze, Island Nights. We were not disappointed. After such a hit last time with *The Accidental Death of an Accordionist* - expectations were high and excitement built to a frenzy. The Oban Times got a mention thinly disguised as the Obag Times, with a special mention for the Scalpay News! Our man really is a legend now. The Island Nights tour takes in 19 of the Inner and Outer Hebrides and the comic capers and serious drama will enthral nine year olds to 90 plus. As host for the night, Para Handy himself would say - Chust sublime!

Snippets

- Fellow Burns Unit collaborator Karine Polwart comes to Easdale on August 1. The ex-Malinky singer is now onto her fourth solo album, *This Earthly Spell*.
- The McCalmans arrived in The Corran Halls, Oban last night (Wednesday) for the Argyll leg of the Highland tour. A wee venture west to the Astley Hall, Arisaig follows on tonight (Thursday). The great new live album, *Coming Home*, will be featured.

the scottish owl centre
Witchburn Road, Campbeltown

Presents
"Owls by Night"

A simulated nocturnal flying display

Afternoons: 2.30pm Mon-Sat
(July & August only)
Plus usual facilities 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Tel: 01586 554397 www.owlsbynight.com

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

Oban group act as film extras

SATURDAY saw members of Spotlight Musical Theatre Group, and others from Oban acting as extras, appearing in a new David Stoddart Film, Solstice.

Filming on the day took place at the Ice Factory which doubled as a Fish Hatchery.

Pictured are Peter and Lesley from Spotlight with another one of the extras for the day, Linda.

Director David Stoddart is joined by producer Justine Watson on the short film. Justine said: 'David's parents own the motorcycle shop in Oban and we have come back to Oban to make our graduation film as we are all MA students at the National Film School in London.

'The film will be screened at the beginning of next year at the National Film Theatre in London.'

Filming will continue until July 31.



West Coast puts art on the map

ART IS definitely on the map on the west coast with 33 artists taking part in an open days event.

Art on the Map, in its second year, works on the principle that to understand artists and their work that they must be seen in their own surroundings.

The group have published a second cultural guide to artists' studios and are asking people to make a trip to visit them between August 7 and 10.

Craft

Organiser Lesley Burr said: 'The event is organised by the artists themselves who are a voluntary group of professional artists and craft makers actively engaged in promoting and practising their chosen discipline.

'This year the event is bigger than last year and we are hoping for a good turnout of visitors.

'It is good for people to meet artists in their own environment.

'Visitors are invited to any of the studios detailed in the website.'

Artists involved in the events include sculptor Melanie Chmielewska, glass artist Karen Liversedge and painter and sculptor Clare McNiven who recently took part in an exhibition at Dunollie Castle.

Many of the studios can also be accessed outwith the event - please check our website for details: www.artmapargyll.com.

Conceived by a number of working artists and makers in Argyll in 2007, Artmap Argyll has this year grown to encompass 33 participating artists and their venues.

This has created a collaborative network to promote a broad variety of original artworks directly to the public, while raising artistic and cultural awareness of the rich and diverse arts activity in Argyll.

The objectives of the group are to include to create and motivate an actively participating artists' group.

Local Producers Market

Thursday 6 August
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch,
1 mile along the Tralee road
10 am to 3 pm

LOTS TO EAT AND DO
Every First / Third Thursday
Interested Producers contact
01631 720223
Local Origins Rural Network
www.lorn.org.uk

The Carers Centre Independence Celebrations

We welcome you to our open day on Saturday August 1, between 10.30 am-1pm

There will be light refreshments and a chance to meet the Trustees who have worked so hard to get us to this point.

Oban and Lorn Tourism Association

www.oban.org.uk the definitive web guide to Oban that enjoys 20 million hits

We can help you to help your business. Visit: www.oban.org.uk TODAY!

YOUR STARS WITH PATRICK ARUNDEL

ARIES Mar 21st - Apr 20th 090 6612 4520

However sociable things have been recently, if you have had people around to your abode, you may have become more conscious of its perceived shortcomings, or at least the things you would like to upgrade. If ideas have been generated, the desire to act upon these can be strong now. Yet when it comes to one attractive person, are they for real Aries? Call me now for your love scope in full...

TAURUS Apr 21st - May 21st 090 6612 4521

Someone may think you're being unrealistic. This is the type of situation where they're simply unable to see the big picture or the imagination behind what you plan, and things can get muddled between you. Try to stay cool, for your ruling planet Venus is going to boost your powers of persuasion, no end. By the week's end, agreement can be reached. Call for more news and advice...

GEMINI May 22nd - Jun 21st 090 6612 4522

Your imagination can be absolutely awesome, which is fine if you are sitting on a sweltering beach enjoying your senses being intoxicated by your exotic surroundings. This is less helpful if you need to fill in any kind of application form. Clear thinking can be harder to achieve or someone could tell you a total whopper. Fortunately, cash looks promising. Call me now for your financial forecast...

CANCER Jun 22nd - Jul 23rd 090 6612 4523

If you are offered financial advice, do get a second or even third opinion. It's not so much that deception is in the air, but it's what you're not told that's key or if what you are, is exaggerated. Yet this week can see you start to look forwards around relationship matters. A new cycle commences which will see you with a new twinkle in your eye. Call me now for your in-depth forecast...

LEO Jul 24th - Aug 23rd 090 6612 4524

Might there be a slight danger that you are about to believe your own publicity Leo? The Sun, Mercury and Mars have been fab for you, but accusations of egocentric attitudes are possible if you get too caught up in wanting your own way. Worse, when you go to explain yourself, it could be a case of digging an even bigger hole. Sensitivity is essential. Call now for more news and advice...

VIRGO Aug 24th - Sep 23rd 090 6612 4525

If you are able to do it, and you feel the need for an afternoon catnap, go for it. Same if you fancy a duvet day. These and early nights might not sound like a recipe for fun and frivolity but they can prevent you feeling utterly washed out and confused by people's demands. Fortunately, your nerve will revive as the week develops and a plan leaps forwards. Call now for your in-depth forecast...

LIBRA Sep 24th - Oct 23rd 090 6612 4526

Someone can seem so very enchanting or is it you who is going to be giving out such a seductive and spellbinding vibe? Yet there can be a sense of smoke and mirrors to all this and it may be hard to know what to believe. However, with Mercury passing into your zone of secrets, a good friend may test the water, discreetly, upon your behalf Libra. Call your special prediction line for more news...

SCORPIO Oct 24th - Nov 22nd 090 6612 4527

You might find that work or life pressures see standards drop on the domestic front, and if you're someone who likes everything 'just so', this can affect your peace of mind. A heart to heart with a loved one can be the start of a better and more honest relationship though. An outing can also be discussed and you may find others push you to the fore. Call me now for your love scope in full...

SAGITTARIUS Nov 23rd - Dec 21st 090 6612 4528

Back-up unusual ideas with hard and fast facts and good planning. People are much more likely to take you seriously, if you do. Travel plans also need care. Schedules can get confused, flights cancelled or people have different ideas as to what's what. Be determined to fight through the fog of confusion. The upside is that a partner can share their good luck. Call me now for more advice...

CAPRICORN Dec 22nd - Jan 20th 090 6612 4529

If you're thinking of making an investment, you may want to delay it a while Capricorn. As the week unfolds so clearer and more enlightening trends emerge, ones which can see you get to talk to the right people and get the right answers. A more harmonising phase for all sorts of ties is triggered by Venus which can smooth out all sorts of rough edges. Call your prediction line for more advice...

AQUARIUS Jan 21st - Feb 19th 090 6612 4530

Someone you like may need to get used to you. If you try too hard to win their affections, it could have the opposite affect, so the best thing to do is fall back on the steadier side of your nature. Soon enough you can introduce them to the full range of your quirky ways, which no doubt they will love. A colleague may need handling in the same manner. Call me now for your love scope in full...

PISCES Feb 20th - Mar 20th 090 6612 4531

Someone may not tell you the full story and what can gail is that the facts can leak from another source. Yet you can quickly go from being disappointed by this, to a more positive mindset - ones you let in the really good vibes that are coming from more sociable beings. In an on-going lie, put petty differences to one side and focus on what's good. Call for more news and astral advice...

SP: Pronto Ltd, PO Box 52785 EC1P 1TY
Calls cost 60p per minute from standard landline
For entertainment purposes only

WHO SAYS PEOPLE DON'T READ ADS ANYMORE?

You've already made it to **WORD 14.**

Readers of local press are up to 50% more likely to notice the advertising.

Go to www.thewantedads.co.uk to find out more.

the wanted ads Regional Press

Rare drams to be sold by fund

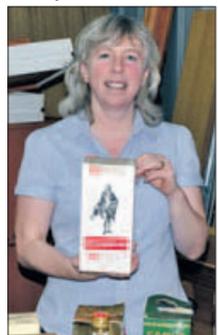
A GENEROUS donation from a widow will see an Argyll charity in the pink.

Champagne, claret and rare single malt whiskies are among a gift from an anonymous donor to the MacQueen Brothers Community Fund.

Graham MacQueen said: 'We are absolutely delighted to receive these bottles. Some of them are worth a lot of money and others are lovely to look at.

'We will maybe hold an auction or sell them on ebay.'

A bottle of Bowmore Single Malt whisky younger than the one to be sold by the MacQueens Community Fund was selling for £1,500 on ebay this week.



Linda Fraser from the fund with one of the bottles. 15_130rdiak01

Hawaiian high jinx at Co-op

A COFFEE morning of the Oban Branch of Alzheimer Scotland raised £1,024.60.

Organisers said: 'It is with grateful thanks to members of the public who contribute and support us in our efforts - every penny is carefully spent.' Prizewinner Alex Caunt from Leicester guessed the value of the contents of a hamper donated by Kitchen Garden.

Alzheimer Scotland will be making a public collection between 31st July to 8th August and a stall will be held at the Appin Show on the 15th August.

The Oban Alzheimer branch mini bus is available to any elderly charitable organisation for a donation



HAWAIIAN high jinx helped to bring in £210 towards the Oban Co-op's fundraising project for the Royal National Institute for Deaf people (RNID), the Co-op's charity for the year. Staff at the store dressed in a Hawaiian theme and sold home baking last Friday. The additional funds now bring the Oban store's total for the year to £1,400. 07_131coop01

Coffee morning raises over £1,000 for charity

There will be no door to door collection in Oban this year. Donations can be made at Tesco.



Prizewinner Alex with Catriona Reid and Henry Woodman.

No long faces at horsey fun day in Oban

FACE-painting and sponge-throwing were among the fun and games for youngsters at Oban and Lorn Riding for the Disabled Fun Day last Friday.

Sunny weather ensured a large turnout at Achnalarig Farm Stables for pony rides, horseback games and competitions, a BBQ and refreshments. All the horseplay was to raise funds for the charity's work, providing free riding opportunities each week for disabled people throughout Argyll.

Fiona Cruickshank, treasurer, said: 'It's great so many people have turned out. We have had fantastic support today.'



These children were ready to soak a few willing volunteers at the Riding for the Disabled Fun Day. 08_131hrs01

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

EILEAN EISDEAL PROUDLY PRESENTS Karine Polwart Trio
Scots songwriter who combines the economy and universality of the folk storytelling tradition with a probing intellect and compassionate lyricism.
takes the heart to places few singers even know exist WORD
a passionate, perceptive songwriter Uncut
Saturday 1st Aug
Doors and bar open 7.30pm
£12.50
Late return ferry 11pm

LOCH AWE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
2009 OPEN DAY
Sunday 2nd August 11 - 4
Ardrecknish Boat Yard, by Clachid
For anglers, locals and visitors All Welcome. Entrance Free
For more information Tel: 01866 833256 or go to www.lochawe.org

An Comunn Gaidhealach
CRUACHAN BRANCH
SUMMER CEILIDH
Thursday 30 July
8pm
Taynuilt Village Hall
Admission £3
Members & Children (5-16 yrs) £2

ST MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GLENCOE
Flower Festival
In the church
6th 7th and 8th August
10.30am - 4pm
admiss. £3 including tea and cakes

Friends of Oban Hospice
Nearly New Sale
Clothing, Bric-A-Brac, Furniture etc Also
Car Boot Sale
Benderloch Equestrian centre
On
Saturday 8th August 2009
Sunday 9th August 2009
10am - 4pm
Tea & Coffee, Home Baking
All welcome

H2O
COFFEE MORNING
In Congregational Church Hall
Saturday August 1st
10-30am until 12-30pm
Tea, Coffee, Home Baking
£2
Find us at top of Argyll St.

WHISKY WEEK 09
6-12 September
Edinburgh | Glasgow | Inverness | Oban | Perth | Speyside

Enjoy a week of whisky celebrations throughout Scotland

Edinburgh Sunday 6th September
Perth Monday 7th September
Speyside Tuesday 8th September
Inverness Wednesday 9th September
Oban Thursday 10th September
Glasgow Friday 11th September

TICKET OPTIONS
Inverness, Oban, Perth and Speyside Whisky Experiences **£65 each**
Edinburgh and Glasgow Whisky Experiences **£85 each**
Whisky Live Glasgow **£22 each**
All prices include VAT at 15% and exclude a booking fee of £1.25

Book online at www.whiskymag.com/whiskyweek

gig argyll your essential guide to live music in argyll

Every night > Scottish Music Shows
Skipinnish Ceilidh House from 8pm

Every Thursday > Ceilidh Night
Skipinnish Ceilidh House Starts 10.30pm

Every Friday > Party Fever
Skipinnish Ceilidh House with DJ Fergie Starts 10.30pm & live ceilidh band

Every Saturday > "Mixed" - Club Night
Skipinnish Ceilidh House with DJs Mark & Stuart Starts 11.00pm

Every Weekend > Live Music 9pm till 12
O'Donnell's

Thursday 30 July > Jock the Box
The Woody

Friday 31 July > Jock the Box
The Woody

Friday 31 July > Filthy Kinky
O'Donnells Irish Bar

Saturday 1 August > Colin Hunter
O'Donnell's

Saturday 1 August > Brass Monkeys
The Woody

Monday 3 August > Skerryvore
Skipinnish Ceilidh House and Trail West

Tuesday 4 August > West Highland Week
Skipinnish Ceilidh House Beach Party 10pm

what's on

Mondays > Pilates
Oban Primary Campus 6.30pm

Various > Art Courses
Airdeny Chalets
Contact Jennifer 01866 822648

Saturday 2 August > Highland Games
Mallaig & Morar - Lovat Memorial Field, Morar - Midday start

Saturday 4 August > Originals by Alan Anderson
FW Holroyd Gallery & Framer
Tel: 01855 821277

July & August Mon-Sat > A Simulated Nocturnal
The Scottish Owl Centre Flying Display 2.30pm



Angus John Cameron, Portuairk, overall champion, crofter with most points from all competitions

Suffolk shearling is Tiree Show Champion of Champions

THE Isle of Tiree glistened in the sun as locals and visitors alike flocked to the island's annual agricultural show.

Cattle judge, Donald Campbell, Camaghael, Fort William, was impressed with the standard of stock on the island. This year's cross bred champion was Bullseye, a Limousin cross bullock calf from Iain MacInnes, Ruaig. The February born calf by Graham's Volvo was out of a pure Charolais cow, Thrunton Voucher.

Reserve was the Limousin cross autumn born heifer, Hilary, from Tearlach MacDonald, Main Road, sired by his own stock bull and out of a British Blue cross cow.

Overall cattle champion was the crossbred winner, and reserve was the pure bred leader, Ruaig Diago, a British Blue bull calf by Elogieux and was shown by Iain's sister, Morven.

This year's sheep judges were both from North Connell. Archie Cameron brought forward a Suffolk cross ewe from Sandra Brown as his cross bred champion while reserve was Iain MacInnes, Ruaig with a Mule gimmer.

Champion of the pure bred sheep section, judged by Donald MacCorquodale, Achnaba, was Fraser MacLean, Heylipol's Suffolk shearling, Westcarse Islander by Cairness First Glance.

Coming reserve after some fierce brotherly competition, was Alasdair MacLean's Beltex ewe lamb, Tiree Nellie by Beechtree Maxi Muscles. This ewe lamb was fourth in her class at the Highland Show.

The overall sheep champion was the Suffolk shearling tup from Fraser MacLean who was then delighted when his tup went on to win the Champion of Champions award.

The pony championship was won, once again, by Janis MacArthur, Balephuil with her Highland gelding Struan. Standing reserve was Janet Bowler with Achnalarig Whiskey.

The afternoon programme saw crowds gather to hear Tiree Pipe

Band and the popular pet show and dog agility competition. Judge Gail Cameron, North Connell, chose a young Golden Retriever shown by Alastair Kennedy from Stirling as champion.

A new feature was a Tiree has Talent competition. A huge success! The crowds were entertained to singing, dancing and piping tunes before the three judges chose young Ashley Watson and friend as the winners.

With the Fun Fair, Bucking Bronco, craft stalls and a fantastic amount of entries in the home industries marquee, there was certainly plenty for everyone to see and do at this year's Tiree Show.

Kilchoan hosts successful show

KILCHOAN playing field was again the venue for a successful West Ardnamurchan Show and Sports last Friday.

In sublime weather, locals and visitors enjoyed an excellent day's competition and entertainment, with a large contingent of Mulleachs

making the trip across on the boat from Tobermory.

Gus MacLean, chairman, of West Ardnamurchan Show and Sports, told *The Oban Times*: 'This year's show was very well attended with the numbers up from previous years. Obviously the good weather played a

big part in this, but also I think people are attracted to the show each year because the events and attractions throughout the day are very much family orientated. We also have a fantastic venue with the playing field next to the community centre.'

'The feedback we received at the end of the show from members of the public was very complimentary and encouraging. As well as thanking all our volunteers and supporters, a special thanks goes to the show committee for their hard work and to everyone who attended and donated money so generously.'

Results:

Junior Sports - Overall points winner G M MacMillan Quach, Ella MacDonald; Junior Hill Race - Boy Junior Cup, Calum MacDougal; Girl Hill Race Cup, Kharis Cunningham; Senior Hill Race - Men, Glenborrodale Cup, Donald White; Ladies, McConnell Salmon Challenge Cup, Rachel Haylett; Baking Competition - adults section Cup, May MacNicol; Children, Chloe Cameron; Picture Competition - children, Chloe Cameron; Pet Parade - Chloe Cameron with collie Skye; Senior Heavy Events - Overall Points Champion, Championship Cup, James Campbell; Local with most points, F MacDonald Cup, Richard Van Der Peer; Junior Heavy Events - Overall points winner, Boys Selkirk Cup, Jonny Forsyth; Overall points winner, Girls Cup Laura Glasgow.

Agricultural Show Winners, Blackface: Ewe Lamb, Portuairk Cup, Angus John Cameron; Champion Sheep, Mingary Cup, Angus John Cameron; Reserve Champion, Plocaig Cup, Angus John Cameron; Best Group of Sheep, West Ardnamurchan Show Shield, Angus John Cameron; Ewe in Milk, JD MacPhail Cup, Nan MacLachlan; Tup Lamb, Bob MacWalters Cup, Nan MacLachlan; Champion Cross Breed (male/female), Lord Trent Challenge Cup, Nan MacLachlan; Reserve Champion, A MacLachlan Cup, John Alec Cameron; Overall Champion Sheep, A MacKenzie Cup, Angus John Cameron; Crofter with most points in Show, West Ardnamurchan Show Cup, Angus John Cameron.



Nan MacLachlan, Kilchoan, with champion cross breed



May MacNicol, Kilchoan, winner of the baking competition



Ella MacDonald, Tobermory, winner of the junior sports



Champion of Champions at Tiree Show was the Suffolk shearling, Westcarse Islander, from Fraser MacLean, Heylipol



Above: Champion pony, Struan, from Janis MacArthur



Left: Iain MacInnes, Ruaig, winner of the cattle championship is congratulated by runner-up Tearlach MacDonald



Judge Gail Cameron selected as her dog champion this young retriever from Alastair Kennedy



Judge Donald MacCorquodale, Achnaba, North Connell makes his selections in the busy sheep rings

Sunart and District Agricultural Show
59th Annual Show

Saturday 8th August 2009
Highland Dancers, Mull Pipe Band, Quack Commandos, Open Horse show, Archive Exhibition, Craft Tent, Hill Race and many more activities.

Z HAYBOB

£750 o.n.o.
very good condition
07738 032787 or 01852 500271

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**

Gray's 8' Ballast Roller, in very good condition, **£495 + VAT.**
Telephone: **Kilmelford 01852 200500.**

South Uist crofter Donald Alec MacLeod with his Royal Highland Show Hebridean Sheep champion Howmore River

Uist crofter makes his mark

NOT only did South Uist crofter Donald Alec MacLeod triumph with one of his Hebridean sheep at this year's Royal Highland Show, he sent a very special visitor to his pens away in fits of laughter.

Mr MacLeod, of Snishival, Grogarry won Best of Breed with his ewe, Howmore River. The ewe, by Braxfield Eigg and out of Dubhairigh Goosegrass, started her winning streak in the mature ewe class, and went on to win four more categories to become Best of Breed.

Fresh from his triumph, Mr MacLeod was returning the sheep to their pens when he was aware that people were being cleared from the vicinity and security guards were moving in.

Hebridean sheep champion breeder leaves the Queen with a Highland Show smile on her face

Shortly afterwards, Her Majesty the Queen was escorted on a guided tour of the sheep pens.

Mr MacLeod said: 'I was introduced to the Queen, and she seemed quite interested in the sheep, particularly the fleeces and the size of the rams' horns. Being more or less feral, the rams are quite

territorial and have big horns. 'When I told the Queen where I was from she was more interested because the Royal family used to holiday in the Uists quite frequently.'

Donald Alec continued: 'Then the Queen said she used to keep Soay sheep, but 'they've gone,' she said. 'I said, 'Gone? Gone where?' and she said, 'I don't really know. They've just gone.'

'I said, 'That's Soays for you,' and she started laughing and went off with a big smile on her face.'

Mr MacLeod, who also works for Scottish Water, has been keeping Hebrideans for the last 14 years, and has been breeding them for their outstanding wool quality.

Sound business needs sound investment. Promote your business the cost effective way.

The Oban Times
tried • tested • local

Call Fiona on **01631 568000** to find out how we can help promote your business. **We are here to help**

RET - victim of its own success

'They don't understand the damage they are doing to the environment'

A MUCH vaunted scheme to reduce ferry fares to the islands is resulting in significant environmental damage on Tiree, according to the factor of the biggest landowner on the island.

Argyll Estates factor, Andrew Montgomery, said that an unprecedented number of large camper vans are arriving on the island and driving across fragile areas of machair causing massive environmental damage.

Mr Montgomery added that the problem had been triggered by the large numbers of people attracted to an island holiday by the low ferry fares offered under the road equivalent tariff (RET) scheme.

The scheme, introduced in October 2008 to deliver lower ferry fares for Scotland's island communities, runs on routes to Outer Hebridean islands including North and South Uist, Barra, Coll and Tiree and will continue until 2011.

Mr Montgomery said: 'The number of camper vans arriving on the island this year is unprecedented and I can only assume that RET is the catalyst for the

upsurge. 'We don't have the infrastructure on Tiree to cope with this sort of influx.

Unfenced machair
There is only one campsite and these vans can't park up in lay-bys because they are too large. They have to go off-road on to the croft and agricultural lands which are mainly unfenced machair.

'All our efforts in the last few years to contain vehicles on the machair are being blown apart. There are now lots of people on the island who don't know the score and they don't understand the damage they are doing to the environment.'

Mr Montgomery added that RET should only be available to islanders and those doing business with the islands.

'RET should be open to those local to the island or running freight to the island, not a free for all.

'I am not against people enjoying Tiree, that is their right, but the introduction of RET and the influx of much larger vehicles is having a significant effect on the environment.'

John Bowler of Tiree Access Committee, said

that they were not trying to stop people coming to the island but wanted to encourage responsible access to agricultural land.

He said: 'With wild camping, where the camp is lightweight and people walk in and don't leave any rubbish there, isn't an issue.

'But when people are driving across machair to get to a particular spot the vegetation doesn't get a chance to recover.

'We are trying to keep a balance. We are putting in hard tracks to particular parking spots which gives areas a chance to recover.'

'A Scottish Government spokesperson said: 'The pilot will run until spring 2011 and will provide sufficient time to assess a number of its direct and indirect impacts. This includes looking at capacity problems on the services and the impact on the local community.

'During these tough economic times, it is important to encourage sustainable growth in tourism, while also striking a balance to protect Scotland's natural assets - often the reason for visitors coming here in the first place.'



Road equivalent tariff is attracting more traffic to the islands

West Coast Property Guide

Sell your property online at our new website:

www.westcoastpropertyguide.co.uk

01397 702433
bidwells.co.uk

BIDWELLS

Loch side opportunity
Farmland with frontage to Loch Awe and consent for one house in stunning position overlooking the loch.

- Detailed consent for two storey house with drawing room, open plan dining kitchen, study, utility room, two en-suite bedrooms, two further bedrooms and bathroom
- About 574 acres of hill grazings with hill loch fishing
- Contact: Graeme Ferguson | e graeme.ferguson@bidwells.co.uk

Carn Dearg House | North Road | Fort William | PH33 6PP
Offices also at: Perth | Inverness and throughout England

DAWSONS

BURNBANK TERRACE, OBAN

For Sale: A generously proportioned **Ground Floor Flat** in a substantial centrally situated building with in easy level walking distance of amenities. Double glazing, electric heating, excellent storage. Comprising Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Bathroom, 2 Bedrooms. Basement Cellar. Large communal garden.

Fixed Price £100,000

1 George Street, Oban, PA34 5RX
Tel: 01631 563901
www.alexanderdawson.co.uk

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.

CALL 01631 563901

Regional Press

West Coast Property Guide
West Coast Property Guide

TO LET

CENTRAL OBAN

Room to let in shared flat

£75 per week incl C/Tax

Tel: 07770931967

Torlundy Courtyard, Fort William

Large 2 bedroom Furnished flat available.

Spacious living room with TV, fully equipped kitchen, bathroom with bath & shower. Only 3 miles from town on cycle and bus route. No D.S.S. £550 pcm + council tax and utility bills. Tel: 01397703015

WANTED

Wanted: Holiday Cottages

- Payment in advance
- Free no obligation advice and property inspections
- Award winning website

www.sykescottages.co.uk
01244 356861 Sykes Cottages

SYKES COTTAGES

Holiday cottages wanted!

Scotland Cottages

The many benefits of our service include:

- Free and unrestricted owner bookings
- 15% commission
- Professional, honest and local advice
- A first-rate website: www.scotcot.co.uk

For full details contact our owner team:
01756 702557
ownerteam@scotland-cottages.co.uk

HOUSE FOR SALE

Craobh Haven

Mid-terraced, 3 bedrooms. Harbour view.

To view Tel: 01852 500630

COMMERCIAL

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR LEASE

New 4 storey building, Stevenson Street, Oban

Ground Floor For Lease.

254 square meters, 17 meter shop frontage. Suitable for food or licensed premises or shop unit.

£25,000 per annum

For further information contact
Box No.52 Oban Times, Oban, PA43 4HB

WHISKY MAC'S
CAMPBELTOWN, ARGYLL

Now approaching the end of a successful 10 year lease, the owner is now offering

FOR SALE OR LEASE
this freehold Public House in an excellent trading location. Consisting of three bars, kitchen and cellar.

Ideally suited for conversion to a restaurant bar.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE SALE ARE TWO SELF CONTAINED APARTMENTS.

To request further details telephone 01586 554342
www.whiskymacs.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Village General Store, Post Office & Petrol Station

With liquor licence
And accommodation above
Located in Tayinloan, Tarbert, Argyll
Available for lease

For further details Contact: **Harry Ruttle or Barry Young 01257 266511**

West Coast West Coast Property Guide Property Guide

Find all these jobs online at our new website

www.westcoastjobs.co.uk

West Coast Jobs

Admin and Management Information Officer
£26,589 - £29,928 Location Negotiable Ref: CSE64010

Gaelic Language Childcare and Education Worker (Term Time, Temporary)
£20,968 - £22,884 Oban Ref: CSE36000
Oban Joint Campus, Rockfield Pre Five unit, 17:30 hours per week

SEN Assistant (Term Time, Temporary) x 3
£15,530 - £16,990 Oban Ref: CSE63144
Oban High School, 32:30 hours per week, Interviews w/c 24 August

Youth Worker (Term Time, Temporary) x 2
£14,216 - £15,074 Oban Ref: CSE24210
Oban High School, 35 hours per week, Interviews w/c 24 August
☎ 01369 70 8546 for the above 5 posts only

Customer Services Centre Agent (Temporary)
£17,501 - £18,596 Campbeltown Ref: CPD31011T/2E
Providing a customer focused service
☎ 01546 604395 for this post only

Senior Clerical Assistant (Term Time, Temporary)
£15,530 - £16,990 Dunoon Ref: CSA51325T/R
Community Services - Community Regeneration, 35 hours per week

Clerical Assistant (Temporary)
£14,216 - £15,074 Lochgilphead Ref: CSA21037T
Community Services - Planning and Performance - HR Section

Community Service Supervisor
£11.49 per hour Dunoon Ref: CSA37999/R2
Children & Families - Criminal Justice, Variable Hours (Part Time/Bank/ Relief)

Assistant Social Care Worker
£9.59 per hour Mid-Argyll Ref: CSC63178/R
Community Services - Adult Care, Variable Hours (Part Time/Bank/ Relief)

Home Carer
£8.51 per hour (variable hours) Oban, Lorn & the Isles Ref: CSD66999/2
Community Services - Adult Care, Variable Hours (Part Time/Bank/ Relief)

Domestic Supervisor (Part Time)
£8.51 per hour Mid-Argyll Ref: CSC63163/R
Community Services - Adult Care

Assistant Cook (Part Time)
£7.79 per hour Oban, Lorn & the Isles Ref: CSD63255/R1
Adult Care - Older People's Services, 20 hours per week

Catering Assistant (Part Time)
£6.92 per hour Mid-Argyll Ref: CSC63156/2
Adult Care, Ardfenaig, 10:30 hours per week
☎ 01546 604713 for the above 8 posts only

Cleaner (Term Time) x 3
£6.32 per hour
Campbeltown Grammar School, 15 hours per week
Campbeltown Ref: OSF20341
Islay High School, 15 hours per week Islay Ref: OSF20191
Bowmore Primary School, 12:50 hours per week Islay Ref: OSF20190/R
☎ 01546 604873 for the above 3 posts only

Closing date 14 August 2009
To apply visit our website

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

Paid Tutors Wanted
Part time, flexible work on community-based courses.

We are particularly looking for Tutors in Computing, Healthy Living, and Personal or Community Development; however, we'd like to hear from anyone who has a skill they would like to share - it's your enthusiasm that's most important.

Initial training will be available.
Contact Tricia Slater for a chat. 01631 562466
patricia.slater@argyll-bute.gov.uk

the big plus
LEARNING WITHOUT BORDERS

Volunteer Tutors Wanted
Community Learning & Regeneration

Can you spare an hour a week?
Could you help someone improve their basic literacy and numeracy skills?

No formal academic qualifications are necessary - patience, understanding and a sympathetic nature are more important.

Full training and ongoing support is provided.
A new tutor training course commences on August 24th.

For more information contact Brian on 01631 562466 or by email on brian.marden@argyll-bute.gov.uk

AKVA GROUP

Akva Group requires the following personnel for a minimum six month contract on the west coast of Scotland.

Electrician
Mechanic / Fitter
Welder / Fabricator
Labourer

The positions are temporary but may become permanent.
The rate of pay will be commensurate with experience.
Please send CV in first instance to Mary MacCuish closing date 14 Aug 2009. Contact details: mmacuish@akvagroup.com 36F Shore Street, Inverness, IV1 1NF. Fax 01463 233535

wavemaster **polarcirkel** **fishstalk** **akvasmart**

Find all these jobs online at our new website

West Coast Jobs www.westcoastjobs.co.uk



Keyline
BUILDING MERCHANTS

Branch Manager - Lochgilphead

- Dynamic, ambitious and totally committed to customer service
- An inspirational leader with profit making ideas
- An excellent communicator
- With a proven track record of success
- Know the building supplies trade
- Ready and able to respond to a turnover and profit-targeted company philosophy

Keylines core activity has always been - and always will be - serving the building and construction industry with all it's material needs - from timber through to drainage materials. With its network of over 70 branches and knowledgeable staff across the UK, there's nobody better placed than Keyline to meet the needs of the building trade at local level. If you have ambition to reach the top of your profession Keyline can take you there.

Competitive salary, car, company pension and staff discount.

If you think the above description fits you, and you want to be part of this successful company write enclosing your CV and current salary details to

Mr I Paul, Regional Director, Keyline, 5 Pinefield Parade, Pinefield Industrial Estate, Elgin IV30 6AG

Yard Supervisor - Lochgilphead

An enthusiastic person with good organisational skills, a commitment to excellent customer service and supervisory experience is required to join the team at this busy branch.

You must be able to motivate people, and be capable of providing training wherever necessary. An in-depth knowledge of the building trade and products is essential as you will be needed to give advice and information to customers. You will be meticulous and systematic in your organisation and documentation of goods and staff workloads.

Phone for an application and job description to Lesley Christie
01546 602071

R A Clement Associates
Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors

We are looking for a qualified accountant to join our team

R A Clement Associates are a successful firm of accountants looking for a qualified accountant to join our busy Oban office. If you are a capable, friendly, enthusiastic, qualified accountant we would like to hear from you.

Please email your C.V. to dg@raclement.co.uk or post it to:

Duncan Grout,
R A Clement Associates,
5 Argyll Square, Oban,
Argyll PA34 4AZ
T: 01631 562 643
www.raclement.co.uk

CP Architects

Architect/ Architectural Technologist

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join this thriving architectural practice in Oban. The successful candidate will be involved in delivering Architectural Services on a wide range of projects in Argyll and throughout Scotland.

You should have appropriate technical/ educational qualifications and have good interpersonal and IT skills. CAD experience is considered essential. Excellent career opportunities. Temporary/ part time work may be considered.

Please send your CV to the address below:

CP Architects, 110 George Street, Oban, PA34 4TJ
Tel: **01631 563 177**
Fax: **01631 563 234**
Email: mail@cparchitects.net

LOCHABER College
COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LEARNING RESOURCE & STUDENT SUPPORT OFFICER

We are looking for an enthusiastic, self motivated person to support students through their learning experience and also to manage the College's Learning Resource Centre. You will be responsible for the pastoral care of UHI students from their induction through to their graduation. You will also liaise with the other academic partners in UHI and attend UHI Student Support Meetings. You will also be responsible for the management of the Learning Resource Centre within Lochaber College. You will provide support to both staff and students alike. You will liaise with the UHI Library Team and will attend team meetings on behalf of Lochaber College.

Qualifications required:

- Educated to HND level
- Prior experience of working in a learning environment or library

Salary: £16,000, full time, permanent contract
Email for enquiries: allison.macinnis@lochaber.uhi.ac.uk
Tel: 01397 874218 or 01397 874000
Closing Date: 7th August 2009

TRAINEE MANAGER FINFISH
Salary Band (£22,000 - £26,000 per annum)

marine harvest
excellence in seafood

Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd is currently seeking a highly motivated and strong individual for the post of Trainee Manager based at the Company's Freshwater site Finfish, near Inverpolly.

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 staff, 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 train initially at the Company's site at Finfish with the potential to move to a promoted position within the Freshwater operation. In addition they will be expected to attend the necessary training courses to gain sufficient knowledge on feed & stock management, grading planning, asset management, performance and HSEQ management. In return the candidate will benefit from an attractive salary package, including bonus and travel assistance.

If you consider yourself to have the commitment, enthusiasm, willingness and underlying capability to become a Manager then please apply in writing no later than Friday 14th August 2009 to: *Vicky Ferguson, Human Resources Manager, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Limited, Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William PH33 7PT.*

The Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

The Oban Times
Oban Office, Lochavullin

CLEANER REQUIRED

for modern open-plan office.
Flexible hours to be discussed at interview.
Minimum 6 hours over four nights:
Monday - Thursday plus some ironing.
And approx. 3 hours over the weekend to suit.
Rate £7.50 per hour.
References essential.

For further details, please apply to:
All Arden, The Oban Times,
P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB
Tel: 01631 568000

West Coast Motors
bringing people together since 1923

Apprentice Mechanic

We are seeking to recruit an apprentice mechanic based at our Ardrishaig depot.

If you are interested in gaining a professional qualification and a career in PCV and HGV vehicle maintenance please apply in writing to:

The Fleet Engineer
West Coast Motors
Benmhor
Campbeltown
Argyll PA28 6DN

or complete our online application form at www.westcoastmotors.co.uk

Team Leader

- Oban, Full Time • £8 - £9 per hour

Experience of working with people who have a learning disability or mental ill health is essential. Applicants should hold or be working towards SVQ III.

Support Workers

- Mid Argyll and Kintyre - Part time and bank positions available
- Oban - Full time, part time and bank positions available • £6.77 - £6.98 per hour

Experience preferred but not essential as full training will be provided.

For further information or an application pack please contact
Karen McKenzie on 01631 567650.
The closing date for applications is 14th August.
CHOICES CARE is an equal opportunities employer.
Enhanced Disclosure Scotland checks are required for these posts.

www.choicescare.com

Oban Times RECRUITMENT
Oban Times RECRUITMENT

JOB SEARCH

EXPERIENCED DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING RELOCATING TO THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

I AM LOOKING FOR A GENUINE OPPORTUNITY TO IMPACT YOUR BUSINESS

MICHAEL 001 407 230 3054
salesdirectorusa@gmail.com

Independent living assistant required to assist disabled man to live an independent and active life within his home and community - Ardrishaig.

Help with personal care and social tasks, £7 per hour, clean driving licence preferred.

For further details and application form email pa@witsend.zzn.com, mobile 07828 765138.

INVERARAY CASTLE CLEANER

There is a vacancy for a cleaner at the Castle.
Hours of work flexible.

For further information, please apply to:-
Mrs J Young
Castle Manager
Inveraray Castle
INVERARAY PA32 8XF
Tel: 01499 302551;
E-Mail: manager@inveraray-castle.com

Flexible person with wide ranging interests required.

Full time live-in position, assisting wheelchair-bound female with all aspects of her daily life. Driver essential. Plenty of spare time during the day. Annexe accommodation. Island situation. Please reply to Sarah Hobhouse 07850 230000.

Argyll & Bute Community Health Partnership

Mid Argyll Locality Community Care Assistant - Band 3
£15,190 - £18,157 pro rata Ref: 09ab/104
18.75 hours per week, Fixed Term until 14/02/2010

Integrated Care Team, Mid Argyll Community Hospital & Integrated Care Centre

Motivated, you will join our Integrated Care Team working in the community. We offer patients short term periods of rehabilitation to prevent hospital admission or to facilitate early discharge from hospital. Our aim is to encourage independence at home and we are a multi-professional team working to a defined care plan. Community experience is desirable. The team are also looking to employ Bank Staff. A full, current driving licence and access to a vehicle is required.

Informal enquiries are welcomed by Pam Reid, Integrated Care Team Leader on 01546 462122.

Application packs are available from HR Department, NHS Highland, Argyll & Bute CHP, Aros, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8LB, call 01546 606788 (24 hour answering service) or email: recruitment.labs@nhs.net
Closing date for receipt of applications: 14 August 2009.

NHS Highland

Working with you to make Highland the healthy place to be. www.nshighland.scot.nhs.uk

BritishRedCross

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A FIRST AID VOLUNTEER

Among the many services that British Red Cross deliver is First Aid at Public Events where we care for anyone who becomes ill or is injured.

Each year we are being asked to cover more and more events and as a result our current group of first aid volunteers just cannot cover everything, so we need more people.

TRAINING

The successful recruits will receive a raft of training in First Aid, how to use a Defibrillator, Manual Handling and eventually Oxygen Support.

The new volunteer will work as part of a team and will always work with an experienced First Aider. When training has been completed the volunteer will have the opportunity to attend duties that can range from providing support at Endurance events such as the Rob Roy Challenge to Half Marathon's to T in the Park with a wide and varied range in between.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a First Aid volunteer with the Campbeltown group please call the first aid group leader Karl Hurd on 07879 403775. Or for the Lochgilphead group call Murdena Clark on 01546 602386 or 07843 344039.

Team Leader

- £8 - £9 per hour, depending on qualifications

A vacancy has arisen for a TEAM LEADER in our OBAN service. Experience in working with people with a learning disability is essential. Applicants should hold or be working towards SVQ III. A driving licence is essential.

Support Workers

- £6.77 - £6.98 per hour, depending on qualifications

We also seek to recruit enthusiastic and motivated SUPPORT WORKERS in the OBAN area to support individuals to be active in their community. No experience is required as full training will be given. There are flexible shift patterns available and we have vacancies for full time, part time and bank staff.

For further information or an application pack please contact
Karen McKenzie on 01631 567650 or Sheila Manderson on 01436 679003.
The closing date for applications is 7 August.
CHOICES CARE is an equal opportunities employer.

www.choicescare.com

YOUR LOCAL PAPER

51% of people turn to their local newspaper first when looking for a new job.

Regional Press
Closest to Home

INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE ARMY?

An Army Careers Advisor will be in Oban Job Centre Plus each Wednesday between 10:00am and 2:30pm. We can also arrange visits to the Campbeltown Job Centre. To book an appointment call Dumbarton Army Careers Information Office on 01389 763 303.

ARMY BE THE BEST
REGULAR & TERRITORIAL

Popular 'Flying Fifteens' grace Loch Leven event

THE SCOTTISH section of the Westerly Owners' Association (WOA) held its summer muster in Loch Leven on the July 17 and 18.

Nine Westerly yachts of various types from bases in Scotland joined those already in Loch Leven owned by members of the Glencoe Boat Club (GBC), who hosted the muster.

Activities included a display of 'Flying Fifteens' racing and a day of land based leisure activities exploring the area.

The climax of the weekend was a summer party at the 'Crafts and Things' restaurant.

GBC commodore Peter Watt welcomed WOA members, saying that as a boat repairer and yacht racer himself, he appreciated how well the prestigious yachts were made and their continuing popularity with the yachting fraternity.

WOA members joined GBC members for a three-course meal, served by young people involved in the local community sailing initiative supported by GBC.

Guest speaker John Grant told of his journey which started at Glencoe Boat Club two years ago bound for New Zealand and how he encountered gale force conditions, which caused him to abandon the vessel in the South Atlantic.

WOA chairman Jim Montgomery and Peter Watt exchanged burgees to mark the event. Jim summed up the weekend's activities and expressed the thanks of all WOA members attending for such a warm welcome, and outstanding hospitality provided by the GBC members and thanked event sponsors for their kind support.

After bidding farewell to Glencoe the Westerly fleet sailed to Oban Marina on the Sunday for a final get together before departing for their home ports. The Westerly Owners' Association (WOA) was formed in 1966 and is the largest yachting club in the UK, possibly the world.

There are more than 2,700 members, the majority in the UK, but also in 21 other countries, including USA, Canada, Ireland, Middle and Far East and the Caribbean.

Membership is open to all current owners of Westerly Yachts. Associate membership is open to past owners and potential future owners. Its active membership offers camaraderie and great technical support.

The Scottish section was formed four years ago to support the members who enjoy sailing Scottish waters.

Jim Montgomery, Chairman of Westerly Owners' Association and Peter Watt, Commodore of Glencoe Boat Club, exchange burgees at the evening social. Picture by David Cooper

LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF?

The Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Be seen by over 40,000 readers

Tel: 01631 568000
www.obantimes.co.uk

**COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949
MOORINGS AREA: GLENUIG BAY**

Notice is hereby given that Glenuig Inn Limited has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by the section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, in respect of a new moorings area at the following location in Glenuig Bay, Loch Ailort, Sound of Arisaig:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
1: NE corner	56 50.051N	05 48.860W
2: NW corner	56 50.048N	05 49.062W
3: SW corner	56 49.937N	05 49.113W
4: SE corner	56 49.940N	05 48.855W (WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Lochailort Post Office, Lochailort, Inverness-shire.

Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Gordon Hastie, The Scottish Government, Ports and Harbours Branch, Area 2G North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference:

2SPC2\5\384

MALLAIG AND NORTH WEST FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION
MALLAIG AND NORTH WEST FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION LIMITED

TAKE NOTICE that (1) a Special General Meeting of Mallaig and North West Fishermen's Association ("the Association") and (2) an Extraordinary General Meeting of Mallaig and North West Fishermen's Association Limited (SC042419) ("the Company") will be contemporaneously held at 10 am on Saturday 22nd August 2009 within the Alexandra Hotel, The Parade, Fort William, to which all members of the Association and the Company are invited.

The purpose of the meeting is:-

- To approve the restructuring of the Association and the Company by the solvent transfer of the whole legal undertaking, assets and liabilities of the Association and the ownership of the Company to a newly-formed Industrial & Provident Society; and
- To approve the subsequent dissolution of the Association.

Full details of the proposed restructuring are available from the Association's Secretary (contact details below). The restructuring is entirely solvent and all creditors of the Association will be unaffected.

By order of the General Committee of the Association and the Board of the Company.

John Hermse, Secretary, MNWFA, Harbour Offices, Mallaig, Inverness-shire. PH41 4QB

Crofters Commission
ughdarras nan croitearan

The following decrofting Direction has been granted:

Part Croft
1 Bunavullin, Morvern

Direction dated 27 July 2009 granted to Mrs Elizabeth J Macdonald. Area ext to 0.583 ha.

Conditions: The land being the site of an existing dwellinghouse and garden ground. Complete enclosure of the site with a stockproof fence or barrier within 4 months of the date of this Direction.

Case Number: 4.86.16408

The granting of this Direction may be appealed to the Scottish Land Court, within 42 days from the date of this advert. Information on how to appeal is available from the Crofters Commission.

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES
Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

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

OBAN, LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

A meeting of the Area Committee for Oban, Lorn & the Isles will be held in the McCaig Suite, Corran Halls, Oban, on Wednesday 5th August 2009 at 10.30 am. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Any enquiries should be directed to: Kenneth Macdonald, Area Corporate Services Manager (Tel. 01631 567902).

69%
of the business community read the regional press

Regional Press

DAB VJB
Dunbartonshire and Argyll & Bute Valuation Joint Board

THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS ANNUAL CANVASS

Electoral Registration Forms will be posted to residential properties in Argyll & Bute, during the month of August, listing the registration details held by the Electoral Registration Officer.

Register by Freephone ☎, Internet 🌐 or by Mobile Phone Text Message 📱

Residents will be given the opportunity to use FREEPHONE, INTERNET and MOBILE PHONE TEXT MESSAGE to confirm their electoral roll details.

Details of how to do this will be on the Registration Form.

All services will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, throughout the canvass period and can be used by households where the names to be included on the electoral register remain UNCHANGED from the previous year.

It is hoped that these convenient choices for making the return will be of particular benefit to the housebound, people living in rural areas and of course busy households wanting to save time.

Register by Post ✉

If there are any ELECTOR NAME CHANGES required to the details appearing on the Registration Form, amendments should be made accordingly, and the form must be returned by POST in the pre-paid envelope provided.

David C Thomson
Electoral Registration Officer

UHI Millennium Institute
Creating the University of the Highlands and Islands

UHI Gaelic Plan Consultation

Public Meeting on Wednesday 5th August
By Video Conference

Gaelic meeting: 3.30 pm - 5 pm
English meeting: 2 pm - 3.30 pm

For more information, a list of locations to respond, go to: <http://www.uhi.ac.uk/gaeliclanguageplan>.

To register, please contact Lynsey Ross on 01463 783 018 or lynsey.ross@platformpr.co.uk

Institiud OGE nam Mile Blàidhna
A' Cruthachadh Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd 'n nan Eilean

Co-chomhairle air Plana Gàidhlig OGE

Coinneamh Phoblach Diciadain 5mh Lùnastal
Tro cho-labhairt bhideo

Coinneamh sa Ghàidhlig: 3.30f- 5f
Coinneamh sa Bheurla: 2f - 3.30f

Airson barrachd fiosrachaidh, liosta de shuidheachaidhean no gus beachd a thoirt seachad, theirigibh gu: <http://www.uhi.ac.uk/gaeliclanguageplan>.

Gus com-pàirt a chlàradh, cuiribh fios gu Lynsey Ross air 01463 783 018 no lynsey.ross@platformpr.co.uk

NOTICES UNDER THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS

The applications for Planning Permission listed below, and Environmental Statements where appropriate, together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at the AREA PLANNING OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY, between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and at the location where listed below during normal office hours.

Written comments (whether supporting or opposing the applications) may be made to the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS MANAGER at the address below within the period listed below from the date of publication of this notice.

Reference Number	Applicant Name & Development Address	Proposal Description	Location where application may be inspected and reason for Advertisement
09/00293/FULLO	West End Hotel Achtinore Road Fort William PH33 6ED	Extension to part of roof space to provide extra bedroom accommodation	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office Section 34 of the Act (14 Days)

Area Planning and Building Standards Manager, Ross, Skye & Lochaber:
Dafydd Jones, Highland Council, Fulton House, Gordon Square, Fort William, PH33 6XY
Tel: (01397) 707015 Fax: (01397) 707022 e-mail: planning.lochaber@highland.gov.uk

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

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING

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

Take notice that the applications in the following schedule may be inspected during normal office hours at the location given below, at Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban and by logging on to the Council's Website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to the undersigned within 14 or 21 days of the appearance of this notice, whichever is applicable as indicated below. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION OF PLANS

- Ref No: 09/01046/COU
Applicant: The Cullifail Hotel
Proposal: Change of use from store to installation of micro brewery
Site Address: Cullifail Hotel Kilmelford Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4XA
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Kilmelford
Section 34 Advert - 14 Days
- Ref No: 09/01033/DET
Applicant: R E Barrett And K L Johnson
Proposal: Erection of Dwellinghouse (revised house design reference 08/01641/DET)
Site Address: Land South Of 4 Whinbank Clachan Seal Isle Of Seal Oban Argyll And Bute
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Balvicar
Article 9 Vacant Land - 14 Days
- Ref No: 09/01057/OUT
Applicant: Brian Neish
Proposal: Site for erection of four self catering lodges and associated parking (renewal of 05/02606/OUT)
Site Address: Barbreck Farm Bungalow Kilchrean Tainuill Argyll And Bute PA35 1HF
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Tainuill
Section 34 and Article 9 Advert 14 Days
- Ref No: 09/01026/REM
Applicant: Mr Simon Smart
Proposal: Erection of Dwellinghouse
Site Address: Lerags Farm Lerags Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4SE
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office
Article 9 Vacant Land - 14 Days
- Ref No: 09/01043/DET
Applicant: GreenPower (Carraig Gheal) Ltd
Proposal: Construction of borrow pit 5
Site Address: Anemometer Masts Carraig Gheal Inverinan Argyll And Bute
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Tainuill
A18 Local Plan Potential Depart Adv (21)
Potential Departure from Policy RUR(12A) of Lorn Local Plan
- Ref No: 09/01041/DET
Applicant: GreenPower (Carraig Gheal) Ltd
Proposal: Construction of borrow pit 3
Site Address: Anemometer Masts Carraig Gheal Inverinan Argyll And Bute
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Tainuill
A18 Local Plan Potential Depart Adv (21)
Potential Departure from Policy RUR (12A) of Lorn Local Plan
- Ref No: 09/01040/DET
Applicant: GreenPower (Carraig Gheal) Ltd
Proposal: Construction of borrow pit 2
Site Address: Anemometer Masts Carraig Gheal Inverinan Argyll And Bute
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Tainuill
A18 Local Plan Potential Depart Adv (21)
Potential Departure from Policy RUR (12A) of Lorn Local Plan
- Ref No: 09/01039/DET
Applicant: GreenPower (Carraig Gheal) Ltd
Proposal: Construction of borrow pit 1
Site Address: Anemometer Masts Carraig Gheal Inverinan Argyll And Bute
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Tainuill
A18 Local Plan Potential Depart Adv (21)
Potential Departure from Policy RUR (12A) of the Lorn Local Plan

Area Team Leader Development Control, Planning Services, Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AR

Any letter of representation the council receives about a planning application is considered a public document. Please therefore note that representations will be made available for public inspection and, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, will be copied on request. They will also be published on the council's web site. The author of such a representation is solely responsible for its content and accuracy. Anonymous representations will be "shredded" and those marked confidential will be returned to the sender. Neither will be taken into account when the application is being considered. Details of representations we receive on planning applications can be viewed on the council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/publicaccess

Osspower Ltd
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2000

Notice is hereby given that Osspower Ltd, 58 John Street, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 8NE has applied to the Scottish Ministers for consent to construct and operate the following hydro schemes near Crianlarich at:

- Ben Glas (Central Grid Reference NN 3221 1996). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be approx 1.6MW
- Allt Fionn (Central Grid Reference NN 3326 2072). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be approx 2.1MW
- Derrydarroch (Central Grid Reference NN 3451 2154). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be approx 2.0MW
- Upper Falloch (Central Grid Reference NN 3692 2372). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be approx 1.0MW

Osspower Ltd has also applied for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the developments are deemed to be granted.

A copy of the applications, with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statements discussing the Company's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, are available for inspection, free of charge, during normal office hours at:

Crianlarich Store and Post Office, Station Road, Crianlarich, FK20 8QN and, Beinglas Campsite, Inveraman, Loch Lomond, G83 7DX

The Environmental Statements can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh, EH11 3XD.

Copies of the Environmental Statements may be obtained from Hydroplan (tel 01202 886622) at a charge of £100.00 hard copy and £25.00 on CD. Copies of a short non-technical summary are available free of charge.

Any representations to the application should be made by completing the online representation form on The Scottish Government, Energy Consents website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/Energy/Energy-Consents/Support-object> or by email to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit mailbox at energyconsents@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or by post to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 2nd Floor, Meridian Court, 5 Cadogan Street, Glasgow, G2 6AT, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation, not later than 11th September 2009.

Representations should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making representation. All representations to the Scottish Government will be copied in full to the planning authority, and made available to the public on request, unless individuals request otherwise.

When initial comments from statutory consultees are received further public notices will give advice on how this information may be viewed by members of the public, and how representations may be made to Scottish Ministers. During the consideration of the proposal, Scottish Ministers may formally request further information to supplement the Environmental Statement and this will also be advertised in such a manner.

As a result of a statutory objection from the relevant planning authority, or where Scottish Minister decide to exercise their discretion to do so, Scottish Ministers can also cause a Public Inquiry to be held.

Following receipt of all views and representations, Scottish Ministers will determine the application for consent in one of three ways:

- Consent the proposal as it stands or consent the proposal with conditions; or
- Reject the proposal

BEST FOR NEWS, VIEWS & PHOTOS

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Tel: 01631 568000
www.obantimes.co.uk

Lochaber Wayfarers find conditions favourable

MCP and Mr Blue enjoy race placings

LOCHABER Yacht Club ran its annual long distance dinghy races to the Black Rock, and through the narrows to the Outward Bound Centre in Loch Eil and back.

A familiar course to some, the race took place over the last two weekends.

Sailors faced a stiff beat in the breezy SW wind for the four-mile passage to the Black Rock.

Hamish Loudon and Martin Faryma dealt with the conditions best to win in Wayfarer 'MCP', taking less than two hours on corrected time.

Martin and Mark Faulkner came in second place in the Wayfarer 'Mr Blue' and Paul Biggin and Jamie Riley, with young Jamie helming for the first time, came third in Osprey 'Bird O'Spray'.

The rest of the fleet were caught by a dying wind so enjoyed a sedate rather than spectacular finish.

The Lochiel race was sailed also in quite boisterous conditions for the eight-boat fleet.

As usual the wind through to the Outboard Bound Centre were as variable as ever both in strength and direction, and with some interesting tidal effects.

Returning through the Narrows against the tide and spiralling puffs of wind tested the patience of some more than others.

The Wayfarers, however, found conditions more to their liking.

They took the first three places, this time with Donnie and Marie Meldrum sailing their new boat, pushing 'MCP' and 'Mr Blue' into second and third.

Organisers said that full marks should be going to the rescue boat crews Jim Blair, and Kim and Marie Cameron, who towed the last boats home against a rising wind in time for tea.

Record entry bodes well for Plockton regatta but commodore will miss out

THE 76th annual regatta at Plockton Small Boat Sailing Club began on Monday, following a warm-up race last Saturday.

This year's warm-up race attracted a record entry of 60 yachts.

However, the wind was very light on what was a lovely evening and only two boats finished the race.

In first place was Colin McAndrew (Sirius) and second was Graham Sharp (Rona).

Prizes were donated and presented by the Plockton Hotel at a social evening following the race.

This year's club commodore is Charlie MacRae, who has taken up the post for the third time. Charlie's first stint as commodore was in 1967, followed by 1994.

Miss However Charlie will miss this year's two-week regatta because of a recent accident and he said he was disappointed to miss out, having sailed in the past eight regattas.

In the regatta for the first time will be a new boat built by four pupils from Plockton High School.

Sailing club members said all the ingredients were there for an exciting and competitive regatta.

EVENT TO PUBLICISE?

The Oban Times
A WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Be seen by over 40,000 readers

Tel: 01631 568000
www.obantimes.co.uk

NEW FORESTER

Amazing Deals now available on Petrol and Diesel models



S&S Services Subaru

www.sandsservices.co.uk

Subaru's fabulous 5/5/5

- A five-year/100,000-mile warranty(exclusions apply)
- A five-year/60,000-mile free servicing package
- Five years' home and roadside assistance on selected new Imprezas

Tel: 01292 880080/880440
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr, KA8 9SX



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

- 07 Renault Megane Dyn dci 106 H/B 3dr, red £8,750
- 56/07 Renault Clio Dyn 1.4, 3dr, black, 18,500 miles £6,550
- 06 Renault Clio Dyn S, 3dr, red, 11,000 miles £6,995
- 06 Renault Laguna Exp, Dci 120, silver, 31,000 miles..... £6,250
- 06 Renault Clio Campus Sport, 3dr, Silver, 6,500 miles £5,450
- 54 Renault Scenic exp. 1.5 Dci, blue, 48,000 miles £4,950
- 54 Renault Clio exp. 1.4 5dr, green, 32,000 miles..... £4,850
- 05 Nissan X-Trail Sport 2.2 dci, silver, 32,000 miles £7,995
- 04 Vauxhall Astra 1.,6 SXI, blue, 42,000 miles..... £4,150
- 03 Renault Megane EXP 1.6 5dr Auto, green, 35,000 miles..... £4,250
- 03 Vauxhall Vectra Sxi 1.8, black, 56,000 miles..... £3,850
- 01 Rover 25 imp s, 5dr, blue, 46,000 miles..... £1,950

05 Fiat Ulysse Dyn JTD, seven seater, blue £8,750

COMMERCIALS

- 06 Peugeot Partner£4500+vat
- 04 Peugeot Expert.....£4500+vat
- 04 Renault Kangoo£3000+vat
- 53 Renault Master LWB H/R£4350+vat
- 52 Renault Master LWB MRV.....£3550+vat
- 51 Renault Kangoo£2000+vat
- X Nissan Cabstar D/Side Pick-Up.....£3650+vat
- W Peugeot Boxer.....£1250+vat
- V Nissan Vanette.....£1150+vat

SELECTION OF LOW PRICE CARS UNDER £2000 TO CLEAR CAR AND VAN HIRE FROM BOTH BRANCHES

W.D. Semple

Approved Renault Dealer
www.wdsemple.com
Inveraray - Shore Street. Tel: 01499 302150
Lochgilthead - Highbank Park. Tel: 01546 606767

new car index

<p>TOYOTA Helensburgh 5 John Street, Helensburgh Tel. 01436 672779 www.helensburgh.toyota.co.uk</p>	<p>RENAULT W.D Semple Inveraray & Lochgilthead Tel. 01499 302150</p>
<p>ISUZU S & S Services Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr Tel. 01292 880080 / 880440</p>	<p>SUBARU S & S Services Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr Tel. 01292 880080/880440</p>
<p>VOLKSWAGEN Hawco Caol, Fort William Tel. 01397 700900 www.hawco.volkswagen.co.uk</p>	<p>TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000</p>

E.M. COMMERCIALS LTD

08 MITSUBISHI Shogun Commercial Diamond spec, silver, leather, Sat Nav, 14k, £17,950
07 MITSUBISHI L200 Warrior, double cab pick-up, silver, 20k, £10,450
07 MITSUBISHI L200 Warrior double cab, black, leather, canopy, 20k, £10,750
07 MITSUBISHI L200 Warrior, double cab, grey, 30k, canopy, £10,750
07 MITSUBISHI L200 Warrior, double cab pick-up, grey, leather, 25k, £9,950
56 MITSUBISHI L200 Warrior double cab pick-up, black, 30k, £9,950
06 MITSUBISHI Shogun Sport Commercial 5 dr, silver, 38k, £9,950
56 MITSUBISHI L200 DID double cab pick-up, silver, canopy, £7,950
06 MITSUBISHI L200 Trojan double cab, black, canopy, 40k, no vat, £7,950
06 MITSUBISHI L200 did, double cab pick-up, white, 20k, £7,250
06 MITSUBISHI L200, double cab pick-up, met. blue, 20k, choice, £6,950
55 MITSUBISHI L200 single cab pick-up 2WD, 17k, £5,950
55 MITSUBISHI L200 double cab pick-up, 50k, lowbar, choice, £4,650
07 NISSAN Navara King Cab Outflow pickup, silver, cruise control, alloys, air con, £9,650
56 NISSAN Navara King Cab pick up, met blue, alloys, air con, £9,950
56 NISSAN Navara double cab pick-up, black, canopy, air con, alloys, 13k, £10,950
07 ISUZU Rodeo Denver Max, double cab pick-up, 3l, auto, silver, £9,450
56 FORD Ranger XLT double cab, new shape, 3 ton tow, full spec, silver, £7,950
06 FORD Ranger single cab pick up, canopy, 30k, choice, £6,450
05 FORD Transit 350 Crew Cab Tipper from 35k miles, choice, £5,950
05 FORD Transit, 290 swb van, from 40k, £3,950
04 FORD Transit, 17 Seat Minibus, wheelchair access, e!pack, 40k, £9,950
06 Mercedes Sprinter 316, MVB panel van, electric pack, blue, £7,750
06 Ford Transit 350 LWB pick up, alloy flat bed body, 7k, white, £7,950
FOR Williams tow-van trailer, twin axle, front and rear doors, rear ramp, as new, £2,650
JOHN DEERE LX1718 Lawn tractor, cutting deck, grass collector, as new, £1,450

Many other vehicles in stock. All above vehicles plus VAT at 19%.

EM
01234 554058 or 017766 88110
www.emcommercial.co.uk

NEW OR USED CARS TO SELL?

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Be seen by over 40,000 readers

Tel: 01631 568000
www.obantimes.co.uk

54% of people travel 10 miles or less to buy a second-hand car

Regional press is the relevant choice for motors advertising.

Regional Press

TIMES FORUM

We want to hear your views. Contact us at WWW.OBANTIMES.CO.UK

CITROEN BERLINGO

£4800

2006, One Owner, 20,000 miles, FSH, 12 month MOT, well looked after.
Tel: 01586 554773

CITROEN BERLINGO M-SPACE DESIRE

£3350 o.n.o.

OCT 2004, 54 PLATE, 1600cc SILVER
MOT AND TAXED UNTIL OCT, VERY RELIABLE IN GOOD CONDITION, VERY ROOMY CAR.
Tel: 07786 864877

RENAULT LAGUNA ALIZE DIESEL (TDI) 5-DOOR HATCHBACK

£1200 o.n.o.

Personal Number Plate (N 12 AMC) - 1ST reg. Sept. 1999
New MOT till 31 July 2010 - Taxed till 31 July 2009
Towing Equipment - Sun Roof - Electric Wing Mirrors
Electric Front Windows - Central Locking - Good Condition
Tel: 01855 811220 (Voicemail) Ballachulish

FIAT DUCATO FIFER

£18,900

2.0 ltr TD, 2 berth, 9,500 miles
Excellent condition
Tel: 01631 564686

WANTED

ALL 4X4'S 1990 TO 2009

Any make, model, mileage, condition considered. Instant cash payment. Distance no object, will travel. 2

Telephone Stephen 07751026953.

WANTED

CARAVANS, STATICS/TOURERS/CAMP-ERVANS/MOTORHOMES ETC, ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING CONSIDERED. NEW OR OLD, INSTANT PAYMENT.

Tel: 07712 133330

RENAULT TRAFFIC 2.1. DIESEL

J reg, 4 berth household caravanette
Pop up roof
On board water, cooler and grill
12 months MOT, 4 new tyres
good condition for year.
Telephone: 07799 164311

£1,950 o.n.o.

FORD FOCUS ESTATE 1.8 TDI

W reg (2000), MOT and Tax till Dec 2009, 132K miles, Tow bar, Heated windscreen, Alloy wheels.
Mob: 07776 497793
Tel: 01631 740396

£1050 o.n.o.

CITROEN XSARA 2L HDi 51 REG

£1495 o.n.o.

MOT AND TAXED till November 2009.
F.S.H. One careful owner. Excellent condition, air condition etc.
Tel: 01866 822071

BMW 650 G.S. DAKAR

£3600 o.n.o.

Sept 2005, Taxed and MOT, 6,000 miles, Extras: Centre Stand, TopBox, Heated Grips, Superb Condition. Never been off road or out in rain.
Tel: 01855 811 092

TOYOTA CAMRY 2.2

£1,000

P reg, 45K, taxed Nov 09, MOT June 2010, last year fitted 5 tyres, clutch, battery, full exhaust.
Tel: 01631 571055 or 562948.

FORD TRANSIT VAN

R reg, 2.5 diesel, Short wheel base, Semi high top, Good runner, MOT 2010, Taxed October 2009, roof rack, tow bar.
Telephone: 01546 600484 / 07833 078835

£950 o.n.o.

WANTED

TOURING CARAVAN

20 to 24 ft long, Shower, Hot and Cold Water, Toilet 'ECT'
Cash Paid
Tel: 07765492772 or 07533013079

RENAULT MEGANE SPORT

£550 o.n.o.

3 door coupe, 1.6 injection, Leather interior
T reg (1999), Alloy wheels, Electric pack, Taxed and Mot'd, Good tyres, Metallic Blue, Good condition for year
Tel: 07554 364632

2008 YAMAHA R6

Graphite grey. Tail tidy 640 miles.
Contact 07834902696 (Ayrshire) (no agencies please)

£6,800 o.n.o.

MG ZR 02 PLATE

MOT till November Good condition.
Telephone: 01770 (Arran) 600168
Mob: 07901592922

£1,600 o.n.o.

MOTOR HOME 2.8 JTD

Fiat Ducato Ace 680 DDA, 06 reg, 6 berth, 6 beds, large garage, TV, Microwave, awning and tow-bar.
Would consider part exchange for 4 berth.
Tel 07785345593.

£25,000 o.n.o.

ROVER 45 1.6 IXS

2003 53 plate 5 Door Hatch 44k ABS
Air Con Alarm Immobiliser Alloys CD
Player Remote Locking Elec Windows
Met Blue Taxed & MOT Dec 09.
Phone 07501 620167 (Inveraray)

£1995 o.n.o.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6

£8000 o.n.o.

08 plate, Tax 1 year
CD player, Alloys
Excellent condition
Tel: 01499 500638 / 07787 991363

LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0D SE

£6000 o.n.o.

52 reg (Feb 04), 5dr estate, 87k miles
Excellent condition, Taxed to January 2010
Mot April 2009, Tow Bar etc
Telephone 07768 561887 (Ardriashaig)

WANTED

COACH BUILT MOTOR HOME, PRIVATE BUYER, 2-4 BERTH, MAX 20', ONE OWNER, LOW MILEAGE PREFERRED AND IN EX COND.

Tel: 01567 830363 or 07771 930975

Oban Times DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times DRIVE TIMES

Cars sell **QUICKER** and for a **BETTER PRICE** when accompanied by a photograph.

Our staff can take these for you for **FREE**
Just drive to our nearest office to place your ad.

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Be seen by over 40,000 readers
Tel: 01631 568000
www.obantimes.co.uk

www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

NOW ONLINE

Advertise your unwanted items in either The Oban Times, Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk. Simply use the coupons on this page or visit the website and input your details there

LOCAL services

BABY EQUIPMENT

CAR SEAT Mamas and Papas primo viaggio cityscape car seat and base, birth to 15 months, excellent condition, £45 Telephone 01631 564625.

CARRY COT Mamas and Papas Pilko carry cot, excellent condition, £35 Telephone 01631 564625.

BICYCLES

BICYCLE SEAT centre mounted child's bicycle seat, see www.weeride.com for more information, new condition, price £70 sell for £30 Telephone 01631 567241.

GIRLS BIKE "mongoose twinkle", suit 3 years+, excellent condition, as new, cost £80, will accept £30, Oban, £30 Telephone 07833 518266.

MOUNTAIN BIKE adults, £48 Telephone 07932 635849.

MOUNTAIN BIKE youths, £35 Telephone 07932 635849.

BUILDING / DIY

CONSERVATORY a carefully deconstructed hardwood double glazed unit, only 5 years old, buyer uplifts, offers, Telephone 07775 756115 Oban.

GATE POST cast iron gate post, 7ft long, 01631 710394 Telephone 01631 710394.

SCOTTISH SLATES approx 1000, offers, Telephone 01880 740255.

CAR ACCESSORIES

ALLOY & TYRE brand new 215/65R16 98S 4x4 off road tyre on genuine land rover alloy, £40, also two 10" trailer wheels and tyres, usable, £5, Telephone 01631 770201.

BIKE RACK 4 cycle car rack, £48 Telephone 07932 635849.

TOWBAR fits Mitsubishi L200 (old model), £45 Telephone 01397 701385.

VAUXHALL ALLOYS 4 standard 15inch Vauxhall alloys with good tyres, £45 Telephone 07849 853843.

VW TRANSPORTER TYRES and wheels, 4 of 195x70XR15, 6000 miles only, £30 each, Telephone 01855 811719.

CARS AND CAR PARTS UNDER £250

VW TRANSPORTER R reg, 1998, diesel, good engine, mot'd and taxed, needs work for next mot, for spares or repair, £240 Telephone 01967 431326.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

BRIDESMAID DRESS 'Debut' from Debenhams bridesmaid dress/ball gown in pale gold satin, size 10, long, strapless, bustle back, worn once, £49.99 Telephone 01631 564304.

FLOWERGIRL DRESS ivory silk 3/4 length flower girl dress with bolero, age 5/6yrs, bought from John Lewis, worn once, £10 Telephone 01546 602161.

GIRLS CLOTHES age 1-2 years, 20+ items, trousers, jackets, t-shirts etc, good condition, £10 Telephone 07833 518266 Oban.

GIRLS CLOTHING age 3-4 years, 45 items, good condition, £20 Telephone 07833 518266 Oban.

GIRLS TRAINERS infant girls Nike air max trainers, size 6, excellent condition, only worn twice, in box, £10 Telephone 07833 518266 Oban.

MENS JEANS G Star, brand new, 34" waist, 32" length, £49.99 Telephone 07795 086727.

SLOUCH JEANS by River Island, brand new, 14R, £30 Telephone 07795 086727.

COMPUTERS AND GAMES

FALLOUT 3 PS3 fall out 3 ps3 game in collectors edition lunchbox, includes game, making of fallout dvd, art book and collectors toy, £30 Telephone 07826 840987.

NINTENDO N64 n64 console with 12 games (inc goldeneye) and leads and cables, £30 Telephone 07826 840987.

PS2 CONSOLE good condition one controller 11 games memory card, £40 Telephone 01586 553389.

PS3 GAME Rapala big bass fishing frenzy, ps3 fishing game, only played once, mint condition, £15 Telephone 07826 840987.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

LARDER/FRIDGE Hotpoint RLA30, 5 years old, as new, £49.99 Telephone 01583 431642.

COOKER Indesit dual fuel 60cm stainless steel cooker with LPG 4 ring gas hob and electric fan controlled oven, good condition, £49.99 ono, Telephone 07771 956814.

DEHUMIDIFIER ten litre per day capacity, excellent condition, hardly used, £40 Telephone 01631 564393.

FREEZER Chest freezer, 4', white, good condition, £49.99 Telephone 01631 710478.

GAS COOKER new world LPG gas 60cm white cooker with separate grill and oven, good condition, £49.99 ono, Telephone 07771 956814.

SMALL TUMBLE DRIER Hotpoint TS12 small tumble drier, 3K load, timer control, vent tube supplied (not needed for a garage or shed), width 49cm, £35 Telephone 01631 559280.

STEAM CLEANER jml steam genie, small steam clean unit to clean worktops, tile grout, fabrics etc, used twice, £10 Telephone 07796 994228.

TUMBLE DRYER Hotpoint Aquarius, 7kg (Ardrihaig), £35 Telephone 07775 688160.

WASHER/DRYER fully integrated, very good working order, £49 Telephone 01546 605324.

DOMESTIC PETS

COCKER SPANIEL only one golden boy left, KC reg, excellent pedigree with FT CH on both sides, born May 29, 2009, ready now, Telephone 01852 200286 (day) or 01852 200205 (evenings).

COLLIE PUPS working stock, 1 male, 1 female, ready now, 12 weeks, due to unsuitable buyer, great temperaments, well grown, both parents can be seen, Telephone 01681 700673.

COLLIE PUPS beautiful collie pups, all dogs, farm reared, Telephone 01631 710257.

DALMATION PUPPIES excellent pedigree dalmation puppies for sale, 2 girls remaining from our beautiful family pet, puppies are home reared with lots of love and attention, KC registered, vet checked, wormed, 1st vacs, puppy pack, £500 Telephone 01631 740240.

WHIPPET PUPS dogs and bitches, ready now, both parents can be seen, Telephone 07818 827945.

EQUESTRIAN

HIGHLAND GELDING 14.2hh, 9 years old, grey, very quiet, perfect hacking pony for adult or child, Isle of Muck, Telephone 01687 462362.

HIGHLAND PONY approx 14hh still growing, 5 years old, grey, very clever, willing to learn, makes excellent all rounder, good to box, farrier and rides out alone, great blood lines, Telephone 01369 860665 07796 564636.

FIREARMS

BRNO 270 RIFLE with bushnell, 3-9 x 40 scope, FAC required, £250 Telephone 01546 605253.

FREE AND SWAP

HEDGE CUTTER electric hedge cutter with lead, also 25" sony TV, free for uplift, Telephone 01631 564360.

UPRIGHT PIANO full size Burdett piano, purchaser to uplift, free, Telephone 01586 553693.

FURNITURE

2 SEATER SOFA blue leather, buyer uplifts, £49.99 Telephone 01586 830696.

3 SEATER SOFA blue leather, buyer uplifts, £49.99 Telephone 01586 830696.

ADJUSTABLE BED Willowbrook electronic adjustable double bed, only 2 years old, cost over £2000 new, excellent condition, £400 Telephone 01586 552980.

BED SETTEE small charcoal grey foam bed settee, hardly used, good condition, £40 Telephone 01631 564885.

BEDROOM UNIT with two double wardrobes and central part, mirrors, drawers and cupboards, can be sold separately (Ardrihaig), £40 Telephone 07775 688160.

CD STORAGE UNIT two glassdoorcupboardsbridged by three shelves, each side has three slide out cd racks, silver 820x390x680, £25 Telephone 07796 994228.

COFFEE TABLE opaque glass top table with lower clear glass shelf, 1200mm long 600mm wide 420mm high, very good condition, £20 Telephone 07796 994228.

COFFEE TABLE oak veneer coffee table/hi-fi/tv stand, £10 Telephone 01852 314128.

DINING TABLE drop leaf pine dining table, 4 chairs (inc 2 carvers), £100 Telephone 01631 564885 01631 562380.

DOOR mahogany 15 pane door, 2040x726x40, bevelled glass door, new, never used, £49 Telephone 01631 566654.

DOUBLE BED with drawers (Ardrihaig), £15 Telephone 07775 688160.

EXTRA LARGE SOFA Laura Ashley extra large, deep sofa in burnt sienna, loose fitting covers, good condition, £250 Telephone 01866 822129.

LEATHER SUITE cream, 2 seater and 3 seater, immaculate condition, just over 1 year old, £500 ono, Telephone 07786 913479.

RECLINING CHAIRS one black, one grey (Ardrihaig) £20 each, Telephone 07775 688160.

SINGLE BED single 2 drawer divan bed, very good condition, £20 Telephone 01866 822677.

SOFA green velvet 3 seater, very good condition, bargain, Connel, £49.99 Telephone 01631 710380.

TELEPHONE/PLANT TABLE opaque glass top table with lower clear glass shelf, silver legs, 380mm x 300 x 600 high, good condition, £10 Telephone 07796 994228.

TWO SEATER SOFA pine base Ikea sofa, £30 Telephone 01852 314128.

GARDEN

LAWN TRACTOR Castel Club, manual drive, 5 forward, 1 reverse gear, powerful Briggs and Stratton 4 stroke engine, electric start, 250L grass bag, 7 position height adjustment, grass mulcher, brand new battery, excellent condition, £1000 Telephone 01546 602764.

PRESSURE WASHER power devil pressure washer, lance and wide spray, £40 Telephone 07799 332609.

SHREDDER al-ko power slider 2500 r shredder, little used, powerful and efficient, £49.95 Telephone 01631 710548.

GREYHOUNDS

The Retired Greyhound Trust have beautiful dogs and bitches suitable for adoption. These dogs are fully vaccinated and spayed/neutered. If you feel you could offer one of these ex-racers a home please contact Northern Division on 01470 511705 or 01465 255696. The RGT is a registered charity No 269668. A donation is required. Look forward to hearing from you.

PET ACCESSORIES

CAT FOOD 15kg, technical (cost £35), top quality food, a bargain, £12 Telephone 01546 606805 07746 798444.

DOG CAGE large, almost new, £30 Telephone 07795 086727.

PARROT CAGE on wheels, 5'6" high x 3' broad x 2' deep, £40 Telephone 07932 635849.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

LAMINATING keep your important documents safe from dust, dirt, tears and creases. From photos, health and safety documents, telephone lists, room signs etc. A4 - £2, A3 - £3.

CHANGED ADDRESS? Avoid writing out your details over and over again! Sticky labels to attach on all your correspondences, 500 labels from £20. Contact Krisp Printing and Stationery, Burnbank, Campbeltown Telephone 01586 554975.

WANTED

SCRAP METAL all types of scrap metal, we uplift cars, call Mr Cook, West Coast Scrap Metals, Telephone 01499 500638 07774 621917.

WANTED lightweight dinghy launching trolley, Telephone 01880 760356.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

21" TV sony, with stand (Ardrihaig), £15 Telephone 07775 688160.

COLOUR TV Bush, 27" screen, very good condition, £40 Telephone 07868 481242.

JVC CAMCORDER 25x optical zoom camcorder (VHSC), £85 Telephone 07932 635849.

SONY BRAVIA TV 26" LCD HD ready digital colour tv, 2 years old, excellent condition, £150 or nearest offer, Telephone 01631 570767 after 6pm.

TV STAND led and plasma 3 tier glass stand with chrome pillars, suitable for up to 42inch television, excellent condition, £45 Telephone 07849 853843.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

BATHROOM MIRROR 450x600x5mm (17"x23"), four holes for mounting, £5 Telephone 01546 602609 after 6pm.

KITCHEN WORKTOPS black gloss marble laminate, 1x206cm long and 1x97cm/1x230cm long forming a corner worktop with a fitted 1.5 stainless steel sink, good condition, £49.99 ono Telephone 07771 956814.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishfield.co.uk/calendar.2010.

OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.obantimes.co.uk/calendar.2010.

GPS NAVIGATOR Garmin GPS V personal navigator, suitable for car, boat, bike or walking, unwanted gift, £49.99 Telephone 01631 710394.

TRANSFORMER 110 volt double outlet yellow box transformer, excellent condition, £40 Telephone 07932 635849.

MISCELLANEOUS

MOTO X BOOTS kids moto x/ trials boots, diadora size 2, hardly used, perfect condition, £30 Telephone 07833 135685.

MOTORCYCLE JACKET sparta motorbike jacket, size small, in excellent condition, £45 Telephone 07826 840987.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

UPRIGHT PIANO Spicer of London, overstrung, regularly tuned to pitch, lovely tone, £320 Telephone 01546 510296.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

BOWLS set of bowls, size 4, £25 Telephone 07932 635849.

MENS WETSUIT new mens shortie Hammerhead wetsuit, black with red trim, size medium, £10 Telephone 01631 720369.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

LAMINATING keep your important documents safe from dust, dirt, tears and creases. From photos, health and safety documents, telephone lists, room signs etc. A4 - £2, A3 - £3.

CHANGED ADDRESS?

Avoid writing out your details over and over again! Sticky labels to attach on all your correspondences, 500 labels from £20. Contact Krisp Printing and Stationery, Burnbank, Campbeltown Telephone 01586 554975.

WANTED

SCRAP METAL all types of scrap metal, we uplift cars, call Mr Cook, West Coast Scrap Metals, Telephone 01499 500638 07774 621917.

WANTED

lightweight dinghy launching trolley, Telephone 01880 760356.

PERSONALS

HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY MARY & MARION



LOTS OF LOVE FROM ALL THE FAMILY X X

Happy 21st Catriona



Love from the GMA support team

Paula Turnbull would like to thank all her family and friends for the beautiful cards and gifts received on her 21st birthday. A special thank you to the Waterfront staff for the lovely meal and their excellent service!

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. YOU ARE KNOWN UNTO GOD! Visit SermonAudio.com

Teeny Maitland would like to thank everyone for flowers, cards and phone calls received after her recent operation. Your kindness is much appreciated.

Oban Times PERSONALS

PERSONALS

We would like to congratulate Mary, Sharon, Louis and all the staff at the Corran Halls for the fantastic service we received, carried out with courtesy and always with a smile. Nothing was too much trouble, and their organisation and helpfulness on the occasion of our daughter's wedding meant a day to remember for all the right reasons. Thank you. David and Carol Thomson.

JOHN BUCHANAN HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY JOHN AUGUST 1, 2009

Love from Mum and Dad x



Love from Mum and Dad x

Oban Times PERSONALS

CARAVANS

off site sales

OFFSITE CARAVANS FOR SALE FROM £1,095 ONLY

ON SITE CARAVANS FOR SALE FROM £8,950

CONTACT NEIL 01866 822666 OR 07717582540 Email: lochaweholidaypark@btconnect.com www.argyllholidays.com

GLASS BALUSTRADING

Glass Balustrading FOR DECKS, PATIOS AND STAIRS

Powdercoat aluminium with stainless steel fixings. ideal for coastal situations. Grille City Aluminium

Unit 3, Inveralmond Trade Park, Perth, PH1 3TT www.grillecity.com 0800 1691604

JOINERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS

HAMISH HOEY & SON Joiners & Funeral Directors

37-39 Stevenson Street, Oban Telephone: 01631 562269 24-HOUR SERVICE

D & A MUNN Joiners, Builders & Funeral Directors

Breadalbane Street, Oban Telephone 01631 562562 or 01631 562203

Oban Times PERSONALS

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

Editorial Director: **Joan P. Bennett**
 Group Managing Editor: **Stewart MacKenzie**
 Deputy Editor: **Graham Crawford**
 Chief Reporter: **Marian Miller**
 Head Office: Oban 568000 Fax: Oban 568001 E-mail: editor@obantimes.co.uk

Branch Offices:
 Fort William (01397) 703003 Fax (01397) 702495
 Lochgilphead (01546) 602345 Fax (01546) 602661
 Campbeltown (01586) 554646 Fax (01586) 553006

BIRTHS

HUTCHISON - Gregor and Angela are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their daughter, Lily Isabella, on July 9, 2009, a wee sister for Adam and Ellen. Fourth grandchild for Hugh and Doreen MacLeod, Bendorloch and third for David and Edyth Hutchison. Auctherless. Very special thanks to midwives Kirsteen and Liz, Oban Maternity Unit, paramedics and helicopter pilots and all staff at R.A.H. Paisley.

McINTYRE - Lindsay and Roddy are delighted to announce the early but safe arrival of their son Lewis on July 7, 2009, a brother for Matthew.

ENGAGEMENTS

GILLESPIE - MOORE - Both families are pleased to announce the engagement of Alasdair Iain, son of Kirsteen and the late John, to Jade, daughter of Isobel Moore and Johnny Holmes, Campbeltown.

MARRIAGES

THOMSON - CAMPBELL
 On July 25, 2009 at Corran Esplanade Church, Oban, Elaine, eldest daughter of David and Carol Thomson, Taynuilt, to Duncan, son of Duncan and Elizabeth Campbell, Dunbeg. A wonderfully happy day for everyone.

RUBY WEDDING

CAMPBELL MACDOUGALL - At Kilbrandon Parish Church on July 26, 1969, by the late Rev G Kydd, Graham to Ann.

DEATHS

BONAR - Peacefully at home in Bowmore, Islay on July 25, 2009, John aged 70 years, cherished husband of Laurie and loving father of Alison, Lynn and Loma. Sadly missed by grandchildren and family.

KELLY - Suddenly in Melbourne, Australia (formerly of North Connell) on July 23, 2009, Kenneth, beloved son of James and Pauline, brother of Evelyn, James and Joyce, uncle to Philip, Leanna, Claire, Craig and Colin. Deeply loved and much missed. Always in our hearts.

MACLEAN - Effie, Peacefully on July 27, 2009, Effie, beloved mother of Catriona and the late Margaret, grandmother of Paul and David. Funeral service to be held at Ibrox Parish Church, Clifford Street on Monday, August 3, 2009 at 11.30am, thereafter to Craigton Crematorium, Berryknowes Road, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. No flowers please.

MACLEAN - Suddenly but comfortably on Thursday, July 23, 2009, in her 80th year, Jean (née Arthur), dearest mother, gran and friend of Sheila, James and Andy of Bendorloch, Gordon in France, sister of John and friend to many. Remembered with a smile. Funeral will take place at Clydebank Crematorium, North Dalnottar, Clydebank on Friday, July 31, 2009.

And a memorial service will take place at Connel Village Hall on Friday August 7, 2009, at 3pm, all welcome. No floral tributes please, but donation if desired for British Heart Foundation.

MACLEOD - Peacefully at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on July 23, 2009, Calum, beloved husband, father and grandfather. Sadly missed.

McLAINE - Peacefully at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on Thursday, July 23, 2009, two days before her 98th birthday, May, (formerly Depute Head, Oban High School). Funeral service will take place at the Free High Church, Rockfield Road, Oban, on Thursday (today), July 30, 2009, at 1.30pm. No flowers, but donations if desired, to North Argyll House, Oban.

McVICAR - Suddenly, but peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead on July 23, 2009, May Anna McVicar, nee MacDonal, aged 90 years, of 20 Glenfyne Park, Ardriahaig. Beloved wife of the late John and loving mother of Kenneth and the late Margaret. Dear mother-in-law of Lyn and Peter. Much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. A private funeral service was held at Cardross Crematorium, on Tuesday 28th July 2009.

SHAW - Suddenly but peacefully, on Monday July 27, 2009, aged 48, Cathleen (née Shevlin), loving mum of Suzanne, Lynette and Callum and adored granny of Jodi.

TESTER - Suddenly at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on July 22, 2009, in her 66 year, Mairi (Nan), beloved wife of the late Bobby, devoted mother and grandmother. R.I.P.

the church and graveside and Tony McEwan the organist, all of which made the service special and truly memorable. Thanks to the Co-Op for the funeral arrangements and the Scarinish Hotel for the food. Finally, our heartfelt thanks to the overwhelming amount of people who attended the church and graveside to pay their respects. The retiral collection has raised in excess of £500 for the Beatson Oncology, Glasgow.

THOMSON - Jennifer, Lindsay and family would like to sincerely thank all friends and relatives for the kind expressions of sympathy extended to them following the sad loss of their mother Joyce. Thanks to all staff at Oban Hospital, Lorn Medical Centre and to Oban Carers for their support over recent years. Special thanks to Rev Dugald Cameron and Elders for a service, which brought great comfort. Thanks also to D A Munn for their professional support with funeral arrangements. Those who attended the church service and others who were unable to be present contributed £630 to a collection for Macmillan Cancer Support and the Cardiomyopathy Association.

And a cure was not to be so he put his arms around you And whispered come with me With tearful eyes I watched you suffer And saw you fade away Although I loved you dearly I could not make you stay When days are sad and lonely And everything goes wrong I seem to hear you whisper Cheer up and carry on. - Loving wife, Mo.

PAVER - Sally R. March 10, 1940 - August 4, 2006. Thought of you with love today but that is nothing new, I thought about you yesterday and days before that too I think of you in silence, I often speak your name, All I have are memories and your picture in a frame, Your memory is my keepsake with which I'll never part, God has you in His keeping, I have you in my heart.

PROSSER - Alexander Sellar Prosser, died July 30, 2008 My loving son Alex Much loved and remembered always. - Mum xxx. One year today you were taken away But our memories we carry with us The laughs, the joy We shared over the years Will always be with us Loved and remembered always. - Jessie, Donald and Margaret. Uncle Alex We are trying to let you go But it's killing us inside Our pain is never ending How could we loose you When you meant the world to us Our heart bleeds everyday When it's only you we see Here lies your grave Where words are too hard to say So rest in peace As we think of you Through every day Sleep tight our dear Uncle Alex (Shadrack) Love you. - Natasha, Laura, Sheree, Charlene and Lynda Lou.

PROSSER - Alexander Sellar died August 10, 1999. Treasured memories of my great husband, Akie Loved and cherished always - Annie x. Dad, We know how much you loved us We loved you just the same We carry memories with us Today and every day You are always in our thoughts. - Jessie, Donald and Margaret. To our Grampa Our eyes can no longer see your smile Yet our hearts still feel its warmth We can no longer hold your hand Yet it still guides our every step What we see, touch, enjoy with you is only temporary What we feel and learn and love is eternal You are always with us No matter what we do Loving you always - Your grandchildren.

PRYCE - Treasured and loving memories of Jim, a dearly loved husband and dad, who passed away August 1, 2003. My hand I placed in yours with pride As you and I stood by side by side Then all around the sun did shine I was yours and you were mine Now through death we are apart Taken with you is my heart That's the way it will remain Till God decides we meet again. - Your ever loving wife, Anne.

ROBERTSON - Treasured memories of Marie, loving wife, mother and granny. In God's garden up above Stands a rose we dearly love She stands with petals open wide Watered by the tears we've cried Her fragrance fills our lives each day Locked in our hearts she will always stay. - Chris, Kenneth, Marie-Claire, Denise, Lesley and Ryan. Gentle Jesus up above Please give granny all my love. - Dawn.

STEWART - In loving memory of Alistair a loving husband, devoted father and grandfather, who passed away August 1, 2008. There will always be this heartache And often a silent tear We shall cherish those precious memories Of the days when you were here. Remembering you is easy We do it every day But missing you is the heartache that never goes away. - Christine and family.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES

LORN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
 Sunday 2nd August 12pm Family Picnic Aird's Bay House Taynuilt Telephone 07876 735 794 www.lorncf.org.uk

ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN
 Campbell Street Church Sunday 2nd August 2009 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Phone-In 'Worship Link' available
 Rev. Archie McPhail MA, MTh (01631) 567076 All welcome

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION
 Sunday 2 August 2009 Trinity 8 St John's Cathedral, Oban Transfiguration Holy Communion..... 08.00 Sung Eucharist..... 10.15 Loop System Large Print Hymn Books All Welcome Norman MacCallum, Provost (01631) 562323 Kilbrandon Kirk Holy Eucharist..... 15.15 St James Ardrebreenish Gladich Holy Eucharist..... 11.00 St Columba, Gruline, Muir Holy Eucharist..... 11.00 St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona Holy Eucharist..... 08.00 Evensong..... 20.00

SPECIAL 'GOSPEL TENT' MEETINGS D.V.
 For 2 Weeks Sunday 26th July to Thursday 30th July incl Sunday 2nd August to Thursday 6th August incl 7.30 to 8.15pm each evening
SPECIAL MEETINGS FOR CHILDREN
 Monday 27th July to Thursday 30th July incl Monday 3rd August to Thursday 6th August incl At 6pm to 7pm each evening (Parents welcome to attend)
PRIZES AND SURPRISES
 All the above meetings to be held in large tent next to Inverloch Village Square, Fort William
 Preachers: Dan Gillies (Lutheran) Phil Kennedy (Fort William) and Others
 In association with the Christians who meet at Bethany Gospel Hall, Inverloch
 For further details or transport Tel: 07767 311193

OBAN ELIM
 Pentecostal Church
 Worship Meeting Saturdays 6.00pm Guide Hall Soroba Road Oban 01631 570485 Everybody Welcome

CHARITY DONATIONS

Oban Hospice
 CARING FOR THE FUTURE Donations always gratefully accepted Please contact David Mudie (Treasurer) Oban Hospice Ltd The Croft Kilmore

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

FOR THE BLIND CHILDREN OF SCOTLAND'S ACADEMIC TUITION AT THE ROYAL SCHOOL IN EDINBURGH
 Please give your financial support by donation, deed of covenant or legacy Please send to Appeals Department, Highland Arts Effort, Royal Blind Asylum School, P.O. Box 500, Gillespie Crescent, Edinburgh, EH10 4HZ

Church NEWS

Please keep sending in the news about your church! Church News, The Oban Times, PO Box 1 Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB or FAX: (01631) 568001

Thought for the week

A satisfied customer

Advertising has become an important part of modern life. Especially on television, a very powerful means of persuasion, advertisers will try to entice us in different ways to buy their particular product. Sometimes a company will come up with a clever snappy jingle or slogan that grabs the attention. A petrol company will tell us that with their fuel we are putting a tiger in our tank. A soft drink manufacturer would have us believe that their product is made in Scotland from girders. What must be an effective way of advertising a product is to show on the television screen people who have used the product and have found that it does what it claims. But there may be a lingering doubt in our minds that the words are being spoken by an actor. However, when someone we know and trust has tested a

Minister returns to Islay

THE REGULAR drop in at the Baptist Church in Bowmore is to have a special Guest on Thursday August 6 - and he may do a reading in Urdu.

The Rev Jon Magee, past minister on Islay, will be available to sign copies of his published book, "From barren rocks ... to living stones", between 10 am and 4pm. Mr Magee will be the guest preacher in the Baptist churches on Sunday August 2 and 9.

The minister is looking forward to his trip. He said: 'I continue to have fond memories of my ministry on the island in the 1980s. My book is currently being translated into Urdu, having already become an attraction between America and Australia, as well as people living in both Israel and Arab countries.'

Roddy MacLeod

Kilmelford musical evenings

KILMELFORD Church is having an annual series of musical evenings in August.

Local musicians from teenagers to pensioners take part in the event to which all are welcome.

The informal sessions take place every Wednesday starting at 7.30pm for an hour. Among the entertainers on August 12 will be Russell McLarty, a storyteller from Edinburgh.

A newly published booklet on the history of Kilmelford and Kilniver churches is available, priced £3.50, from various shops throughout the area.

Hairy Haggis run raises funds for riding charity

OBAN and Lorn Riding for the Disabled is richer to the tune of £550 thanks to the efforts of four local ladies.

Last Friday, Sue Greenwood, Teresa Garzon, Carole Shellcock and Clare Mattison handed over the funds raised when they took part in Edinburgh's Hairy Haggis Relay Marathon in May.

The charity passed on heart-felt thanks for all their efforts.

New ways of Talking for deaf people

A UNIQUE website for deaf young people is hoping to find new ways of talking for the non-hearing community.

The website is the first of its kind in Scotland and has come together thanks to the views of people from all over Scotland, including the west coast.

Organiser Sally Milton said: 'The majority of deaf people use sign language which is structurally and grammatically different from written or spoken English. Because of this, the potential for miscommunication always exists.' The website can be found at http://bda.org.uk/sdya.



At the end of a week of events for the self-funding United Reform Church in Oban minister Ken Hunter is joined with volunteers Lyn Meldrum, Anna Maughan and Audrey Hunter for a well earned cup of tea. 15 BURCO2

Eye to Eye with John Wallace



Schools out for Summer

The weather has been great and the kids seem happy playing outside.

What a change from the rain we seem to have been experiencing over the last few summers. While our youngsters are enjoying themselves we parents have had to start thinking about the return to school in a few weeks.

My wife and I have been busy buying all the sweat shirts and trousers and all the other paraphernalia necessary for the forth-coming school year. The list seems to become longer every year ... clothes, shoes, PE kit, school bag, packed lunch box, pens, pencils ... it seems to go on and on.

No doubt we will realise on the day school is due to start we have forgotten something essential that makes all the difference between David going to school with a smile or complaining bitterly about our thoughtlessness.

There is one thing I insist on before David starts a new school year ... having a thorough eye examination. Every year I examine youngsters from five to 18 that have significantly

deficient vision and who have never had a full eye examination. Each academic year learned institutions publish studies that consistently show one in five of all school children fail to reach their full potential due to uncorrected vision problems.

Just because little Johnny can clearly see the ships in the bay does not necessarily mean he can read a book or use a computer comfortably.

With our lives utterly dependent on vision it is imperative our children receive the best eye-care and hence the best chance to succeed at school. Children's eye examinations are free courtesy of NHS Scotland and all children requiring vision correction qualify for an NHS voucher towards the cost.

Book your children in for a thorough examination by your local optometrist today. It's painless and free!

John Wallace BSc (Hons), FCOptom, DipCLP Wallace Optometrists & Podiatrists The West Highland Orthokeratology Clinic 11/12 Argyll Square, Oban Tel: 0845 230 3937 (EYES) www.wallaceoptometrists.co.uk

BEST FOR NEWS, VIEWS & PHOTOS

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Tel: 01631 568000 www.obantimes.co.uk



Friday 31st July - Friday 7th August

TUNNOCK'S 3 STORY FACTORY
TOP FLOOR

A. CARAMEL WAFER DEPT
TEA CAKE BISCUITS
LOGS

WAFER WRAPPING

A. WAFER OVENS	H. BISCUIT STORE
B. CARAMEL MAKING	I. WRAPPING MACHINES
C. 4 TON FLOUR TANKS	J. ROBOT PACKER
D. BISCUIT OVEN	K. CELLO WRAPPER
E. DOUGH MIXER	L. ENROBER
F. FRIDGE	M. TAPE MACHINE
G. COOLING TUNNEL	N. SYRUP BOILING

3/7/09 ABT

TUNNOCK'S
Est. 1890

Still a family business
Old Mill Road, Uddingston G71 7HH Tel: 01698 813551 www.tunnock.co.uk



TENNENT'S WEST HIGHLAND YACHTING WEEK 2009
Craobh • Oban • Tobermory

And you thought it was only about sailing... but it's a complete Music Festival too!

<p>Friday 31st July Isle of Gigha - Live Music at Gigha Hotel with The Gigha Players 21.30 to midnight</p> <p>Saturday 1st August Craobh Marina & Lord of the Isles Pub & Restaurant - Lord of the Isles Opening Party! 11.30 to last orders and live music from local band 'Framed'</p> <p>Sunday 2nd August "Skipinnish" at Oban Marina, Isle of Kerrera - The Kerrera Capers Barn Dance 20.30 till late. Last ferry (Oban Marina Shuttle Service) from Kerrera 01.00</p> <p>Monday 3rd August Oban Sailing Club - Early Barbecue Party 18.00 to 20.30 Oban High School Pipe Band Tour Oban! 19.00 to 19.30 Skipinnish Ceilidh House - Live Music from "Skerryvore" 22.00 till late Tickets £10 - available from the race office at Craobh & Oban and on the door.</p>	<p>Tuesday 4th August Wide Mouthed Frog, Dunstaffnage Marina - Family Fun & Live Music From midday till late live music from 9pm Skipinnish Ceilidh House - Beach Party! 22.00 till late Tickets £5 - available from the race office at Craobh & Oban and on the door.</p> <p>Wednesday 5th August Tobermory - Aros Hall - Ceilidh with "Sandy MacAulay's Band" 20.00 to 01.00 Tickets £5 (adult) £3 (child) Macgochans Pub From 22.00 live music from the popular Three band "Trail West". Macgochans Pub From 22.00 Enjoy the lively atmosphere of Macgochans bar and be entertained by live music from the popular band "Gunna Sound".</p> <p>Friday 7th August Final Prizegiving Night - Corran Halls 20.30 to 01.00 live music from ceilidh rock band "Craigendarloch".</p>
--	---

You don't need to be afloat to enjoy it all!

lord of the isles
Craobh Haven • Restaurant & Bar 01852 500658

West Highland Yachting Week - What's On at LOTI!

Friday 31st July
Sumptuous all day A La Carte Menu
Oyster & Seafood Bar from 6pm until 9pm
Evening Live Music - enjoy the 'The Project'

Join us on Saturday 1st August for a day and night to remember! or not...
- Beer Tent & Music throughout the afternoon -
- Oyster & Seafood Bar - Spectacular all day Barbeque -
Food served from 12noon till 4pm in our Dining Marquee followed by a sumptuous Special WHYW Dinner in the Marquee from 6pm onwards
(although we will endeavour to accommodate please pre-book your evening table to avoid disappointment)
- in the main Marquee you will be entertained by our local band 'Framed' followed by a fabulous 'Fireworks Display before last orders...

On Sunday 2nd August Breakfast will be from 8am
On the way home.....Friday 7th August
Live music from 'Shanagin'

West Highland Yachting Week Enters a NEW ERA

TENNENT'S West Highland Yachting Week 2009 from Friday July 31 to Friday August 7 promises to be a really special one. It will be the last event sponsored by Tennent Caledonian Breweries and the first to welcome new sponsors aboard.

The partnership with Tennent's has lasted for 30 years - possibly the longest running sporting sponsorship anywhere - and the regatta has changed hugely since the company first started supporting it when the fleet numbered around 50 yachts. WHYW now attracts an average of 130 boats and in anniversary years this has exceeded 200 competing yachts.

Organised by the Joint Regatta Committee comprising Royal Highland Yacht Club, Oban Sailing Club and Western Isles Yacht Club it is expected the 2009 event will see a strong entry of competitors past, present and future joining together to celebrate the culmination of an extraordinary partnership.

West Highland Yachting Week is unique being a moving Regatta based around the ports of Craobh, Oban and Tobermory - this distinctive racing forms much of its appeal. Passage races take the ten-class fleet between the three centres and there are individual races off Oban and Tobermory to make up the five-day event. As ever the après sail social programme offers a wide range of entertainment and activities ashore to complement the fast moving action on the water. Many regular competitors present in the early days of Tennent's sponsorship are still returning showing the attraction of the event - some who took part as youngsters come back with their own families as enthusiastically as the first time. The strong family element is central to West Highland Yachting Week as is encouraging first timers to try racing. Four restricted sail classes ensure those who don't wish to use spinnakers can still take part. Oban, Tobermory and Craobh Haven benefit enormously from the Week enjoying the influx of yachts, competitors and sightseers in a festival of sail that creates a carnival atmosphere.

The Tennent's Era

Over the 30 years of partnership many people from Tennent's have been closely associated with WHYW. Hamish Swan led the way with Angus Meldrum also a pivotal character, fellow directors Ken Mills and the late Peter Cocks who were regular competitors and Bill Nolan the permanent link between Tennent's and the Joint Regatta Committee. Bill was in charge of the fa-

mous après sail Tennent's Social Programme and worked tirelessly to ensure a variety of events that is second to none.

However all good things come to an end and Tennent's have decided to cease their sponsorship of West Highland Yachting Week. A statement from Tennent Caledonian Breweries said: 'We are extremely proud of Tennent's association with West Highland Yachting Week but against a backdrop of challenging market conditions exacerbated by recent record rises in beer taxation Tennent's will not be renewing its sponsorship next year.'

Dave Waltho, chairman of the Joint Regatta Committee, said: 'On behalf of all competitors past and present the JRC would like to express grateful thanks to Mike Lees, managing director of Tennent's for all the support provided by him and his predecessors on behalf of Tennent's.'

A farewell toast to Tennent's will be made at the Skipper's Reception on Monday.

Moving forward with West Highland Yachting Week

The 62nd Regatta in 2009 is entering a new dimension and welcomes on board Tunnock's, Argyll and Bute Council, Caledonian MacBrayne and The Crown Estate as well as support from EventScotland. The spinnaker fleet is known as the Tunnock's fleet on the days the two fleets race separately.

Tunnock's will be supplying each boat with one of its famous biscuit boxes - full of Tunnock's tea-cakes and biscuits. Family bakers since Thomas Tunnock formed the company in 1890 in Uddingston, their products have acquired a cult status. The company is currently headed by Boyd Tunnock CBE, grandson of the founder Thomas.

Boyd has been a regular competitor at WHYW in the past with his appropriately named Moody 38 Lemerac (Caramel spelt backwards).

Argyll and Bute Council have come in to support the event in 2009 with the white sail classes known as the Argyll Fleet. The partnership with the community of Argyll and Bute recognises not only the substantial economic input of the regatta to the area estimated at well in the region of £6-700,000 but the new focus on growing West Highland Yachting Week to be a larger and more community oriented event.

Caledonian MacBrayne also adds its support this year hosting the Skipper's Reception in the

modern departure lounge at the ferry terminal in Oban.

Providing a lifeline transport service to the islands and their communities their ferries are a familiar sight throughout the week as the fleet move between Craobh, Oban and Tobermory. The passage races of WHYW mirror CalMac's sailings between ports that now include 24 Scottish destinations.

The Crown Estate is also welcomed aboard recognising the increasing community focus of the regatta tying in with their stewardship of marine communities, funding practical projects and initiatives that directly benefit boat owners and coastal communities. The Crown Estate plays the lead role in managing the provision of mooring space for the Scottish boating community.

Just as WHYW has been bringing people together to race for 62 years, West Coast Motors have been bringing people together with their transport services since 1923. This year West Coast Motors is helping the regatta with transport between Dunstaffnage Marina and Oban with a shuttle bus service when the fleet are in Oban. On Sunday the bus links with the ferry to the Kerrera for Kerrera Capers and the service can be used for all the other events on the social programme.

BP Marine is another stalwart supporter of WHYW supplying fuel for some of the large number of committee boats for such a regatta.

EventScotland also funded marketing of the 2009 event as part of their aim to make Scotland a leading event destination. Dave Waltho, JRC chairman said: 'We are grateful to all supporters of this year's event. The partnership with all these companies bolsters the success of one of the most popular yachting regattas in the UK.'



OBAN TAXIS
West Coast Alba
01631 566676/564666/
564148/563784
0800 123 444

HOLY LOCH MARINA
Marine Gateway to the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park.
Family run business offering highly competitive rates on berthing for Annual, summer and winter.
Petrol and Diesel available. WiFi Hot Spot.
Tel: +44 (0)1369 701800
Email: info@holyllochmarina.co.uk
www.hollylochmarina.co.uk

O'DONNELL'S IRISH BAR
Breadalbane Street, Oban
Good Food Served from 5pm till 10pm
Live Music Every Weekend!
Come along for the craic!
01631 566169

The Galley of Lorne Inn
Ardfern, Argyll Tel: 01852 800 284
Rated Excellent on TripAdvisor
17th Century Drovers Inn
Loch-side Location in Ardferr, near Oban & Lochgilphead
Mouthwatering Menu with local Seafood, Meats & Game
Light Lunch Bites from £3.50
Kids Menu Choices from £1.50
Public & Lounge Bars with free WiFi serving Scottish Real Ales & Malts
Outdoor Decking & Beer Garden
Friendly, Welcoming Staff
www.galleyoflorne.co.uk

KILMELFORD YACHT HAVEN
Kilmelford, by Oban, Argyll PA34 4XD
info@kilmelfordyachthaven.co.uk
•SHELTERED WINTER STORE
•EXTENSIVE REPAIR FACILITIES
•EXPERT AND EXPERIENCED STAFF
•SWINGING MOORINGS
5% discount off mooring/storage charges for annual customers Tel: 01852 200248
www.kilmelfordyachthaven.co.uk
Fax: 01852 200343

The IONA SHOP
A family business since 1947
Come and browse our beautiful selection of Scottish Jewellery & Gifts
Welcoming the 30th Tennent's West Highland Yachting Week
2 Queens Park Place, Oban
Tel: 01631 562071
www.iona.co.uk

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant
Congratulates the 30th Tennent's West Highland Yachting Week
Overlooking the harbour
Gallanach Road • Oban • 562087

Boat Electrics & Electronics Ltd
It's what we do.....
0870 446 0143 ~ www.boatelectrics.com

Mooring and Facilities

BARCALDINE MARINE

Barcaldine Marine is a new yachting facility in Loch Creran, being developed by the Marine Resource Centre at Barcaldine, which already provides undercover, and outdoor winter storage for around 100 craft, and a variety of commercial marine services.

Our cruising yacht facilities include 50 swinging moorings (currently installed and in use) and shore facilities include a deep water landing and loading pontoon at the MRC pier, toilets and showers, car parking and secure dinghy storage.

Loch Creran is one of the most accessible locations on the West coast. It is just under 100 miles from Glasgow, 120 from Edinburgh, and less than 200 from Carlisle. Cross the Connel Bridge as you approach Oban, and Barcaldine is 6 miles away.

Barcaldine Marine's moorings offer an excellent and economic solution both for the boat owner who travels a distance and perhaps uses their yacht for less frequent cruises of longer duration, and for the more local boat user.

Contact Martin Waterhouse of Barcaldine Marine for more information.

Telephone 01631 720291
Fax: 01631 720590
E-mail: moorings@barcaldinamarine.co.uk
Web: www.barcaldinamarine.co.uk

KILMELFORD YACHT HAVEN

Kilmelford Yacht Haven is situated at the centre of Europe's finest cruising grounds. You can find us on Loch-na-cille, at the sheltered head of Loch Melfort; see Admiralty chart 2326 at 56°15.4'N, 5°29.4'W. By road we are half an hour south of Oban. Established over 25 years ago, Kilmelford Yacht Haven is a family run business with sheltered moorings.

On the water we have 55 heavy-duty swinging moorings up to 60 tonnes capacity and 6 alongside berths for short stay and loading/unloading. Diesel and water are available at the pontoons along with yard dinghies to help you get out to your boat.

Unrivalled marine repair facilities include aluminium repairs, electrics and electronics, engineering, G.R.P./F.R.P. repairs, machining, osmosis treatment, painting, rigging, sail repairs, steel repairs, stainless steel fabrications, varnishing, welding and woodwork. Ashore there is a secure dinghy and outboard compound near the slipway and in the main shed are the shower block, laundry, payphone, office, workshop and stores.

Winter storage of boats is a speciality of ours and we have no shortage of space. We can handle yachts up to 20 tonnes and 4.3m beam. Bring your boat to us for the winter and while with us all repairs can be carried out ready for the beginning of the next summer season.

CRAOBH MARINA

Craobh Marina is again looking forward to welcoming the fleet to this the 62nd year of West Highland Yachting week.

This year's event begins on Friday 31st July with the feeder race from Inverkip to Ardrishaig, followed by the various feeder races on Saturday 1st August from Oban and Gigha to Craobh Marina.

With all the fleet safely berthed, the first of the week's social events commence at The Lord of The Isles with champagne and oyster bar, open barbeque in the marquee and also the usual bar food and dining facilities. Saturday's entertainment to include music by the popular group Framed, and a Guest Appearance of the Mid Argyll Pipe Band who will be playing a number of their tracks from their current CD 'Blackwood and Hickory'. To conclude the evening there will be a fire-work display. Throughout the period fine ales, beers and spirits will be available. Sunday morning the fleet will leave Craobh as they muster for the various class starts for the passage race from Craobh to Oban, sailing past some of the West Coast's finest coastline and changing scenery. Here's wishing everyone good luck, fair winds and safe anchorages.

Restaurants & Bars

THE OLD FORGE

A "jumping watering hole", home to eccentrics, singers, troubadours, yachties, hillwalkers, stags, yuppies, journalists and the curious all intermixed with a generous helping of musicians and 'weel kent' faces. Take your own instruments or use ours. The Old Forge - Mainland Britain's Remotest Pub (Guinness Book of Records) on the remote Knoydart peninsula. 11 Crown estates moorings and all weather all tides pier visit www.theoldforge.co.uk New all weather, non tidal floodlit pier and slip/jetty also providing shelter for landing. Real ales CAMRA members. Fresh ground coffees and great lattes / home-baking Commendations include Good Food Scotland Guide, Peter Irvine's Best of Scotland one of only 3 "bloody good pubs" in Scotland, Rough Guide to Scotland Guide, voted Best Visitor Experience, Highlands and Islands Tourism Awards, SLTN Best Independent pub in Scotland and recently commended by the Seafood Awards UK 2009, London. Sit happily in your wellies n' oilskins, eating creel caught langoustines, shucked oysters and hand dived scallops or roll up your sleeves to a haunch of estate venison washed down with a pinot grigio or three. 2 Real Ales on Tap, open all day. Work less, sail more.. midge cream, waterproofs and wellies essential. Tel 01687 462267

THE WHITEHOUSE RESTAURANT LOCHALINE

Not many people know about the small but very welcoming and friendly Whitehouse Restaurant tucked away in the village of Lochaline on the mainland opposite Mull. It serves really delicious local food all freshly cooked to order including hand dived scallops from the Sound of Mull and langoustines (weather and tides permitting), local beef, venison and lamb from Drimmin and cheeses from Mull. The Whitehouse uses its own eggs and has a wonderful vegetable garden which produces vegetables and salads for the restaurant. The Whitehouse is one of Hugh Fernley Whittingstall's favourite coastal restaurants is a real treat. A light lunch can be had for a fiver (home made soup and homemade organic bread) or alternatively a three course dinner is in the region of £25-£29. The Michelin guide 2009 wrote it has "Two lovely, cosy, wood-lined dining rooms where the ethos of seasonal and local cooking shines through" and Scotland the Best 2008 listed it as the best, inexpensive restaurant in the Highlands.

Lochaline is a perfect spot to stop away from the hurly burly of Tobermory and Oban. There is a safe anchorage in Moider Bay or further up the Loch towards the magnificent Ardnornish House. The Whitehouse is just above the pier next to Lochaline stores which has a wide range of provisions, petrol and washing and drying facilities.

For further information and bookings (which is advisable as there are only 26 covers) call the White House on 01967 421777 or visit www.thewhitehouse-restaurant.co.uk

THE LORD OF THE ISLES

The Lord of the Isles Restaurant and Bar has an enviable reputation for excellent food, wines and beers. Although we specialise in local fish and shellfish our chefs offer a wide range of choice to suit all palates.

By boat, we are on the shore of the Craobh Haven Marina and we can be easily reached by road, situated just off the A816, 15 miles south of Oban: just follow the signs... Craobh is a modern marina, a magnet for sailors and welcomes very many visitors each year. Boat trips are also available to view the Corrieveckan whirlpools between Jura and Scarba.

The Lord of the Isles is the perfect venue for a relaxed visit with spectacular sea views. We cater for both small and large parties, offering a stunning venue in magnificent surroundings for small weddings and special occasions. The local area lies on the northern edge of the ancient kingdom of Dalriada, where the Scottish nation was born. There is something for everyone to do. Here you will find remnants of the Kingdom of the Gaels, Celtic wells (including the one at Lunga, just up the road from the Lord of the Isles, blessed by St. Fillan and therefore never known to run dry!). There are Viking burial mounds and hill forts - and nine miles to the south is the Kilmartin Glen, with 350 known archaeological sites, from standing stones to medieval grave slabs.

Lord of The Isles is open all year round and special events and live band details are advertised in the Oban Times and on our web page at www.lord-of-theisles.co.uk

CRAOBH MARINA



Come along and join our team for the start of the 62nd year of West Highland Yachting Week on 1st and 2nd of August, for full details visit www.WHYW.co.uk

Tel 01852 500222 craobhmarina@talk21.com



Sceptre returns for West Highland Yachting Week

THE 62nd West Highland Yachting Week sees a return for the iconic 12-metre yacht Sceptre after an absence of four years.

Skipped by Thomas Smith she will race in IRC1 with a crew of eight plus two children of 9 and 13. Built by Robertsons of Sandbank Sceptre was the British Challenger for the America's Cup in 1958 and is believed to be the only UK challenger still sailing in British Waters. Now owned by the Sceptre Preservation LLP society, members ensure her future with the edict that she remains racing and cruising. Preservation Society member Dougie Lee said: 'It is a wonderful feeling to know Sceptre is so welcome back up in Scotland - her birthplace. After a prolonged spell based in the Solent, Sceptre has returned to the Clyde and will remain there for the rest of this season following WHYW. She is available for charter and this income helps preserve this beautiful boat.'

West Highland Yachting Week attracts sailors from all corners of the United Kingdom and from abroad. The option of chartering has been taken by several competitors whilst some owners undertake a long journey with their yacht to be present.

Steve Shergold from Cheltenham races North Star in Class 1 whilst Alan Moore skippering Delinquent, Patrick Green helming Swift and Robert Threipland with Marna IV are all from Wiltshire. Mike Briers and Andy Knowles skippering Graphix and Xanadu are from Lancashire. Bill Hogg from Gloucestershire is also making a return to the week with Zaleda whilst Gordon Wilson who races Cicero of Rhu lives in Guernsey.

Familiar Names and Faces

Many familiar WHYW names are back. Against the backdrop of 20 metre Sceptre in IRC 1 is well known west coaster Ian Cleaver with his Melges 24 Clapped Out Toyboy. Jonathan Anderson's Playing FTSE, Mike Spence's Le Basculer, Bruce Douglas's Spirit of Jacana and Andy Knowles' Xanadu - all regular competitors in IRC Class 1. Bateleur 97 is back under helm Brian Summers. Chris Tiso's Tiso Thunderbird will do his double feeder again as well as competing in Class 1. Like last year he will compete in the Kip to Ardrihaig feeder, turn round and head off round the Mull to Gigha to start in the morning from there to Craobh!

Class 10, newly introduced this year for boats rated CYCA 10.75 and below, sees Ian Laidlaw's Bavaria Match Skywalker and Neil Donaldson's Gaelforce with Ian McNair's First By Farr and John Watson's Texa as first entries.

This class will start alongside the existing Class 3 - CYCA handicaps from 11-13.75.

Graham Anderson of Oban returns to the Tunnock's spinnaker fleet in Class 3 with his Hanse 371 Lucky Ned Pepper taking on last year's class winner Charlie Gourlay with Freebird. Ken Andrews' SJ35 Nuage, Mid Argyll Sailor Brian Robertson's X332 Celtic Spirit, the Corlett's Euavation, Euan Morrison's Enigma, David Finlayson's Monkey Business and Alan Moore's Delinquent amongst others will make this an exciting class to watch.

Best Family Yacht

Patrick Clark and family with their Dufour 40 Manuka, winners of the Tennent Caledonian Trophy for the best family yacht in 2008 is back in Class 2 in the Argyll fleet. Niall and Jane Allen with Cuchulainn, the Oceanis 50 are also WHYW stalwarts as is Lawrence Craig with his Swan 441 Grampus.

Argyll Fleet Class 4 is one of the largest with Stevie Andrews from Ireland back with Scary...the Boat, David Harcourt and An Doochalie II, Dave Sinclair with Trilleachan, Mark Curran with Tir Nan Nog of Rhu, Garth Wilson skippering Zara of Doon and Euan Webster with Cluaran Dubh all well known on the WHYW circuit.

Former overall WHYW winner Craig Anderson returns with his Moody 333 Cool Bandit as a serious contender in Class 5 taking on the ever competitive Stuart Hamilton with Piecemaker and Wilson Malone with Amarylis while the Sigma 33s also battle it out in this class.

Hull and Hathaway's 33 Ziggy Stardust that lifted the silverware last year will see close competition from Donald McLaren's Sigmatic, fresh from Sigma 33 National success, Oban sailor Eric Chapman's Amber Haze, the Caldwell's Kap-eesh, Jeremy Colman's Sea Pie of Cultra and the Taylors' Sula.

Jim Shields and Drew McClenaghan in Slippi Jin who won restricted sail Class 6 last year come back from Ireland to defend their title. Alan Dunnet's Valhalla of Ashton and Brian Young's ever-green Glenafton are WHYW regulars in this class with Ronnie Haggerty's Sirius of Lorne and Stewart Ritchie's Anna Mae also WHYW stalwarts.

John Barnard is a far traveller to the event with his Hydro Hylfer from Southern Ireland as is Anthony Clendinning of Coleraine YC with the J24 Zezebel in Class 7. Anthony formerly raced his Sunfast 32i Warrior in Class 5.

Misjif, class 7 winner from last year with the Angus and Tear partnership, is back to defend his title with early entries Stephen Pickle's Tango Too, Gavin Clyde's Ariadne, Neil MacDougall's Hussy and Alastair Pugh's Marisca all in contention.

Local interest

Class 8 sees well known Lochaber skipper Marian Austin with her all girl crew on Scintilla and there will be match racing this year with fellow Northney 34 owner Andy Marjoribanks with Streaker. Tom Grant of Campbeltown racing his Shipman Inspiration, Alistair Cousin's Contessa 28 Carna, Alison Chadwick of Oban with Hot Toddy and Donald Smith with his Maxi Tilty Too are also regular competitors in this class.

Class 9, part of the white sail Argyll fleet, has Steven Bramall back with Jennie's Rival, Kilmelford sailor Donald Philips with Whigmaleerie who moves from Class 8 this year, Charlie Crawford's Cracker, Andrew Hutton's Malibu and Fiona Leask's GK 24 Vivari as the first entries.

Race Officer Malcolm MacGregor heads the race team and once again the event will encourage the use of arbitration as a precursor to Protests throughout the regatta. Protest Committee chairman Terence Brownrigg who has been part of the WHYW regatta race team for many years, chairs the protest committee. Phil Preston and George Seaton are assistant race officers for the Argyll Fleet. Long time stalwart of the event Bob Theakstone who has provided the main committee boat Poplar Diver for so many years has retired and he and his crew will be sadly missed at the 2009 event.

Competitive Racing amidst stunning scenery

Now in its 62nd year this historic and unique sailing regatta will see over 750 competitors from around the world enjoy top class racing across ten classes amidst stunning west coast scenery.

Competitors racing from the Clyde start from Inverkip on Friday July 31 with a course of around 35 miles to Ardrihaig. Following the inshore route they will navigate the Crinan Canal to head on up to Craobh Marina for the start of the week. Competitors from Ireland muster at Gigha for the feeder race to Craobh on Saturday August 1. The evening before après sail entertainment includes music from the Gigha Players in the Gigha Hotel and entertainment from Scottish and Irish musicians in the Gigha Village Hall.

Meanwhile boats from the north start at Oban on Saturday August 1 to finish at Craobh where half price berthing can be enjoyed by WHYW competitors.

Craobh Marina Manager Jim Berry said: We look forward to hosting the start of Tennent's West Highland Yachting Week once again and welcome the new sponsors onboard. This year the Mid Argyll Pipe Band will be playing to welcome the fleet at Craobh and to pipe everyone ashore to the events at the Lord of the Isles. We will be making every effort to ensure everyone has an enjoyable stay at Craobh Marina. Facilities for yachts are also available at nearby Crinan and Ardfern.

With the whole fleet gathered at Craobh the first passage race of the regatta is to Oban on Sunday. The ever popular circumnavigation of the isle of Lismore takes place on Monday August 3 with racing in the Firth of Lorn, for the two fleets on Tuesday, August 5. The Tunnock's Fleet will race 'round the buoys' Olympic style whilst the Argyll Fleet have a longer inshore race with a course to Bach and Insh Island and a mark off Ardencaple Bay and Cutter Rock.

The race on Wednesday up to iconic Tobermory is always a challenge with fickle winds and testing tides. Tobermory Harbour offers moorings, pontoon berthing and anchoring and always provides a great welcome for the fleet with an excellent collection of shops, pubs and eateries.

Racing off Tobermory the Tunnock's fleet complete two Olympic style courses on Thursday August 6 whilst the Argyll Fleet race round the Tunnock's Fleet. If weather conditions permit, the intended course for Class 2 of the Argyll fleet will be out to Kilchoan Bay racing to the navigation buoy WNW of Ardnamurchan Point and then to a buoy off Caliach Point. After two nights in Tobermory, the fleet races back down the Sound of Mull on Friday August 7 hoping for a good breeze to get them through the channel between Duart Point and Lismore. Yachts then come back into Oban for the final night's celebrations at the prize-giving ceilidh in the Corran Halls.

Window Dressing Competition

Shops in Tobermory have been invited to take part in the Tennent's West Highland Week Window Dressing Competition which this year sees the theme as 'Highlighting 30 Years Partnership with Tennent's'. A prized silver trophy will be presented to the winner. Tobermory Togs and Clogs, Tackle and Books, Seafare and The HebrideanWhale and Dolphin Trust are all taking part.



Find Paradise (via Oban).

The gateway to some of the most beautiful holiday destinations in the world is not a large airport. It's a town in Argyll.

To find out about all the Clyde and Hebridean island paradises we could transport you to, visit calmac.co.uk or call **08000 66 5000**.

Caledonian MacBrayne
Hebridean & Clyde Ferries

Oban - a Caledonian MacBrayne town

ENJOY Chartroom II West Highland Yachting Week!

THE FINEST VIEWS ON THE WEST COAST...

SAIL TO LOCH MELFORT HOTEL
Inverclyde Coastal Hotel

- Free moorings
- Showers available

Pick up a promo card at Craobh, Ardfern or Kilmelford Yacht Havens for a free drink in our Chartroom II Bistro!

Bookings essential
Call **01852 200233**

At Loch Melfort Hotel, Ardfern Tel: 01852 200233

THE WIDE MOUTHED FROG

The Wide Mouthed Frog is one of the best award winning restaurants on the West Coast and offers an excellent meeting place in a truly spectacular and beautiful location.

Light or traditional breakfast, and morning coffees, lunches and dinner are served in our intimate restaurant, bistro, courtyard or decking areas, with stunning views of Dunstaffnage Bay and Castle with the isle of mull as a backdrop.

We have a varied menu and offer a buffet every Saturday night from 6.30pm till 9.30pm for just fourteen pounds.

Come along and meet our Friendly and warm team not so far from Oban Town.

Dunstaffnage Marina, Dunbeg, By Oban. Tel: 01631 567005

BOAT Trailers

from TRAIL WEST wide range of Trailers, Launching Trolleys and Spare Parts in stock. WINCHES, LIGHTS, BEARINGS, WHEELS You name it, we've probably got it!

Lochavullin Industrial Estate Oban. Telephone: (01631) 563638

THE OLD FORGE

hot shower, open fire, famous seafood platters, fresh scallops and mussels, real ales, homemade soups, wood-burnt remison, throughout Scotland, folk music, fresh bread, vegetarian menu.

VHF ch12
12 moorings for hangers on
57 02'N 05 41'W

01687 462267
email: info@theoldforge.co.uk
www.theoldforge.co.uk

Yachties, Walkers, Trampers, Dogs, Kids, Landlubbers, Anarchists, Politicians and Musicians welcome! Bring your own instruments or use ours!

Come ashore to a truly unique and beautiful place

"One of Scotland's bloody good pubs" - Peter Irvine
Awarded SLTN best independent pub in Scotland 2008
Commended- Seafood UK Awards London 2009

*** Mainland Britain's Remotest Pub ***

TOBERMORY

40 PONTOON BERTHS AVAILABLE
PLUS 24 VISITOR MOORINGS
AND A CLEAR (FREE) ANCHORING AREA

FANTASTIC FACILITIES

The Tobermory Harbour Association welcomes visitors to Taigh Solais - the New Harbour Building - providing facilities for all

Pontoon £2.25 per metre - Visitor Moorings up to 15 tons £13 (inc VAT) - up to 25 ft £10 (inc VAT) per 24 hours.

BARCALDINE MARINE

WINTER STORAGE

- Undercover and outside winter storage
- Concrete standing with power and water
- Discounted rate available for 12 month winter and summer bookings
- Competitive prices

PRICES HELD UNTIL SPRING 2010

For more details and bookings contact:
Martin Waterhouse
Barcaldine Marine
Barcaldine, Oban, PA37 1SE
Tel: 01631 720291. Mob: 07767 380235
e-mail: moorings@barcaldinemarine.co.uk
www.barcaldinemarine.co.uk

The Creagan Inn

Bar & Restaurant

Extensive Menu of Traditional Food & Seafood
Fantastic Views * Moorings * Sundeck
Easily Accessed by Land & Sea

Tel: 01631 730250 Pos: 56°33'N 5°17'175W
Appin, Argyll PA38 4BQ creaganinn@btconnect.com

T. BARBOUR

Railway Pier, Oban
Telephone: 01631 562849

Best wishes to all competitors and visitors for the coming events from your BP Marine Fuel Distributor.

THE WHITEHOUSE RESTAURANT LOCHALINE

DELICIOUS FRESH LOCAL FOOD

We serve Isle of Mull crab, Mussels, Lochaline langoustines and Sound of Mull scallops, venison, beef and lamb from the Drimmin Estate and grow our own veg.

"eat at the superb Whitehouse" ...
The Rough Guide to Scotland 2008
One of Hugh Fearnly-Whittingstall's favourite coastal restaurants

Lochaline is a beautiful, peaceful, and safe anchorage and the Whitehouse if a short walk from the pier.

01967 421777
Closed Sunday evening and Mondays
www.thewhitehouserestaurant.co.uk

SEAFARE CHANDLERY, Tobermory

Best wishes to all competitors!
Looking forward to seeing the fleet in Tobermory

VHF Station Call Sign: SEAFARE
OPEN LATE RACE NIGHTS!

The ideal west coast cruising base which is quiet and protected yet conveniently located.

Tel 01852 500222 craobhmarina@talk21.com

CRAOBH MARINA

Eating out Guide

Oban Area

Coast Restaurant:
104 George Street, Oban
Coast is renowned for creatively using the best local & seasonal ingredients that Scotland has to offer, with a friendly service and modern decor. 2AA Rosettes and Michelin Guide inclusion
01631 569900

Kebabish Curry House:
99 George Street, Oban
Pizza, curry and kebabs to eat in or take away
Opening Hours: Mon-Wed 12pm-12am, Thurs-Sun: 12pm-1.30am
01631 563900

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant
Gallanach Road, Oban
Bar lunches available 12-2.30pm
5 course prix fixe or a la carte dinner 7-9pm
Overlooking Oban Bay
01631 562087

Markie Dans:
Victoria Crescent, Corran Esplanade, Oban
Best beer garden in town, bar meals served all day 12noon-9pm
Live music - Tim O'Connor: Fri 31st and Sat 1st, Trail West: Tues 4th Aug
01631 564448

Oban Fish & Chip Shop:
116 George Street, Oban
Fried fish made to order incl haddock, cod, local sole, hake, coley & battered oysters.
Homemade meals.
01631 567000

O'Donnell's Irish Bar and The Gathering Restaurant:
Breadalbane Street, Oban
Excellent Bar Meals Served from 5pm till 10pm
01631 565421 / 564849

The Lorne:
Stevenson Street, Oban
Daily Home Made Food
Live Weekend Entertainment
01631 570020

The Queen's Hotel:
Corran Esplanade, Oban
Evening meals served 5.30-9.30pm
Local produce and seafood used in freshly prepared dishes
01631 562505

Waypoint Bar and Grill:
Oban Marina, Isle of Kerrera
Relax with fantastic views and enjoy some of the finest and freshest local seafood.
Courtesy ferry operates for Waypoint customers from the North Pier, Oban, 10 minutes past every hour.
Serving food 12-9pm - Bookings are advisable after 5pm and for groups.
07549174169 / 07900954312

North of Oban

The Oyster Inn and Ferryman's of Connel:
All day food served from 12pm
Try out our summer menu or just enjoy a relaxing dram in the bar
01631 710666

Taychreggan Hotel:
Kilchrennan, Taynuilt
Where tranquillity awaits you...
5 course Table d'hote Menu: £44, Light lunch and afternoon tea served daily.
Open to non-residents
01866 833211 / info@taychregganhotel.co.uk
www.taychregganhotel.co.uk

Tight Line:
Lochawe
Family run bar and restaurant, with traditional homemade food and excellent beer.
Unrivalled views of Lochawe.
On the main A85 road to Oban.
01838 200215

South Of Oban

Melfort Mermaid Restaurant:
Melfort Village, Kilmelford
56.16 N, 5.30 W
Welcomes you, FREE WIFI, FREE HOT SHOWER,
Freshly cooked local food, fairly priced.
22 moorings. Play ground, good hill walking
01852 200 324

The Crafty Kitchen
Ardfern, by Lochgilphead
A friendly and informal café, serving imaginative and inexpensive home-made food, using local ingredients wherever possible.
Open Thurs-Sun 10am-5pm
01852 500303 / 500689

The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern
10 mins drive from Craobh / 30 mins from Oban
Mouth-watering menus in our Loch View Restaurant featuring local seafood, meats & game. Outdoor decking & beer garden serving real ales.
WiFi in public areas.
01852 500 284 / enquiries@galleyoflorne.co.uk

Enjoy West Highland Yachting Week!

Skipinnish and Skerryvore to get feet tapping at Tennents West Highland Yachting Week!

MUSIC from the famed Skipinnish and Skerryvore will get the feet tapping at this year's Tennents West Highland Yachting Week as part of the event's extensive social programme.

Set to play at Oban Marina's Kerrera Capers on the Sunday of the regatta, Skipinnish is well known throughout Scotland and now has a base in Oban at the 'Ceilidh House'.

Oban Marina manager Sue Price said the format would be similar to last year: 'We will have our hay bale can bar and seating in the barn where Skipinnish is playing and the WayPoint Grill will be producing a superb selection of seafood and other produce to suit all tastes. We will have something for everyone!'

The shuttle ferry to Kerrera from Oban will be operating every hour till late. The ferry links up with the West Coast Motors bus service from Dunstaffnage, specially laid on for West Highland Yachting Week.

This will follow the opening night at the Lord of the Isles at Craobh Marina which

kick starts the week with all day & evening entertainment from 11:30am. A barbecue, oyster, champagne & seafood bar, and live music from local band 'Framed' for what is described as a 'spectacular' evening's entertainment with a few surprises! The Joint Regatta Committee welcome and prize-giving for the feeder races takes place in the marquee at 2100hrs.

Skerryvore

After the dance to Skipinnish on Sunday the ceilidh continues on Monday night with Skerryvore the lead at the Ceilidh House. Guaranteed to be a huge crowd puller, competitors will have the chance to dance to this talented band from Tiree.

Prior to this the feast is at Oban Sailing Club with the early Barbecue Party for everyone and there's a chance to work off those tasty burgers with Inter Yacht Tag Rugby at Oban and Lorne Rugby Club - a fun event for every yacht to enter.

Meanwhile Oban High School Pipe Band is out to entertain Oban at various locations playing from the open top West Coast Motors double-decker bus. The band then heads to the CalMac ferry terminal to pipe guests into the Skipper's Reception, an invitation only event. This is a chance for skippers to meet and enjoy complimentary drinks and canapés as well as joining in the farewell toast to Tennent's.

mentary drinks and canapés as well as joining in the farewell toast to Tennent's.

Football and swimming

The ever popular inter-yacht five-a-side football and family swim night takes place on Tuesday evening after racing and later there will be music and entertainment at the Wide Mouthed Frog at Dunstaffnage Marina. Here a whole range of children's activities and family fun is planned from mid-day with a buffet, roast wild boar and live music central to the evening. Neil McLaughlan of Dunstaffnage Marina said 'We want to see Oban as a festival destination and events like West Highland Yachting Week can provide a springboard for a carnival atmosphere throughout the town and beyond.'

Film entertainment is also available with free Oban Cinema tickets for competitors on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

This year transport to and from Dunstaffnage and Oban will be made easier with West Coast Motors laying on transport for competitors. Later this evening the famous beach party starts rocking at the Ceilidh House in Oban.

When the fleet sails to Tobermory a feast of entertainment is planned in the village.

Competitors will be pleased to hear that the traditional ceilidh returns to the Aros Hall in Tobermory with dancing to Sandy MacAuley's band on Wednesday night. Trail West from Tiree will play Macgochans. The mid-week prize-giving takes place on Thursday evening at Tobermory Distillery and Mcgochans will have live music from the popular band Gunna Sound.

Craigendarloch are the headline band for the final prize-giving night at the Corran Halls. This well known ceilidh rock band will provide a fitting end to the 62nd West Highland Yachting Week with their unique blend of traditional and Scottish rock music.

Also on Tuesday the fun continues at the Skipinnish Ceilidh House with the return of the famous Beach Party - a Skipinnish Beach Party themed disco - beach fancy dress is encouraged! Last bus to Dunstaffnage will be 1am.

Events in the social programme are now posted on the website as is the entry list.

Keep posted of all the news at www.whyw.co.uk

BARCALDINE HOUSE
Scottish dining at its finest
The restaurant of Barcaldine House is now open.
Experience our outstanding cuisine created by our Head Chef, Craig Ferguson, blending the very best in Scottish produce. Relax in our elegant lounge or sit in our beautiful garden where we serve light lunches and afternoon drinks, or join us in the evening for full gourmet dinners in our dining room.
The 1709 luxury country house hotel is surrounded by enchanting lochs and secret gardens - a joy for children and adults alike. Barcaldine House is one of Scotland's most unique hotels which offers charming hotel and self catering accommodation just 11 miles south of Oban.
For more information and booking enquiries please visit our website www.barcaldinehouse.co.uk or call 01631 720219

"...brings the best food yet to Oban."
Peter Irvine, Scotland the Best!
Award winning restaurant on Oban's main street serving fresh local fish, shellfish and Scottish meats.
Open for Light Lunches & Evening Meals
12 - 2pm/5.30 - 9.30pm
Coast
104 George Street, Oban
01631 569900 www.coastoban.co.uk
3 COURSE SPECIAL FOR £12 AVAILABLE LUNCH AND EARLY EVENING

FYNEPAX
INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES
Marine Grades Fasteners and Fixings, Welding and Abrasive Supplies, Nails, Screws, Fixings, Boating/Marine Supplies, Power Tools, Hand Tools, Adhesive Tapes, Chemicals and thousands more....
Fynepax is your one stop shop for just about anything anyone could need.
We deliver as close to us as Dumbarton, Clydebank, Drymen, Greenock, Helensburgh and as far as Dunoon, Oban, Inveraray to name a few.
T: 01389 733307 F: 01389 768933
www.fynepax.co.uk

Creran Marine
• 50 SWINGING MOORINGS
• 130 HARD STANDING SPACE'S FOR OUTDOOR STORAGE
• WATER AND ELECTRIC POINTS AROUND THE YARD
• RESIDENT ENGINEER AND MINI CHANDLERY
• STEEL CRADLES AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
• LARGE SLIPWAY AND WISE TRAVEL HOIST
• COMPETATIVE PRICES - ONLY 12 MILES FROM OBAN
E & L MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, Nr. Oban
Tel 01631 720253
www.creranmarine.co.uk

bp marine
Best Wishes from Tommy, Kenny and BP Marine for this 62nd Tennents West Highland Yachting Week. BP Marine ... proud sponsor of the Tennents West Highland Yachting Week for over a decade.
For Marine Fuel enquiries:
Telephone: +44 (0) 1442 223 847
E-mail: gomiukfs@bp.com

SAILING TIMES in association with **CRAOBH MARINA**
Tel 01852 500222 craobhmarina@talk21.com

14' MARINE PLY DINGHY
Road Trailer, Launching Trolley, Cover.
3.5 Yamaha outboard.
Telephone: 07548 269800 (Mull)
£650

ORKNEY LONG LINER 16'
4th Evinrude, Remote tank Oars, 3/4" ply floor Anchor With trailer. Very good condition.
Telephone: 07748324875 (Arran)
£2,300 o.n.o.

BROOM 37 CONTINENTAL MOTOR CRUISER
Diesel, 6 Berth, one cabin en suite, GPS Radar, new sprayhood and aft deck cover, ex cond.
Telephone: 01397 772278 or 07795 436759
£59,950

QUICKSILVER 580 PILOTHOUSE (2005)
£17,500
An excellent boat for a days fishing with a sheltered cabin should it rain. At just under 6 metres in length and with a Mariner 90hp 4 stroke engine complete with hydraulic steering. Lots of extras onboard, GPS navigation, etc. Antifouling done, full service carried out and its own roller coaster Brenderup trailer. Excellent condition.
For full details and viewing please phone: 01546 606032 or 07990 773368.

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES
SELLING YOUR BOAT?
Be seen by over 50,000 readers
Telephone 01631 568000
www.obantimes.co.uk

6.3M RIB. 120HP DIESEL INBOARD
Excellent Launching trailer. Brilliant sea boat - been to St Kilda from Mull. Perfect for family trips / diving. Lying Ardoran Marine.
Contact Henry 07973373056
Price on Application

POWERCAT 525 CATAMARAN LENGTH 17FT
Priced at £14,500 for quick sale
WAS £16,500 REDUCED
Twin Yamaha 15hp four-stroke outboards. Separate fuel tanks (2) and batteries (2) Nav. Lights, compass, VHF Radio, Furuno GPS Navigator, Furuno Fishfinder/Echosounder, Ropes, Fenders and Anchor. Porta-Potti Purpose built galvanneal 'break back' trailer for easy launching and recovery. An unmissable and very safe boat.
Lying ashore Lochranza, Isle of Arran
Tel: 01770 830 201 Mob 07766744414

5.8 METRE NORTH CRAFT RIB WITH 100HP YAMAHA 4 STROKE OUTBOARD
Garmin GPS and sounder, double A frame with nav lights, stainless steel 110 litres tank under centre consol, hydraulic steering, all on roller coaster trailer, 3 years old
Tel: 01631 566618 or Mobile: 07715172949
£7,750 including VAT o.n.o.

The Oban Times
Have you had your say today?

Macaulay finalists are decided

Shinty

MacPhee and Partners
Macaulay Cup
Semi-finals
Inveraray 2
Oban Camanachd 1
Lochaber 3 Kingussie 5

INVERARAY will represent South shinty - and Kingussie, the North, when they meet in this season's Macaulay Cup Final at Mossfield Stadium on Saturday, August 22.

Kingussie came through their semi-final tie at Drumnadrochit against Lochaber thanks to five goals from shinty's leading scorer Ronald Ross.

Sean Nicholson, Ben Delaney and Andy MacDonald, finding the net for Lochaber.

At Taynuilt, Inveraray were 2-0 ahead by the interval thanks a 25th minute goal from Chris Crawford and another from Stuart Robertson, five minutes before half-time.

Oban came back in the second-half and Aiden MacIntyre reduced the deficit on the hour mark.

In the closing minutes, Oban were reduced to 11-men when defender Liam MacIntyre was red-carded by referee Ronnie Campbell.

Results

Shinty

MacPhee & Partners
Macaulay Cup Semi Final
Lochaber 3 Kingussie 5
Inveraray 2 Oban Caman 1

Scottish Hydro
Premier Division
Bute 1 Glenurquhart 2
Glenorchy 1 Kyles 4
Newtonmore 4 Ft William 1

Marine Harvest
North Division 1
Beaully 3 Kilmallie 4
Caberfeidh P Strathglass P
Lochcarron 0 Kinlochsheil 2

Marine Harvest
South Division 1
Ballachulish P Kilmory P
Lochside Rovers 4 GMA 3
Oban Celtic 6 Tayforth 2

Marine Harvest
North Division 2
Glenurquhart 4 Lovat 1
Kilmallie P Skye P
Kingussie 9 Glengarry 1
Kinlochsheil 1 Ft William 6

Marine Harvest
South Division 2
Ballachulish 5 Strachur 2
Glenorchy 5 Aberdeen 1
Kyles 6 Col Glen 1
Taynuilt 2 Bute 0

Marine Harvest
North Division 3
Ardnamurchan P Strathglass P
Beaully w/o Kincairg
Lochbroom 6 Boleskine 0
Lochcarron 2 Lochaber 3

MacRae hat-trick knocks Fort off top spot at Newtonmore

Glen go back on top of Premier with a late winner in Bute

Irvine double helps Kyles to victory

A NEIL Reid goal five minutes from full-time at Rothesay took Glenurquhart to the top of shinty's Premier Division in a league tie that Bute almost snatched a point from after trailing for the majority of the match.

David MacLennan had given the visitors an early lead when he scored in the opening five minutes but the majority of the remaining 85 minutes was very evenly balanced until Stuart Strathie appeared to have salvaged a point for the home side when he found the back of Stuart Macintosh's net with only seven minutes of the tie remaining.

However, just two minutes later Glen were back in charge after Neil Reid netted the winner to take the newly promoted team from Drumnadrochit to the top of the table.

Fort William started their league tie at Newtonmore one point clear of Kingussie and Glenurquhart - after 90 minutes they had suffered their worst league defeat of the season and a second loss in as many weeks.

With James Clark leading the line, Fort William created several scoring chances in the opening period but it was the home side who reached the interval ahead after a ball over the defence found Danny MacRae who fired it passed Scott McNeil.

Taynuilt maintain league lead

TAYNUILT opened up a three point gap at the top of South Division Two, with three games in hand over their nearest rivals, thanks to a 2-0 home win over Bute.

Goals from Willie Neilson and Willie Gillies settled the tie as second placed Strachur went down 5-2 to give Ballachulish their first win of the season. Glenorchy won 5-1 against Aberdeen, while Kyles won 6-1 over near-neighbours Col Glen.

Shinty

Scottish Hydro
Premier Division
Bute 1 Glenurquhart 2

Glenorchy 1 Kyles 4

Newtonmore 4

Fort William 1

By half-time both teams had been forced to re-shuffle their line-ups with Newtonmore losing defender Scott Campbell with an ankle injury and Fort William's Gary Innes pulling up with a tight hamstring. Fort introduced Victor Smith to partner Clark up front and the veteran brought a new dimension to the visitors' attack.

But again Fort were caught with a ball over their fullbacks which MacRae dispatched behind McNeil.

A tremendous save from 'More keeper Michael Ritchie denied Smith pulling Fort back into tie and Glen Mackintosh added a third goal before the Smith/Clark partnership finally paid off with a precision pass from Smith allowing Clark the room to fire into the net.

The home side then lost full centre Jamie Robinson with a nasty head gash but they maintained their momentum as Fort William struggled to get into any sort of rhythm.

Over the 90 minutes, Newtonmore created enough chances to score numerous goals as a fragile Fort William defence were repeatedly caught on the back foot and Newtonmore added a fourth in the closing 10 minutes when MacRae claimed his hat-trick from the penalty spot after keeper McNeil was judged to have kicked a bouncing ball.

Bottom of the league Glenorchy also lost four goals as Grant Irvine with two, Robbie MacLeod and Colin MacDonald scored for Kyles. John Surtain found the net for Glenorchy.



Newtonmore's Glen Mackintosh and Fort William substitute Paul Bamber challenge for the ball at the Eilan on Saturday as Newtonmore ousted the league leaders by four goals to one. Picture - Ern Emmett

Oban Celtic look likely for life in league division one next season

OBAN Celtic more or less guaranteed life in South Division One next season after an emphatic win over Tayforth at Ganavan last Saturday.

Alan Duffy opened the scoring for the Oban team, receiving a cross ball from Carmichael and drilling it home from the edge of the area.

Tayforth were quick to counter and almost leveled with a neat flick from Amot which just went wide.

Duffy was to return the favour on 21 minutes when he fought to gather the ball, flicked it across to Neil Carmichael who instinctively caught the ball on the half volley and sent it into the net beyond stranded keeper Shearer.

Again, Tayforth were quick to strike back and Bjerland almost scrambled the ball across the Celtic goal line but received a facial injury for his efforts and had to retire, leaving his teammates to soldier on with only 11 players.

Shinty

South Division One
Oban Celtic 6 Tayforth 2

On 41 minutes, Oban Celtic had their third goal, again from Carmichael, who received a well flighted cross field ball from left-winger McKerracher, and neatly dispatched it past Shearer.

Tayforth came out fighting after the interval and were awarded a penalty on 47 minutes after Celtic's keeper MacNab went to ground and obstructed the ball. Kenny Campbell kept his shot low and so was rewarded for all his driving play in the first half.

Heardened by their goal, Tayforth became more confident and drove forward, but Celtic's defensive unit of Hill, McKechnie, Cakebread and Davidson put in a fine display with the latter going on to have one of his best games of the season.

At the other end, the Oban forwards were making life difficult for themselves with

over-elaborate passing in front of goal, which played into the hands of Tayforth's Ferrier and MacDonald, who were able to break up attacks with ease.

In the 72nd minute, substitute Lee Askew, back from injury, showed that direct action pays dividends with a long distance effort which simply floated in under Shearer's crossbar.

Six minutes later, Alan Miller was felled in the area and converted the penalty himself, scoring again in the 83rd minute from a pass from youngster Daniel Madej.

With five minutes remaining, Tayforth's continued efforts were rewarded with another goal when Iain Gemmell took advantage of an uncharacteristic series of blunders in the Celtic defence and scrambled the ball into the net.

Oban Celtic will be delighted with this crucial win and now need to concentrate on banishing the erratic form that has dogged the early part of their season.

Shinty leagues

Premier Division

Glenurquhart	14	7	2	5	27	24	16	
Ft William	11	7	1	3	21	14	15	
Kingussie	9	6	2	1	38	13	14	
Newtonmore	9	5	4	0	34	12	14	
Kyles Athletic	11	5	3	3	31	25	13	
Oban Camanachd	8	5	1	2	14	10	11	
Lochaber	10	3	2	5	14	29	8	
Bute	7	1	2	4	10	15	4	
Inveraray	8	1	6	1	10	19	3	
Glenorchy	13	0	2	1	11	8	46	2

North Division 1

Skye	12	8	1	3	29	16	17
Kilmallie	9	6	0	3	33	22	12
Caberfeidh	10	6	0	4	18	18	12
Strathglass	7	5	0	2	27	7	10
Beaully	9	4	1	4	21	19	9
Lovat	6	3	2	1	13	6	8
Kinlochshiel	6	2	1	3	9	13	5
Inverness	10	1	1	8	3	36	3
Lochcarron	7	0	0	7	3	19	0

South Division 1

Lochside Rovers	10	8	1	1	38	18	17
Kilmory	8	5	0	3	21	16	10
GMA	7	4	1	2	24	11	9
Inveraray	7	3	1	3	19	21	7
Oban Celtic	7	2	2	3	16	22	6
Ballachulish	9	2	1	1	21	24	5
Tayforth	10	2	0	8	17	44	0

North Division 2

Glenurquhart	12	10	2	0	45	9	22
Kingussie	13	10	0	3	53	22	20
Fort William	11	9	1	1	47	11	19
Lovat	13	7	0	6	37	33	14
Glengarry	12	5	2	5	29	28	12
Newtonmore	12	4	1	7	25	38	9
Skye	12	2	8	2	25	45	6
Kilmallie	10	3	0	7	12	32	6
Caberfeidh	11	2	0	9	24	52	4
Kinlochshiel	8	1	0	7	11	38	2

South Division 2

Taynuilt	9	9	0	0	40	10	18
Strachur	12	7	1	4	26	18	15
Col Glen	12	5	2	5	21	24	12
Kyles Athletic	6	5	0	1	17	5	10
Aberdour	11	5	0	6	31	33	10
Bute	9	4	0	5	21	17	8
Glenorchy	10	3	2	5	18	16	8
GlasgowMid Argyll	10	3	1	6	23	34	7
Ballachulish	11	1	0	10	13	53	2

North Division 3

Lochbroom	15	11	1	3	59	20	23	
Beaully	13	10	0	3	48	10	20	
Aberdeen Uni	14	9	2	3	43	16	20	
Lochaber	13	8	0	5	54	31	16	
Boleskine	13	6	1	6	30	26	13	
Strathglass	11	5	0	6	36	36	10	
Lochcarron	10	4	0	3	17	34	8	
Inverness	10	3	1	6	18	38	7	
Ardnamurchan	12	2	0	10	13	54	4	
Kincairg	11	0	1	0	10	11	64	1

Shinty fixtures

Saturday, August 1
Sutherland Cup Final
Fort William v Lovat at Inverness
Billy Wotherspoon 5pm
Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Lochaber v Bute R Campbell 1pm
Ft William v Oban Caman R Kennedy 12noon
Glenorchy v Kingussie C MacDonald 2.30pm
Inveraray v Kyles D Mitchell 2.30pm
Marine Harvest North Division One
Beaully v Skye G Cameron 1pm
Lochcarron v Caberfeidh C Duff 2.30pm
Kinlochshiel v Kilmallie J Matheson 2.30pm
Marine Harvest North Division Two
Kinlochshiel v Kingussie JA Gillies 12 noon
Skye v Caberfeidh J Sloggie 2.30pm
Kilmallie v Glenurquhart N Ferguson 2.30pm
Marine Harvest North Division Three
Lochcarron v Inverness R Ross 12 noon
Ardnamurchan v Beaully D Kerr 2.30pm
Strathglass v Aberdeen Uni G Irving 2.30pm
Lochaber v Kincairg R MacLennan 4pm
Marine Harvest South Division One
Inveraray v Oban Celtic R Baxter 12 noon
GMA v Ballachulish E Pearson 2.30pm
Marine Harvest South Division Two
Taynuilt v Col Glen J Innes 2.30pm
Kyles v Aberdour D Cameron 2.30pm
Bute v GMA G O'Rourke 2.30pm

Spot the SHINTY BALL Competition



Spot the

WIN £1200

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



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. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

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 reach 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon on 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 The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



I enclose £1 (note) 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.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel No. _____

Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
Mrs Cameron, Iona Drive, Oban and S McKinlay, Breadalbane Mews, Oban

Scottish Rugby's FIRST EVER National Coaching Themes Roadshow

is taking place in Oban this Sunday at Oban Lorne RFC from 10am - 3pm.

Coaches from the SRU's Performance Development Team will be there to take the sessions on national themes, Good Coaching practice, the National Pathway and skills clinics.

This event is free of charge and any players (from 12 upwards, boys and girls) along with club or school coaches, teachers or anyone involved or interested in developing rugby in Argyll and Bute Clubs or schools are welcome to attend the event.

Contact local Rugby Development Officer Billy Thomson on 07795645927 or billyrugby@thessc.org

Fleets set sail for west Highland week

Sailing

THE SUCCESS of last year's IRC class at Tennent's West Highland Yachting Week (WHYW) has widened interest in this unique week-long yachting regatta that begins tomorrow (Friday).

Class 1 now accommodates yachts rated with IRC handicaps 0.970 and above and fourteen boats have chosen to race in this division. And this year a new class has been introduced to widen choice for the faster end of the fleet.

Craobh, Oban and Tobermory are all looking forward to welcoming the 131-strong fleet, guests and visitors who come to see this famous yachting regatta.

This is the last year of the 30-year sponsorship from Tennent Caledonian Breweries and the event welcomes confectionary firm Tunnock's, on board for 2009 - the spinnaker classes will be known as the 'Tunnocks Fleet'.

Argyll and Bute Council also supports the event with the restricted sail classes the 'Argyll fleet'.



Action from last year's race. (31/whyw01)

Oban retain league title

Cricket

OBAN'S cricketers successfully defended their Argyll League title after defeating Mid Argyll by 58 runs in an exciting fixture at Dunadd on Sunday.

The result was Oban's fifth win out of six games in the league this season and was good enough to see off their challengers for the title.

In damp conditions Oban elected to take first use of a wicket that was expected to deteriorate as the day went on.

Ronnie Kelly and Andrew Leach gave Oban a steady start in difficult conditions, but it was Allan Laycock and Isaac Forster who really pushed the score on in the match.

Skipper Isaac Forster was dismissed for a quickfire 34 but once again it was 16-year-old Laycock who displayed a fine range of

shots all around the ground.

Young Laycock's excellent display at Dunadd took him past the half century mark for the second time this year against Mid Argyll.

Caught

He was eventually well caught by Peter Shackleton for 71, just as the heavens opened and play was interrupted.

After the rain delay Oban continued to push on and further contributions from Tristan Carre and Kenny Mackenzie helped the total reach a very competitive 169 for nine from the 40 overs.

In reply Mid Argyll were given a solid start by Gordon Lyburn and Alan Manson, reaching 32 before the first wicket fell.

Oban wicketkeeper, Davie Hannah, who had a fine game

behind the stumps, had a hand in the dismissal of both openers, a smart stumping to see off Manson and a neat catch to dismiss Lyburn.

Both of these were off the bowling of Davie Brown who was the pick of the Oban seam bowlers, taking three wickets for 18 runs from his eight overs.

Mid Argyll wickets continued to fall after this as they fell further behind the required run rate.

Spin bowler, Neill Belshaw was introduced to the attack and responded by taking the last four wickets to fall as Mid Argyll were bowled out for 111.

Result
Argyll Cricket League:
Oban 169-9 (Laycock 71, Forster 34)
Mid Argyll 111 (Belshaw 4-6, Brown 3-18)

Tides

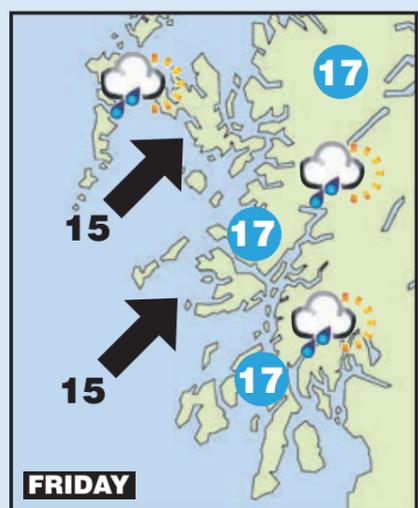
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, July 30, 2009** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	05.57 1.7 12.03 2.8 18.03 1.7 *** **	
Fri	00.12 2.7 07.10 1.8 13.40 2.8 19.15 1.8	
Sat	02.58 2.7 08.46 1.8 14.57 3.0 21.00 1.9	
Sun	04.22 2.9 09.52 1.6 15.50 3.2 22.15 1.7	
Mon	04.32 3.0 10.37 1.4 16.31 3.4 23.00 1.6	
Tues	04.54 3.3 11.14 1.2 17.07 3.6 23.35 1.4	
Wed	05.26 3.5 11.48 1.1 17.43 3.8 *** **	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Lochboisdale	+0.30
Campbeltown	-5.30	Mallaig	+0.25
Crinan	-0.47	Portree	+0.55
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Tobermory	+0.16
		Dover	+5.30

Sponsored by **NANCY BLACK** Ships' Chandler 01631-562550



the weather

Sponsored by **NANCY BLACK** Ships' Chandler

Thursday

A period of heavy rain is expected which could last throughout the day. Winds moderate west to south-westerly. Temperatures 8°C to 18°C

Friday

Again cloudy with spells of light to moderate rain. Winds moderate south-westerly. Temperatures 8°C to 17°C.

Weekend Outlook

The rain is expected to continue into the weekend with periods of rain and some dry spells. Winds moderate south-westerly.

Temperatures 8°C to 17°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist - Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree - As above
Kennacraig to Islay - As above

Sponsored by **NANCY BLACK** Ships' Chandler 01631-562550

East go west as Saints net five in friendly

Football

Oban Saints 5 East Kilbride 1

OBAN Saints played the first of three pre-season challenge matches on Saturday when they took on Central League team East Kilbride at Glencruitten.

Several of the senior players were unavailable so this gave new boys Paul Carmichael and Matt Rippon a chance to show Iain Jackson what they could do, and they must have impressed the manager with two fine performances.

The players have been working hard in training and these friendly games will give the squad an opportunity to try out a few

things before the season starts. The home side started off well and could have been two or three up in the first ten minutes with only some superb goalkeeping by the East Kilbride net minder keeping the eager Saints attack at bay.

However, the deadlock was broken in the 13th minute when Marc MacCallum and Myles McAuley combined to set up Craig MacEwan who slotted the ball home.

East Kilbride equalised through Martin Cox in the 24th minute after Saints got caught sleeping at a free kick,

pull a goal back when referee Peter Laing from Tarbert, who had a good game, awarded them a penalty for a hand ball offence, but Saints keeper Graham Douglas made a great save diving to his right to deny Lee Johnston.

Donald Campbell scored a tremendous fourth goal for the home side with a superb strike from twenty five yards in the 63rd minute and then East Kilbride defender Jack Baptie had the misfortune to head the ball into his own net to make the final score 5-1.

Manager Iain Jackson

was delighted with the performance of his team, especially in the first half.

The second friendly game sees the Oban side take on Argyll neighbours Tarbert tonight (Thursday) at Glencruitten with a 7.30pm kick-off, referee David Mitchell and then to round off the pre-season, top Ayrshire side Clark Drive visit Glencruitten on Saturday August 8, kick-off at 2pm, referee John Scott.

Saints are sponsored by AMP Electrical Services, Keyline Builders Merchants and Aulay's Bar

pull a goal back when referee Peter Laing from Tarbert, who had a good game, awarded them a penalty for a hand ball offence, but Saints keeper Graham Douglas made a great save diving to his right to deny Lee Johnston.

Donald Campbell scored a tremendous fourth goal for the home side with a superb strike from twenty five yards in the 63rd minute and then East Kilbride defender Jack Baptie had the misfortune to head the ball into his own net to make the final score 5-1.

Manager Iain Jackson

Youngsters on verge of first caps

Rugby

YOUNG Oban Lorne rugby players could be on the verge of gaining a Scotland cap after they were selected to play for their regional selects.

Julie Campbell and Emma MacDougall have been selected for the Glasgow North U-18 squad, a pathway towards the full Scotland U-18 squad.

Also selected at regional level is Magnus Bradbury, who is attending the Struan U-15 camp to represent Glasgow.

The club wished all three players good luck in these ventures.

Summer League results

League Cup semi finals
Coasters 4 Connaught 1
Tartan Tavern 4 Bunnellan 1

League
Oban Times 7 Coasters 3

Special Olympic send off for Oban's Emma

Equestrian

A CROWD of supporters and a piper gave Emma MacDougall a fitting send off as she travelled to Leicester for the Special Olympics GB National Summer Games.

Emma is competing for the West of Scotland at the week-long games which are the UK's own



Emma is given a send off by piper Ryan MacInnes and family and friends at Oban's Station Square.

07_131emma01

Special Olympics. Emma, who won the Disabled Sportsperson Award at last year's Oban and Lorn Sports Festival, will compete in the equestrian event and a good performance would put her in the reckoning for Team GB at the international Special Olympics on 2011.

Luck

Leaving for Leicester last Thursday, Emma was piped onto the bus at Oban's Station Square by Ryan MacInnes of Oban High School Pipe Band as friends and family gathered to wish her luck.

Emma said: 'I am pleased that everyone is here to see me go. It is very nice and gives me lots of confidence. I am very excited about the competition and I am proud to be representing the West of Scotland.'

Ladies fours team win Scottish title



Pictured above Oban Bowling Club Ladies fours team Peggy MacPherson, Lyn Laverty, Janet Campbell and Anne Campbell who won the West of Scotland championships held at Helensburgh last week.

16_131bowling01

Warrior to coach at Lorne

Rugby

SCOTLAND rugby star Thom Evans will be visiting Oban Lorne Rugby Club on a regular basis, as part of a partnership between Oban Lorne and professional team Glasgow Warriors.

Thom and fellow player Pat McArthur will assist in developing Oban's young players as part of the Active Champion Warriors Club. Oban Lorne Rugby Club chief executive Dave Sturrock said: 'We are one of

only 24 clubs in the Glasgow region to be selected for the scheme.

Season

'These players will make several visits to Oban Lorne over the season to participate in coaching sessions.' The club will also receive four season tickets to all Glasgow Warriors Magners League and Heineken Cup home matches.

Highland club host round seven

Motocross

HIGHLAND motocross club was host to round seven of the north east championship and also round five of its club championship, so numbers were high in every class.

Slight rain through the week kept the dust down and made for some good racing on the track. Benderloch's Jordan Kerr bagged himself three third places giving him a third overall on the day. He also grabbed three holeshots. Brother Jamie was in the adults' section and with a bad start in the first race he managed to get himself a win in the final race, leaving him third overall.

Dad John said: 'Seeing the boys getting good results make all the travelling worth while.'

Five shot win for Chris

Golf

Chris Carson of Innellan romped to a five shot victory in the Area Strokeplay Championship held at Cowal Golf Club on Saturday.

Tied with clubmate Steve Ellis after round one when both had scored 69s, Chris repeated his morning score for a 138 total to win his first senior Argyll and Bute Area title.

In second place was Rothesay's Graham Bolton five shots back with a three over par total of 143.

In the Youths event it was Millport's Paul Robinson who emerged a six shot victor over last year's winner Gordon McClean.

In third place was current Boys' champion Craig Pirie.

Innellan Golf club won the team trophy and will represent Argyll in the Scottish Club Championship in September at Prestwick St. Nicholas.

Results

Islay Golf Club 19th Challenge Trophy
1 Lachlan Gains 41pts; 2 Arthur Holyoake 38pts; 3 Sandy Peters 38pts
Hunter Trophy:
1 Alistair MacMillan 40pts
2 Walter Ramsay 40pts
3 George Campbell 39pts
Lifeboat Spoon
1 Charles Holyoake 80-6=74
2 Gordon MacMillan 77-3=74
3 Alistair Blair 90-13=77

Another whopper caught at Loch Awe

Pictured right is Andrew Finlay who broke the Wild Brown Trout British Record in 1996. Andrew landed another big trout on July 18 at Loch Awe.

At 15lbs the trout confirms the reputation of Loch Awe which has given up several large trout, some weighing more than 20lbs, this season alone, including one by Andrew's brother Willie.

