

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8001

Thursday 29 July, 2010

www.obantimes.co.uk

75 pence



West Highland Yachting Week



My village: Tighnabruaich



Inveraray shock at murder of 'good friend and colleague'

COMMUNITIES in and around Inveraray have been left shocked and stunned by the violent death of a former work colleague and friend.

New life in Nebraska
Tracy Brannan left her home in Front Street, Inveraray, in March this year, for a new life in America.

The 33 year old, a former chef at the Loch Fyne Oyster Bar, was allegedly killed by her stepson, David Brannan, 21, at the home she shared with her American psychologist husband, Dr Harold Brannan, 60.

Police were called to the couple's house in Omaha, Nebraska, in the early hours of Saturday morning. The newlyweds were allegedly attacked in their sleep by David Brannan.

Originally from the Hamilton area, Mrs Brannan fell in love with Inveraray after spending regular family holidays at Argyll Caravan Park.

She began working for Loch Fyne Oysters Ltd in 1995 and stayed until March this year.

A spokeswoman for Loch Fyne Oysters said: 'Tracy was a good friend and colleague and made a major contribution to the success of the oyster bar while she was there.'

'All the staff who knew her are feeling a great sense of loss and shock at what has occurred.'

'Recent news from Tracy had been that she was enjoying her new life and was very happy.'

'Our sympathies go out to her friends and family.'



CID and uniformed police in Oban are being helped by the public in the war against drug dealers. 16_131drug13

Police drug teams raid Oban homes and seize heroin

No place left to hide

Chief Inspector confirms more raids to come as information flows from public

DRUG DEALERS have nowhere to hide in Oban after a significant number of raids on suspected dealers and drug users in the town.

One raid, carried out under a search warrant on Monday morning, turned up a significant amount of the Class A drug heroin.

CID officers joined forces with uniformed police to carry out the search of a property in the town centre, the fourth such raid in a few weeks. Suspicions over what officers would find throughout Oban have been justified, with a large haul of drugs from the raids.

Detective Constable Kirsty Reid, who is part of the operational team managing the major drugs clampdown, said: 'The house of a 41-year old female was searched and a quantity of a Class A drug was found. The woman has been charged with offences under the misuse of drugs act and being concerned in the supply of drugs. A report has been made to the procurator fiscal.'

Chief Inspector Glen Bland confirmed that drug dealers will have nowhere to hide in Oban, Lorn and the Isles.

He said: 'A few weeks ago I reiterated my promise to the community to tackle drug dealing at every opportunity.'

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk



"I warned local drug dealers that we would be at their doors next."
Chief Inspector Glen Bland

I warned local drug dealers that we would be at their doors next. And this has proven to be the case.

'As a result of intelligence gathering on drug dealing activities we have carried out a significant number of raids and have made yet another successful action against a suspected heroin dealer and removed drugs that may have been destined

for the streets of Oban.

'These operations will continue and will escalate. There will be no complacency.'

'These recent operations have disrupted drug dealing activity in Oban and surrounding areas. But I have no doubt that disrupting dealers at this level will impact higher up the chain.'

'We are tackling drug dealing across the Oban area and the wider communities of Argyll and Bute and I would take the opportunity to thank the community for supporting our efforts.'

'The more information we receive, the more of an impact we can have. Please keep the information coming.'

One former drug user, who did not want to be named said: 'There is a real problem with drugs in Oban - there is normally a good supply and people can generally get what they want, when they want it. But this crackdown is starting to worry some of the dealers I used to know.'

'People should pass information to the police to get this stuff off the streets.'

Members of the public can also pass information about drug dealing anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

New Labour Party leader to make first conference speech in Oban

THE NEXT leader of the Labour Party will make his or her first conference speech in Oban.

The news was announced as a spokeswoman for the political party said it would be holding its annual Scottish conference in the town during the last

weekend in October.

The party has booked the Corran Halls and a number of hotels in the town. It is expected that more than 600 people will attend the conference while television cameras and political journalists will descend on the town.

Although not as big as the past Labour Party conference, when the party were in government, it is believed that the conference will bring a much-needed boost to the town at the end of the season.

Rhoda Grant Labour MSP for the Highlands and

Islands, broke the news. She said: 'Party members are really looking forward to coming to Oban as it is one of the best venues for the annual conference.'

Standing for election to the Labour leadership are Diane Abbot, Ed Miliband, David Miliband and Ed Balls.

First Tiree Music Festival heralded as huge success

HUNDREDS of music revellers voted the first Tiree Music Festival a massive success.

Top names
Around 600 locals and visitors of all ages came to the sell-out event, which brought together some of the biggest names from the folk and traditional music scene.

Many would-be visitors were affected by a cancelled flight

on Saturday and confusion over the ferry service. Ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) had allocated the larger MV Isle of Mull to the route to increase capacity.

However, revellers had been expecting an extra sailing.

Three acts such as Skerryvore, Skipinnish, Gunna Sound, Trail West and the Defenders were joined by visiting musicians

Fortunate Sons, Crooked Reel, Torridon and international artist Sandi Thom.

One of the loudest cheers of the night was for Tiree accordion teacher Gordon Connell, who has been integral to developing many of the young musicians on stage. Gordon joined a host of other musicians for the finale on Sunday evening. The All-Star Tiree Ceilidh Band.

Held on the grounds of the community hall, the island festival was hosted by actor and presenter Arthur Donald, who hails from the island.

Councillor Neil Mackay, Argyll and Bute Council's spokesman for arts, music, culture and sport, said: 'The event was an overwhelming success and it was great to see so many families involved.'

Mid Argyll couple in 'freak' motocross bike accident

A MID Argyll couple, hit by a motocross bike at a weekend event near Oban, and airlifted to hospital, have described the accident as being a 'one-in-a-million' occurrence.

Volunteer marshalls
Husband and wife, Lynn and Gavin Gorrie from Ardrishaig, were volunteer marshalls at a motocross track near North Connel last Sunday when the freak accident took place.

Both were hit by a flying motorbike after it left the track and ploughed through the marshalling station.

The injured couple were airlifted from the scene to Lorn and Islands Hospital but

were later discharged with, what was described as, minor injuries.

Battered and bruised
Lynn said: 'We're both a bit battered and bruised but we're fine.'

'It was a freak accident. 'There is a one-in-a-million chance that something like this could happen - it's just part and parcel of being involved in motor sports,' she explained.

The couple's two children, Alasdair and Ashley, are both heavily involved in the local Mid Argyll motocross scene and were competing at the North Lorn event.

A police spokesman confirmed: 'Due to the rough terrain around Achnacree, North Connel, we called on the help of RAF search and rescue helicopter 177 that was in the area on operational duties to take two patients from the scene.'

Lynn added: 'Everyone was fantastic, from the police to the ambulance crews and the event organisers, especially Robert Carmichael and Sandra MacCallum.'

The injured couple, albeit still feeling the affects of their injuries, are currently enjoying a family holiday in Berwick-upon-Tweed.

Injured girl evacuated from Tiree by lifeboat

TOBERMORY lifeboat was called to evacuate an 11-year old girl with a back injury from the Isle of Tiree to Oban on Monday.

The girl was injured after she fell onto concrete. As thick fog prevented the air ambulance from landing, Tobermory lifeboat was called in to evacuate the patient to Oban. A nurse and the girl's grandfather, accompanied her to Oban where she was then transferred to ambulance and taken to Lorn and Islands Hospital. Jock Anderson, RNLI mechanic, said: 'The young girl was a very good patient. She must have been very uncomfortable on the two-hour journey, but she was a real trooper.'

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Jobs opportunities to come with takeover of Western Isles fish farming company

OUTER Hebrides fish farming business West Minch Salmon Limited, based in Benbecula, is being taken over by The Scottish Salmon Company, previously known as Lighthouse Caledonia.

Investment

The deal comes at a time of economic uncertainty for West Minch Salmon, and owner Angus MacMillan, who established the

company in 1985 says: 'This will allow investment opportunities in the Hebrides and increase employment opportunities at all levels of production, processing and management.'

West Minch Salmon will continue to trade under its current name and the products sold will not change. But its 11 sites situated in South Harris, North Uist and Benbecula

will be transferred along with all 65 staff currently employed at West Minch Salmon.

Island-based business

Mr MacMillan added: 'The strategic aim of the company is to conduct as much of the business as possible on the islands and expand the unique niche market profile that has been established over many years.'

Mr MacMillan is to stay on as managing director of West Minch Salmon.

Mike Corbett, chief executive officer of The Scottish Salmon Company said: 'West Minch Salmon has a worldwide reputation for producing excellent quality salmon and this is an important deal for The Scottish Salmon Company as we continue to build the company on high

environmental standards, taste, freshness and the provenance of our stock.'

With over 24,000 tonnes being produced a year, The Scottish Salmon Company is the country's largest independent supplier. It accounts for 20 per cent of all salmon produced north of the border. A record £63 million turnover was reported in 2009 for the business.



Beachd Ailein
Ailean Caimbeul

ABAIR THUSA GUN robh Daibhidh agus Barack còirdte nuair a choinnich iad; bha fìu's an aon dath taidh orra, mar bhuill den aon chlub!

Chan eil iad idir aontaichte a thoibh an dòigh ach feàrr air slighe a stiùireadh tro bhoglaich uabhasaich an ionmhais; Barack airson airgead poblach a chosg a' cumail dhaoine ann an cosnadh gus am fàs malairt, agus an Camshronach leis a' sgìthinn mhòir a' gearradh thall 's a bhos! Tha Obama air a bhith fada gu leòr na dhreuchd a-nise 's gum bheil coire ga chur air airson trioblaid sam bith a nochdas, eadar an eaconamaidh agus sgrìos na h-ola air cladaichean Chamais Mheicsiceo. Chan eil Daibhidh Camshron agus Nick Clegg air a bhith air ceann na co-bhanntachd acasan am Breatann ach airson beagan mhiosan. Tha Barack Obama air fìor leasachadh a thoirt air dòigh-beatha mòr-chuid mhuinntir nan Stàitean-Aonaichte le seirbheis-slàinte a stèidheachadh ann an lagh na dùthcha. A dh'aindeoin dhùbhlhan, agus a dh'aindeoin gach cnap-starra poilitigeach tha Obama a' coileanadh gheallaidhean. Cho fad 's a chì sinnne bhon taobh seo tha e a' gabhail eala cuideachd ri oideachadh bho eachdraidh nan Stàitean a thaobh na h-eaconamaidh agus cor an t-sluaigh. Aig an aon àm tha e doirbh dhuinne innse am bheil an Riaghaltas seo againne a' coileanadh an dleastanais, gun iomradh air geallaidhean!

Ni amadan sam bith sabaid ach 's e duine glic a ni sith! Mar an ceudna tha e mòran nas fhasa rud a chur às a chèile seach rud a thogail, agus chan fhasas bhon Riaghaltas seo fhathast ach gearradh agus sgrìos! Seadh sgrìos! Thug sinn ginealaichean ag obrachadh a dh'ionnsaigh coimhearsnachd as am biodh cosnaidhean, fòghlam, seirbheis-slàinte, agus ceartas; agus tha mòran dhen sin a-nise ga bhagairt fo leisgeul dhuilgheadasan eaconomaigeach ach gun teagamh sam bith air a bhithadh le feallsanachd phoilitigeach na làimhe deise. Cha do gheall iad an còrr gun teagamh, ach an do gheall iad na tha iad a' dèanamh?

Shaoil mi gur e "seinneadairean" a bh' aig luchd-naidheachd nuair a bhruidhinn iad air na "seanadairean" a tha a' straihlich mu Megrachi a leigeil air ais gu Libya; agus b' e piobairean aona-phuirt a bh' annta uile a' fàgail na coire air Alba!

THE ORGANISERS of David Cameron's American visit had cause to be well satisfied; the jokes went well, first names were recalled, and even ties matched!

Obama and Cameron may not agree on how best to manage the recovery from the economic crisis, but they did please the red-neck senators who are looking to condemn the compassionate release of Al Megrachi back to Libya. With his "violent" agreement with Obama on this matter, and given that there couldn't possibly be any party-political opportunism in this, am I the only person who thinks David Cameron may have overlooked his "respect" agenda for Scotland?

Whatever special relationship the UK may have with America, Scotland is surely part of the UK and entitled to the support of the UK Prime Minister.

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

Policing plan consultaion comes to Islay

THE NEW Community Policing Plans for South Kintyre and Kintyre can be viewed at Bowmore Police Station on the Isle of Islay.

The communities for both areas identified that the priorities of Strathclyde Police should continue to be focused towards anti-social behaviour, drug use and drug dealing, assault and violent crime and speeding motorists.

Inspector Tom Harper of Campbeltown Police Office said: 'The concerns of the people residing in our area are important to us, and we will continue to work in partnership with our local communities in order to tackle and resolve identified issues.'

'Sergeant Rae has arranged a series of local consultations on Islay and Jura to ensure that we continue to be informed of the issues causing most concern.'

'I would welcome anyone to come along for an informal chat or to provide information regarding any issues or concerns.'

Officers from Bowmore Police Office will be at various venues on the island over two days next month. August 16: 10am - noon at the Ramsay Hall, Port Ellen; 2pm - 4pm at Bowmore Hall. August 17: 10am - noon at Port Mor, Port Charlotte; 3pm - 5pm at Craighouse Village Hall, Isle of Jura. If you are unable to attend, visit Bowmore Police Office with any concerns.

Sight support group host Oban meeting

VISIBILITY, the charity supporting people affected by sight loss on the west coast, together with Argyll and Bute Council's Sensory Impairment Service are continuing to offer a peer support group for people affected by sight loss living within the Oban area.

There have been three meetings so far this year and they have been well attended. Visually impaired people have been coming together to discuss common issues and to learn about helpful local services.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 18 from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm in the Undercroft of Glencruitten Church Centre.

If you have been affected by sight loss and would like to know more about the group or would like to book a place to come along to the next group meeting, please contact the Sensory Impairment Service on 01369 701066 or Visibility on 0141 332 4632.

Caithness Mòd souvenirs

MÒD Ghallaibh, the Royal National Mòd in Caithness, is selling some unique souvenir items to take from this year's event.

In the run up to the Gaelic festival organisers have launched a number of items, including sticks of rock and Gaelic Christmas cards.

The money made from the sale of all merchandise will go into the fundraising pot for the event.



Machair apprentice Keiren Jones at Balranald where he is organising a Uist bioblitz.

Balranald to host 'Uist bioblitz'

THE BIODIVERSITY of Balranald in North Uist is to be 'blitzed' next month by a party of visiting and local experts.

Members of the public are also urged to come along to the 'Uist bioblitz' organised by Keiren Jones, resident British Countryside Trust

for Volunteers Natural Talent Machair Apprentice.

He said: 'A bioblitz is when you get some experts together, pick a day and an area, and go out and identify everything you can. I've managed to get about 12 people to come over, and another handful already

on Uist have expressed an interest in helping out.'

'The event is very much for the public, so we want as many people to come along as possible to help and join in.'

'There's something for everyone, and we will be tailoring for beginners,

in fact the main aim is to inspire people into paying more attention to what they have on their doorsteps.'

Balranald is the location of North Uist's RSPB reserve and one of the UK's richest sites for birds and flora.

The event takes place on Saturday, August 14.

High winds fail to mar South Uist games

STRONG winds blew over Askernish Machair all day, but no-one was complaining.

Last year, a tornado blew away the tents at the start of South Uist's Highland Gathering, so a stiff breeze, mercifully not accompanied by rain, seemed tame in comparison.

With the usual gate figures of around 1,000 only slightly down, the elements appeared to deter neither spectators nor competitors.

The piping and dancing events were as strong as ever, maintaining the trend of recent years, but once again a lack of competitors was lamented among the heavyweights.

It might be unkind to suggest the lack of

competition was a help to Western Isles MP Angus MacNeil. The Barra crofter came second in throwing the weight over the bar, an event he has been competing in since he was 17, and won at the South Uist games five years ago.

Mr MacNeil hurled the 56lb weight 10ft 5 inches over the bar, not a personal best, but nevertheless not too shabby on his 40th birthday.

He said: 'Weight over the bar is an event that's a bit like politics, it can only end in failure. Of course in my case, while I might fail at weight over the bar I never want to fail in politics.'

Mr MacNeil lost to overall champion, heavyweight Ranald Fraser of Lewis.

For results see page 22.



Western Isles MP Angus Brendan McNeil came second in the throwing the weight over the bar.

Ardbeg raffle raises £1,600 for charities

A TOTAL of £1,600 raised at the Ardbeg Distillery raffle during the Islay Malt and Music Festival has been distributed to island charities.

The distillery gave £450 to Islay District Nurses, who are trying to raise funds for a special chair, and £400 to Islay Pipe Band to go towards capes.

A further £350 was granted to Museum of Islay Life for its Airport Open Day and Islay Gaelic Choir received a bottle of Ardbeg Mor to raise funds.

Port Ellen Primary School Gaelic Choir, Bowmore Primary School Gaelic Choir, Coisir Og Ile and Islay Boys Football Club were all granted £100 each.

Reminder to renew tax credits

PEOPLE in Argyll and Bute are being reminded to renew their tax credit claims before July 31 or their payments will stop.

HM Revenue and Customs is urging people to verify the information sent to them

such as working hours, childcare costs or pay.

Details of the previous year's income must also be provided.

Around 7,900 families claim tax credits in Argyll and Bute.



Gathering chairman Angus MacDonald awards South Uist games champion Ranald Fraser of Lewis.



Children's races proved popular at the games.

Barra man to run for RNLI in brother's memory

Four-part programme reaches Skye Bridge next month

A BARRA man is to run 40 kilometres to raise money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) in memory of his late brother.

John MacNeil will complete the feat in four parts, doing 10k at a time. On August 7 he will tackle the Skye Bridge.

He said: 'Having been brought up on Barra where fishing and a life at

sea played a huge part in Angus's life, the RNLI was the obvious choice to benefit from this challenge, being done in his memory.'

'As a family we have never underestimated the importance of the lifeboats and the selfless commitment the volunteers make to saving lives in our coastal communities, therefore our support is vital to their work.'

'Having been running for fitness over the past couple of years, we were keen to put the training to good use and do something to give my brother a legacy that he never got the chance to do himself.'

'Doing this fundraising in his memory has been hugely satisfying and we know it is something Angus would have been immensely proud of.'



A life spent at sea: the late Angus John MacNeil.

Bottle of famous whisky to be auctioned next month



The SS Politician foundered on a sandbank off Eriskay in 1941 sparking a famous 'salvage' operation by islanders who 'liberated' her cargo of whisky.

A BOTTLE of whisky from the 'Whisky Galore' ship, The SS Politician, is being offered at Bonhams annual Scottish Sale in Edinburgh between August 17 - 20.

The bottle is believed to have been salvaged from the wreck of the 8,000 tonne cargo ship in the 1950s or 1960s and is being sold with photographs of the salvage operation at an estimate of £1,200 - £1,800.

On February 3, 1941, the SS Politician set sail from Liverpool for Kingston, Jamaica and on to New Orleans with a cargo which included pianos, motor parts, bedding and 264,000 bottles of whisky. The whisky was for the American market and therefore no excise duty had been paid.

On February 5, the ship ran aground in a gale near the island of Eriskay. The crew were rescued unharmed; and so, over the next few weeks, was much of the whisky. Islanders, from Eriskay, Barra and as

far north as Lewis, starved of whisky by war time rationing, systematically 'liberated' around 24,000 bottles before the authorities caught up with them. Some islanders were fined; some ended up in jail, but few of the stolen bottles were ever recovered.

In 1947 Scottish author, Compton MacKenzie wrote a novel, Whisky Galore, based on the incident which, two years later, was turned into a successful Ealing Comedy film of the same name.

Whisky from the SS Politician rarely appears at auction. In 1987, eight bottles were retrieved from the wreck by South Uist man Donald MacPhee and sold at auction for £4,000.

The remains of the now famous cargo ship still lie submerged off the coast of Eriskay. Despite extensive salvage efforts in 1989 only a further 24 bottles were recovered.

Australians announce grant to help restore iconic Isle of Mull monument

THE AUSTRALIAN government have given \$10,000 towards the upkeep of a west coast monument. The site of the Lachlan Macquarie Mausoleum, near to Gruline on Mull will be saved from the 'deteriorating condition' it is currently in thanks to

overseas funding. Peter Garrett, Australia's environment protection minister, announced the grant as part of the Commemorating Eminent Australians grants programme. The money will be spent on restoration works for the

founding governor's tomb which was gifted to the people of New South Wales in recognition of the late Muileach's contribution to the foundations of the country. Mr Garrett said: 'Lachlan Macquarie's tomb site includes faded inscriptions

referring to his career as governor and is visited annually by many Australians.' A spokesman for the National Trust in Australia said: 'With Governor Lachlan Macquarie one of the most important men in

Australia's colonial history, we are proud to accept \$10,000 from the Australian Government to restore his tomb on the island of Mull. The National Trust will use the grant to help preserve the tomb for the benefit of future generations. 'It will allow Australians

to continue to visit the site which reflects an important chapter of Australia's history.' He continued: 'Lachlan was born on the Scottish island of Ulva in 1762. He then served as governor of New South Wales between 1810 and

1821, when he was struck down by illness. 'He is known as the Father of Australia, his career focused on improving the morale and physical infrastructure, before becoming one of the most recognisable characters of Colonial Australia.

Oban man given 'last chance' by sheriff

AN OBAN man has been sentenced to 100 hours community service after repeatedly breaking bail conditions. Norman Lindsay, aged 48, of 23E Shuna Terrace appeared at Oban Sheriff Court from custody to admit charges of causing a breach of the peace and breaking bail conditions on December 2 and 3, 2009, May 31 and July 7, 2010.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'Part of the problem is that every time you are released from custody you head straight for the pub.' Sentencing Lindsay he said: 'There is a stark alternative to this 15 month probation and community service order - jail. And if this happens it will be for a substantial period of time. 'This is your last chance.'

Kerrera lights up

OBAN BAY and Kerrera should be lit up with a fireworks display this weekend to celebrate the centenary of Clyde Cruising Club. Organisers are marking the end of celebrations for the first 100 years of the club with a fireworks party from 10.30 pm.

Vehicle checks find drugs and knives

A NUMBER of people have been reported to the procurator fiscal after police conducted a series of vehicle checks last Friday. A 34-year old man has been reported for carrying a quantity of controlled drugs. A 34-year old woman has been reported for being in possession of controlled drugs and a knife in a public place, while a 30-year old man has been reported for being in possession of controlled drugs.

NEWSDESK
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Ferries Review runs into stormy waters

CONNECTIONS to the mainland from nearby islands came under fire at a public meeting held in Oban.

The consultation, held as part of the Scottish Ferries Review in the Corran Halls on Tuesday, saw more than a dozen participants take part in the meeting.

Several people expressed their disgust at the way the ferry services were currently being run.

Stormed out
One audience member even stormed out of the consultation, saying the questions being discussed had already been asked and answered - and that he had 'expected conclusions at the meeting'.

The audience disagreed with the review's initial findings that personal use of ferries was a lower priority than commuting or tourism. It was then that the panel admitted, having based their analysis on these conclusions, there was 'little point' in discussing the rest of their report.

Other concerns raised included communities not being given a say about which companies are granted contracts to run the ferry services in their areas in the future.

In response, the panel, presided over by Judith Ainsley of the Scottish government ferries division said it was 'unlikely' community councils would

REPORT by FAITH ORR
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be consulted at the tendering stage. Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, transportation spokesman for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'Those living on islands are dependent on ferries, we need more investment in this form of transport as well as the infrastructure that comes with it.

'Development of ferries, ports and harbours on the west coast is absolutely essential in order to meet increasing demand and I hope the review will take this into account.'

The review by the Scottish Government aims to support communities who rely on ferry services by improving reliability, journey times and establishing better connections for rural island communities.

Over 2,000 jobs are reliant on ferry operations in Scotland and more than 60 per cent of these are in the Highlands and Islands.

All publicly funded ferry services and commercial services in Scotland will be taken into account.

The public consultation will run until September 30 this year.

Further comments on the state of ferries can be made on the Scottish Ferries Review website at www.scotland.gov.uk.

Clachan Flats wind farm unveiled



The official opening of Clachan Flats Wind Farm, Cairndow. From left - Councillor Robert Macintyre, Susan Deacon, John Swinney MSP and Councillor Bruce Marshall. 06_a31wind01

Community gain annual cash windfall from green power development

A NINE-turbine wind farm nestled in the hills above Cairndow and Loch Fyne was officially unveiled last Thursday.

8,000 households
Clachan Flats is Scottish Power Renewables' (SPR) latest wind farm, producing up to 15MW of electricity - enough to power over 8,500 households.

John Swinney MSP, cabinet secretary for finance and sustainable growth, along with Their Graces The Duke and Duchess of Argyll and Scottish Power Renewables chairwoman Susan Deacon, officially opened the wind farm.

Community cash
The wind farm will now blow in £15,000 to the communities of Inveraray and Cairndow.

As part of SPR's commitment to the communities surrounding Clachan Flats the creation of Clachan Flats Windfarm Trust will ensure a steady cashflow for the 25-year life of the wind farm.

Ernie MacPherson, chair of Cairndow Windfarm Trust, said: 'We receive £8,000 each year.

'The money has already brought benefits to the community as we've been able to help out the local crèche, bowling club, recreation club as well as 'Here We Are - Cairndow'.

'And there are many more benefits to come.'

Susan Deacon said: 'Clachan Flats is an excellent location for a windfarm and it will make a significant contribution to our expanding wind energy operations as well as helping Scotland to achieve its ambitious green energy targets.'

John Swinney MSP, said: 'Wind farms like Clachan Flats provide significant investment and work associated with the construction for the local and national economy. And crucially, as is happening at Clachan, they generate a community benefit fund for projects to improve life in the local community and promote sustainability.'

Argyll and Bute's spokesperson for economy, environment and rural affairs, Councillor Robert Macintyre, attended the event along with Bute and Cowal Area Committee chairman Councillor Bruce Marshall.

Councillor Macintyre said: 'There is absolutely no doubt Argyll and Bute has a significant natural renewable resource, both onshore and offshore, and we want to ensure that we maximise the opportunities for sustainable economic growth for the benefit both of our communities and Scotland as a whole.'

Whales in the west is not unusual say experts

UNUSUALLY high numbers of whales being sighted in and around Mull and Tiree are not any cause for concern, say whale experts.

After a rare humpback whale was sighted between Mull and Tiree and an 'unprecedented number' of more than 100 minke whale sightings, some environmentalists claim there is unusual activity in the waters giving cause for concern.

However a spokeswoman for the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust, based in Tobermory said: 'Humpback whale sightings off the west coast of Scotland are rare but not unheard of. The Irish Whale and Dolphin Group receive many reports of this species and more recently some sightings off the coast of Northern Ireland.

'Humpback whales are widely distributed in all oceans, making extensive migrations normal. In this case tropical wintering grounds in the Atlantic to polar ice zones.'

'When fully grown, humpback whales can measure up to 17 metres and weigh 40,000 kg; the female is normally slightly larger than the male.'

James Fairbairn of Sea Life Surveys in Tobermory said despite not witnessing the humpback whale they have seen an unprecedented number of minke whale. He said: 'We have seen over 100 different minke in the waters around Mull. Each day we are seeing between one and five. The minke whale is a very solitary creature and although the numbers are quite unusual it is nothing to be worried about.



Staff at the Lorn Medical Practice presented nurse Mairi Barbour with a personalised cake at her retirement celebration on Wednesday. 08_e31mairi01

Nurse retires after 30 years service

AN OBAN nurse who has served the Oban and Lorn community for 30 years has retired.

Mairi Barbour, who has worked at the Lorn Medical Centre for the last 18 years, treated her last patient on Wednesday.

Mairi was presented with a

personalised cake, flowers, jewellery and a Jolomo print at a special celebration.

Mairi, who turned 60 this year, said: 'I'm looking forward to a life of retirement but I'm sad to go as well.

'I hope to spend a lot more time with my three

grandchildren and there is a fourth one on the way.'

Mairi, originally from Stornoway, began her nursing career in April 28 1980. She worked as a community nurse and spent 10 years at the Dalintart Hospital before joining the Lorn Medical Centre.

St Conans Kirk needs public support

PUBLIC support for the cash-strapped St Conan's Kirk in Lochawe may be more valuable than financial donations, according to the church's trustees.

The five trustees have again appealed to those interested in supporting the church to join them and bring fresh ideas to the table.

The grade A-listed kirk, which is one of Argyll's most stunning examples of architecture, needs more than £1million for refurbishments and repairs or may have to close. There are funding avenues open to the trustees: In 2002 Historic Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund teamed up to provide grant assistance for repairs to places of worship considered to be of

outstanding architectural or historic interest. However, the applicant needs to demonstrate strong public support.

David Hodge, clerk to the trustees, said a few donations and assistance in-kind had come forward but little in the way of volunteering.

David Fellowes, chairman of Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council, said the issue would be discussed at the next community council meeting in early September. He added: 'The people in Lochawe see St Conan's Kirk as one of the important buildings in the area and are very proud of it. The church would be a tremendous loss to Lochawe and to Argyll if it were to close down.'

The Taynuilt-based

Three Wee Crows Theatre Company is planning six evenings of short plays at the kirk with more than 50 per cent of proceeds going to the kirk restoration fund. Argyll and Bute MSP Jim Mather said: 'I know the church well and have visited it often in hosting visitors to Argyll. I feel the best way forward is to get all interested parties together to see what support can be mustered and co-ordinated.'

The area's MP Alan Reid said: 'I would be happy to write a letter to Historic Scotland supporting any application but if the trustees are going to be successful they need to demonstrate they have community support; it is a competitive process.'

Argyll and Bute councillor to stand as MSP

ARGYLL and Bute councillor Alison Hay has been selected by the Scottish Liberal Democrats to stand as the candidate for the Scottish Parliament in the May election next year.

Mid Argyll
Councillor Hay, who represents the ward of Craignish - Glenaray, was among two contenders shortlisted for the position of prospective Scottish parliamentary candidate, the other contender being Jean Davis from the Western Isles.

Following hustings meetings in Tarbert and Oban, members were balloted by post and Councillor Hay secured 75.7 per cent of the votes cast.

Alison Hay has been a councillor since 1992, and lives in Minard with her husband and son. Alison was leader of the council from 1999 until 2001, and is part of the Liberal Democrat group in the council.

Alison is COSLA's spokesperson for the environment, regeneration and sustainability and represents Scotland's 32 local authorities at COSLA. She is the chairwoman of a European Union working group bringing together representatives from across Europe.

MV Clansman due back in service this weekend

AFTER more than a month out of action, Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) expects to welcome back the MV Clansman this weekend.

A damaged crankshaft on the ferry had put it out of action since the end of June, as specialist parts had to be brought from Germany. During this time, however, CalMac has had to reshuffle its fleet throughout the west coast and its other ferries have been running on a revised timetable.

As The Oban Times went to press, CalMac was still unsure how the return of the MV Clansman would effect the revised timetable.

A CalMac spokesman said: 'Repairs are progressing well and we therefore expect the MV Clansman to return to service some time over the weekend. We are grateful for the patience and understanding of all our customers during this challenging time.'

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Mull Lines



Characters from Balamory were back in the sunshine in Tobermory to remind people to get ready for digital programming in October. 16_131mull1

PC PLUM and Miss Hoolie were in Tobermory with Digit A1 to remind the people of Mull that it will soon be time to make the change to digital.

Analogue TV viewers in Islands and south west Highlands have less than three months to get ready for the digital TV switchover, on 13 October 2010.

With just 12 weeks to go until the first analogue channel is permanently switched off, Balamory returned to Tobermory last week.

Actress Julie Wilson Nimmo who plays Miss Hoolie explained: 'Balamory is no longer shown on analogue, but fans will be able to watch the programme on digital. So with only three months to go, now is the time to get ready.'

Mull's Torosay transmitter will start to switch off the analogue signal in the early hours of October 13.



ARRANGEMENTS for this year's Mull Rally are forging ahead with high profile sponsor Tunnocks continuing their support of the world-class event to be held from October 8, 9, 10 on Mull

Regulations for entrants are now online. The group have limited the number of entrants to a maximum 150, plus a number of reserves. The applications will open in early August and will be on a first come, first served basis.

Mary-Jean Devon, who is a member of the steering committee, said: 'After discussion with competitors, it had been agreed that entries would cost £550 and include video and DVD; compared with other events, for the stage mileage involved, this represented good value for money.'

'It was intended that there would be a large screen, provided by Eddie O'Donnell, in Ledaig car park and it was hoped that footage of the rally will be available throughout some of the event.'

'We have also decided to move the prize-giving to Sunday afternoon as this will make it more of a family occasion and a real community occasion.'



ISLANDERS on Mull are being asked to have a look in their attics to find a piece of missing history.

As plans for the MacLean 2012 Gathering get underway, organisers would like to have a copy of a cine film that was taken at the first gathering in 1912.

Chieftain the Very Rev Allan MacLean of Dungaroch said: 'It would be really good to have the recording of that early event. We know that a cine film was taken but it would be good if someone could get a copy of it to us.'

Please contact Louise Lee at the Oban Times on 01631 568000 or llee@obantimes.co.uk if you are aware of the whereabouts of that early copy of the cine film.



FAITHFUL whisky drinkers from Mull are being asked to help with a new local venture.

The launch of Isle of Mull whisky, a smooth blend from Gordon and MacPhail in Elgin, has been many years in the making.

Business partners Calum Maclean and Neil Morrison, both born and bred in Tobermory, said: 'We have been tasting whisky for a long time and this blend is one of the best we have enjoyed. It has been a hard job but someone had to do it. Mull deserves a whisky with its name on the bottle that is available in this country.'

'This blend is perfect for the island - sweet and smoky with a hint of shortbread.'

'We hope that as many people as possible will be able to make it along to the launch of the whisky at Macgachans on Friday, July 30, from 7.30 pm.'

'Our special guests Skerryvore will be helping us celebrate this momentous event.'

For further details contact Neil on 07765244396.



MULL Environmentally Sensitive Solutions (MESS) is pleased to announce that, through profits from the Island Castaway charity shops in Craignure and Bunnassan, a total of £6,000 has been awarded to community groups on Mull and Iona.

Over the past five years MESS, coordinated by the Community Trust, has shared tens of thousands of pounds amongst the community as well as diverting hundreds of tons of waste from the local landfill site.

Beneficiaries of the funds include the Mull Guides, Mull Young Musicians, Mull & Morvern Agricultural Society, Mull Beekeepers, Salen SWRI, Iona Housing Association, Mendelssohn on Mull Trust, Cats Protection, Mull Theatre, Glen Iosal, Tobermory High, Mull Car Club, Mull Cycle Club and various island-wide playgroups.

Hazel Cowe, manager of the Island Castaway Shop said: 'We are delighted to offer grants to local community groups, made possible through our sales at the shops in Craignure and Bunnassan. By spending money in the shop and donating items, locals and tourists alike are generating money to be distributed within the local community.'

'We fully appreciate the community support, especially the work of the volunteers who help out at the shops.'

As well as generating funds for the community, MESS has managed to divert over 230 tons of waste from the landfill site outside Tobermory. For more information about how you can get involved and help better manage your waste please visit the group's website at www.mict.co.uk.



YOU CAN SEND ALL YOUR LATEST MULL NEWS TO llee@obantimes.co.uk

Mull Highland Games turn up the heat as a 45-year record falls

RECORD breaking competitors and the hottest day of the year so far made Mull Highland Games one of the best yet.

Sweltering in temperatures of 27° degrees, one young man from Paisley finally managed to break the longest standing record of the games, the hop, skip and jump.

The record held by the late Kenny MacIntyre since 1965 was broken by David Watson, aged 22, of Kilbarhan Athletic Club by a single inch.

David said it was down to the perfect conditions on the day that helped him beat the 45 year old record.

David was presented with his trophy that was given in memory of Kenny MacIntyre by chieftain, Sir Lachlan MacLean of Duart and Morven. Sir Lachlan congratulated David and asked him if he had any MacLean connections.

Winner of the high jump was Antony Daffurn, aged 23, but he was unable to beat the long-standing record.

The crowd let out a sigh of disappointment as the Coatbridge man made three

SPECIAL MULL HIGHLAND GAMES REPORT

by LOUISE LEE FAITH ORR
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World class piper Angus MacColl - was outstanding in his performance

attempts at bettering the record but in the end had to settle for 5'11".

The warm weather was the first good day of the school holidays and as such the crowds were swollen to double that of the previous year.

The judges of piping said that the competition was of a high calibre and they were very impressed by the standard of young pipers who were coming through

the ranks.

They particularly commented on the playing of 'world class piper' Angus MacColl who was 'outstanding in his performance.'

Little Iona McKay from Torosay, near Craignure was the only Highland Dancer from Mull in the competition. Her mum and little sister Isla were delighted when she took first place in Dancing and Beginners competitions.

Mull and Iona Pipe Band were swollen in number this year by the addition of two young men who attend Oban High School.

Gordon MacLean, of Tobermory, said: 'The boys are very good and make all the difference to the band.'

'I wish there were more people who were coming through who would like to join the band.'

Islanders held a ceilidh in the evening with Alan Gardner providing the music in Aros Hall while those who travelled home on the 7pm Craignure sailing were treated to a number of hearty tunes by young Inveraray pipers.

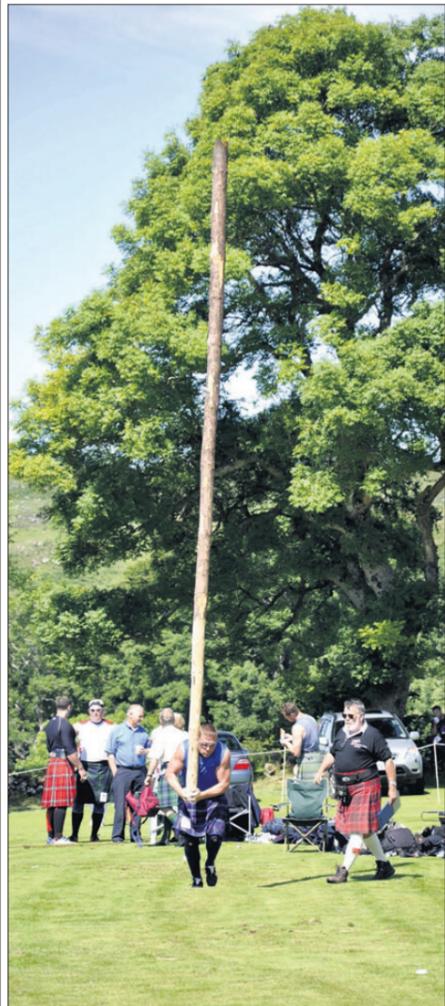


Video of this available online OBANTIMES.CO.UK

Above - Winner of the Hop, Skip and Jump competition, David Wilson from Paisley. He broke a record held by Kenny MacIntyre since 1965 and was presented with his trophy by Sir Lachlan MacLean of Duart. 16_131mull11



Left - Mull and Iona Pipe Band were in great demand at the games and the crowd showed their appreciation by giving them a loud cheer as they came onto the field. 16_131mull10



Neil Elliot from Helensburgh makes a good attempt at caber tossing at Mull Highland Games 16_131mull16



Iona McKay from Torosay, Mull was the only representative from the island in the dancing competitions. Iona, aged five, is taught by Cheryl Peters from Craignure. 16_131mull11



Ross Croll, who competed in the adult Highland dance competitions, rode the rodeo 16_131mull12



Heavyweight competitor Gregor Evans flexes his muscle 16_131mull18



Foreigners women's race. Eight countries were represented on the day - the Netherlands winning by a nose. 16_131mull8



Competition was hotter than ever for under 13 boys

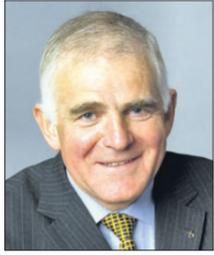


Bottom right - A group of Scouts from Thum, Belgium were good supporters of the games. 16_131mull9



Adult winners in the sword dance. 16_131mull15

Argyll and Bute's politicians clash over VAT increase



Argyll and Bute MSP Jim Mather
'An increase in VAT at this time will hit our rural communities hardest.'

ARGYLL and Bute SNP MSP Jim Mather, has strongly criticised the decision at Westminster to raise Value Added Tax (VAT) from the present level of 17.5 per cent to 20 per cent after the Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition voted for the increase while the Labour Party abstained on an SNP amendment designed to offer relief to households and businesses.

However, Liberal Democrat MP for Argyll and Bute, Alan Reid disagrees and has countered the MSP's

criticism by claiming that any alternative could have been even worse.

MSP Jim Mather said: 'An increase in VAT at this time will hit our rural communities hardest. 'VAT increases on spiralling fuel costs will inevitably have a knock on effect on the cost of all goods and services that rely upon transport to reach the Highlands and Islands. At a time when incomes are under restraint the price of food and other essential commodities is bound to

increase. That same VAT increase will put additional pressure on public services - the NHS in Scotland faces an increase of £26 million in its VAT bill.

'Those in rural Scotland who supported the Liberal Democrats can hardly have anticipated that their own MPs would be enthusiastically supporting Tory policies that will discriminate so severely against what was their heartland.

'I find Alan Reid's support of this policy to be reckless

and ill judged.'

Alan Reid Argyll and Bute MP fought back: 'The country is facing painful spending cuts to pay off the mountain of debt.

'Since Jim Mather is against tax rises, he must be in favour of even more drastic cuts in spending than are currently being proposed.

'If he wants to be honest with his constituents he must tell us what schools and hospitals he would close in order to avoid this tax increase.'



Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid
'... he (Mather) must be in favour of even more drastic cuts in spending.'

Oban police crackdown on anti-social behaviour

POLICE in Oban, Lorn and the Isles are taking a tough stand to tackle anti-social behaviour through regular patrols of problem areas.

A Strathclyde Police anti-violence campaign will target problems ranging from noisy neighbours and street drinking to vandalism and damage to cars and homes.

Oban Police Inspector Julie McLeish said: 'Anti-social behaviour causes alarm and annoyance to many people in our communities. This is unacceptable and while we are making real progress in tackling the issue we can do more if we have your help.

'We're strengthening our efforts with a dedicated campaign to encourage people to claim back their communities from the troublemakers, creating safer and better places for us all to live. It's vital that the public tells us where and when anti-social behaviour is happening so that we can proactively target offenders.'

In Oban, Inspector McLeish said her officers will patrol areas around Gillies Rock, the Hydropathic and Soroba footbridge.

'There are hotspot areas where youths are drinking and causing annoyance to their local communities, although local residents are often not reporting this to the police so we may be missing opportunities to detect the persons involved. If you have information about anti social behaviour in your area - let us know.'

Community policing teams can be contacted via the community policing website or by telephone on 01631 510 500.'



Archbishop Conti, who opened the exhibition, with the event organisers and volunteers from Mary's Meals.

Artists add their backing to Mary's Meals campaign

ARTISTS from across Scotland have got behind Mary's Meals in a bid to raise cash for hungry children in some of the world's poorest countries.

Scottish artists raised £7,300 through the sale of their paintings at a recent exhibition in Glasgow.

A total of 140 paintings were donated to the

exhibition, which was organised by a number of gallery owners on behalf of the Dalmally charity.

The exhibition was held in the Macgregor Fine Art gallery in West George Street, Glasgow, and ran for a week.

The money raised will help Mary's Meals to build a school kitchen shelter at

Chilingani One School in Khombwe, Malawi.

Event Organiser, Netta Ewing, said: 'The exhibition shows how much people appreciate and support the work being done by Mary's Meals. The fact that we made this money during a credit crunch, is a miracle.'

Mary's Meals, based at Craig Lodge in Dalmally,

started in 2002 to provide education for children as an escape route from poverty.

Daily meals are provided for 413,000 children in 15 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe, and more than 12,000 children are currently being fed daily in Haiti, which was devastated by an earthquake earlier this

year.

A spokesperson for Mary's Meals said: 'Our vision is that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things and so help create a civilisation of love and peace and that every child receives a daily meal in their place of education.'

Housing association spends almost £2m in Argyll and Bute

NEARLY £2million has been spent by Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) over the past year to improve roads, footpaths, playparks and water supplies throughout the area.

Improvements

The association, which is responsible for the housing stock previously owned by

Argyll and Bute Council, has invested just over £1,809,000 in infrastructure improvements.

This has involved re-tarring and improving roads and footpaths in housing estates in Oban and Lorn and Helensburgh and Lomond to the value of £940,000.

The association has also

demolished 358 garages, which were at the end of their useful life, at a cost of £539,000 to provide more car parking space and potential housing areas.

At the time of the housing stock transfer in November 2006, 41 play parks, in a very poor condition were transferred to the

association but 15 of those have been upgraded to the value of £253,000 in Oban, Dalmally, Ardbeg, Innellan, Cardross, Drumlembie, Lochgilphead and Tarbert.

Modernisation of water supplies is taking place at Achahoish, Glendaruel and on Tiree to the value of £76,000.



ACHA chief executive Alistair MacGregor

Taynuilt Highland Games

Results

Heavy events
Open
Light hammer: 1 B Aitken, 2 S King, 3 B Robb. Shot: 1 B Robb, 2 N Elliott, 3 B Aitken.
28lb Weight for Distance: 1 B Robb, 2 S Aitken, 3 N Elliott.
Caber: 1 N Elliott, 2 S King, 3 B Robb. Nant Stone: 1 B Robb, 2 B Aitken, 3 S King. Heavy Hammer: 1 B Aitken, 2 S King, 3 B Robb. 56lb Weight over the bar: 1 S King, 2 B Aitken and B Robb - 2nd Equal.
Open Heavy Champion - Winner: B Robb; Runner-up: B Aitken
Heavy events
Local
Light hammer: 1 Andrew Servant, 2 Nick Charlton, 3 David McLaughlin. 16lb Shot: 1 David McLaughlin, 2 Andrew Servant, 3 Nick Charlton. 28lb Weight for distance: 1 Andrew Servant, 2 David McLaughlin, 3 Nick Charlton. Caber: 1 David McLaughlin, 2 Andrew Servant, 3 Nick Charlton.
Local Heavy Champion - Winner: Andrew Servant; Runner-up: David McLaughlin.
Piping events
Open March: 1 Euan Dewar, 2 Jamie Forrester, 3 Callum Beaumont. Open Strathspey and Reel: 1 Jamie Forrester, 2 Euan Dewar, 3 Callum Beaumont. Piobaireachd: 1 Jamie Forrester, 2 Euan Dewar, 3 Callum Beaumont.
Best open piper - Jamie Forrester.
Jig: 1 Euan Dewar, 2 Callum Beaumont, 3 Jamie Forrester. Local March: 1 Euan Dewar, 2 Charles Ferguson, 3 Callum MacLean. Local Strathspey and Reel: 1 Euan Dewar, 2 Charles Ferguson.

Best Local Piper - Euan Dewar.
Junior Open March: 1 Angus McColl, 2 Donald McDougall, 3 Kyle Orr. Junior Open Strathspey and Reel: 1 Angus McColl, 2 Donald McDougall, 3 Kyle Orr. Junior Local March: 1 Angus McColl, 2 Donald McDougall, 3 Kyle Orr. Junior Local Strathspey and Reel: 1 Angus McColl, 2 Donald McDougall, 3 Kyle Orr.
Best overall junior, open and local - Angus McColl.
Field events
Gents 100 Metres: 1 Dave McLaughlin, 2 Stuart Tomison, 3 Magnus Bradbury. Ladies 100 Metres: 1 Everest Marshall, 2 Fiona Rowan, 3 Dee Bradbury. Gents ½ Mile: 1 Craig Tomison, 2 Adam Davies, 3 Max Rogge. Ladies ½ Mile: 1 Everest Marshall, 2 Claire Treasurer. Gents 220 Metres: 1 Dave McLaughlin, 2 Stuart Tomison, 3 Magnus Bradbury. Ladies 220 Metres: 1 Leonar Gaillard, 2 Everest Marshall, 3 Roanne Lilley. Gents ¼ Mile: 1 Craig Tomison, 2 David McLaughlin, 3 Stuart Tomison. Ladies ¼ Mile: 1 Leonar Gaillard, 2 Everest Marshall, 3 Lucie Damiante. Mile (ladies and gents): 1 John Bell, 2 Craig Tomison, 3 Dave McLaughlin. Best Open Athlete - Everest Marshall. Joint Best Local Athletes - Everest Marshall and Dave McLaughlin. Best Junior Athlete - Roanne Lilley.
Highland Dancing
Primary 5 years and under: 16 Pas-de-Basque: 1 Chloe Brown, 2 Cara Heggarty, 3 Isla Dunlop; Pas-de-Basque and High Cuts: 1 Chloe Brown, 2 Isla Dunlop. Primary 6 years: 16 Pas-de-Basque: 1 Pdraig Cowan, 2 Eilish MacNeil, 3 Isla M Crawford; Pas-de-Basque and High Cuts: 1 Pdraig Cowan, 2 Eilish MacNeil, 3 Iona Bradshaw; Fling: 1 Eilish MacNeil, 2 Iona Bradshaw; Swords: 1 Pdraig Cowan, 2 Eilish MacNeil, 3 Iona Bradshaw.

Beginners: 9 years and under: Fling: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Mollie Anderson, 3 Chloe Robertson; Swords: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Mollie Anderson, 3 Chloe Robertson; Sean Truibhas: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Mollie Anderson, 3 Chloe Robertson; Hullahachan: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Mollie Anderson, 3 Chloe Robertson; Lilt: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Mollie Anderson, 3 Clara Cleland-Leighton; 10 years and over: Fling: 1 Alison Shaw, 2 Bronwen Davies; Swords: 1 Ciara Palmer, 2 Alison Shaw; Sean Truibhas: 1 Alison Shaw, 2 Ciara Palmer; Hullahachan: 1 Ciara Palmer, 2 Alison Shaw; Lilt: 1 Ciara Palmer. Novice: 10 years and under: Fling: 1 Eilidh Anderson, 2 Molly MacPherson, 3 Libby MacLean; Swords: 1 Libby MacLean, 2 Emily Guy, 3 Eilidh Anderson; Sean Truibhas: 1 Eilidh Anderson, 2 Libby MacLean, 3 Chloe Bradshaw; Hullahachan: 1 Libby MacLean, 2 Katie MacPherson, 3 Molly MacPherson; Flora: 1 Libby MacLean, 2 Katie MacPherson, 3 Chloe Bradshaw; Lilt: 1 Libby MacLean, 2 Eilidh Fisher, 3 John Cowan; 11 years and over: Fling: 1 Karina Black, 2 Catherine Anderson, 3 Eliza Schow; Swords: 1 Becky Dott, 2 Catherine Anderson, 3 Eilidh MacNeil; Sean Truibhas: 1 Eilidh MacNeil, 2 Eliza Schow, 3 Becky Dott; Hullahachan: 1 Becky Dott, 2 Catherine Anderson, 3 Karina Black; Flora: 1 Catherine Anderson, 2 Becky Dott, 3 Eilidh MacNeil; Lilt: 1 Becky Dott, 2 Catherine Anderson, 3 Eliza Schow.
Intermediate: 11 years and under: Fling: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Riona Clifford, 3 Lyndsey Fletcher; Swords: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Riona Clifford, 3 Lyndsey Fletcher; Sean Truibhas: 1 Elizabeth Stirling; Sean Truibhas:

has: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Riona Clifford, 3 Lyndsey Fletcher; Hullahachan: 1 Riona Clifford, 2 Fiona Armstrong, 3 Elizabeth Stirling; Hornpipe: 1 Riona Clifford, 2 Fiona Armstrong, 3 Lyndsey Fletcher; Jig: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Riona Clifford, 3 Elizabeth Stirling.
Amanda MacLean, Barcaldine performing in the Highland dance competitions. 07_1304y12

Intermediate: 12 years and over: Fling: 1 Lauren Duncan, 2 Leigh Miller, 3 Ruth C Sweeney; Swords: 1 Lauren Duncan, 2 Eilidh Stout, 3 Samantha Stirling; Sean Truibhas: 1 Lauren Duncan, 2 Ruth C Sweeney, 3 Leigh Miller; Hullahachan: 1 Eilidh Stout, 2 Lauren Duncan, 3 Leigh Miller; Hornpipe: 1 Lauren Duncan, 2 Ruth C Sweeney, 3 Eilidh Stout; Jig: 1 Lauren Duncan, 2 Eilidh Stout, 3 Ruth C Sweeney. 12 years and under: Fling: 1 Abbie S MacKenzie, 2 Kira Ewing, 3 Katie E Lambert;

Swords: 1 Kira Ewing, 2 Katie E Lambert, 3 Kirsty McGillivray; Sean Truibhas: 1 Mairi Lawson, 2 Katie E Lambert, 3 Rebecca Warnock; Hullahachan: 1 Kirsty McGillivray, 2 Kira Ewing, 3 Katie E Lambert; Hornpipe: 1 Rebecca Warnock, 2 Mairi Lawson, 3 Katie E Lambert; Jig: 1 Kira Ewing, 2 Katie E Lambert, 3 Iona McKeown; Premier 15 years and under: Fling: 1 Kirsty Barrett, 2 Gina McMurphy, 3 Kirsty Lawson; Swords: 1 Kirsty Barrett, 2 Kirsty Lawson, 3 Chelsea Higgins; Sean Truibhas: 1 Kirsty Lawson, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Courtney Cowden; Hullahachan: 1 Kirsty Lawson, 2 Rebecca Olej, 3 Fiona Forbes; Hornpipe: 1 Gina McMurphy, 2 Courtney Cowden, 3 Kirsty Lawson; Jig: 1 Kirsty Lawson, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Gina McMurphy. 16 years and over: Fling: 1 David Inverarity, 2 Alannah Higgins, 3 Stephanie Reid; Swords: 1 David Inverarity, 2 Natalie Rosie, 3 Alannah Higgins; Sean Truibhas: 1 Alannah Higgins, 2 Zoe Johnson, 3 Anna Cleland-Leighton; Hullahachan: 1 David Inverarity, 2 Alannah Higgins, 3 Natalie Rosie; Hornpipe: 1 David Inverarity, 2 Natalie Rosie, 3 Alannah Higgins; Jig: 1 Natalie Rosie, 2 Alannah Higgins, 3 Zoe Johnson.
Trophy winners
Taynuilt Games Challenge Trophy: Lisa McGillivray, Dunoon. Dhuinish Challenge Cup: Alison Shaw, Port Bannatyne. Taynuilt Games Shield: Libby MacLean, Dunoon. The Etive Quach: Becky Dott, Campbelltown. The Taynuilt Hotel Quach: Fiona Armstrong, Falkirk. The Brander Lodge Quach: Lauren Duncan, Leven, Fife. Dugald MacCallum Memorial Trophy: Kira Ewing, East Kilbride. Piper Alex Martin Shield: Kirsty Lawson, Bannockburn. Anne McIlroy Dancing School: David Inverarity, Edinburgh.

Lorn Lines

A PACKED village hall on July 22 enjoyed another of the Taynuilt summer ceilidhs.

Those taking part were piper Euan MacCrimmon, Toni Russell dancers Kirsty and Rachel Campbell, singers Christine Johnstone, Josie Campbell, Jane MacKay and Brian Owen and an Inveraray band comprising Jake MacKay, Jeanette Gibson and Agnes Liddell.

Fear an Taighe was Peter Henderson.

At the previous week's ceilidh on Thursday July 15, those taking part were piper Emma Law, Toni Russell dancers Catherine MacFarlane and Lisa Parkinson, accordionist Craig McFadyen, singers Audrey and Davy Paterson and musical duo Rosie Stevenson and Peter Sinclair. Fear an Taighe for the night was Robin Banks.

The summer ceilidhs, held every Thursday at 8pm in Taynuilt Village Hall, have so far been well attended and have attracted visitors from as far afield as the USA, Australia and several European countries.

OBAN's Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) lifeboat was launched on Tuesday evening to the aid of the 30' workboat JIE II adrift with engine failure and two persons aboard off Ardencape, south-west of Easdale.

The lifeboat took the vessel in tow shortly after 10 pm and brought her to Oban Marina at Kerrera after an hour's journey.

GEORGE Bery was just an hour away from completing his Ben Cruachan challenge on Sunday when he had to turn around.

George and the team from Energie Fitness decided to descend before reaching the top as darkness was setting in.

Robin Morton of Energie Fitness said: 'George was more than capable of reaching the top, it was a shame that we run out of time.

George's radio show on Sunday morning meant we couldn't get started until the later.'

On his climb George was wearing a t-shirt that he hadn't been able to get into for years.

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Six caught drink driving in Argyll

SIX PEOPLE were detected during a police drink driving campaign in Argyll, including one drunk driver who crashed through a garden fence.

Campaign

The Strathclyde Police campaign to target drivers under the influence of drink or drugs ran between July 5 and 19 and of the six people caught, five were male.

In one lunchtime incident a car crashed through a garden fence and ended up on the front lawn. Police said the driver and residents of the house were lucky to escape without injury.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles Inspector Julie McLeish said: 'These figures show that despite the education and enforcement that takes place to target drink driving offences, some people still behave irresponsibly and endanger the lives of themselves and others and I would encourage people to think carefully before they get behind the wheel of a car.'

Burnside Joiners & Builders

c/o M.R.C - Barcaldine near Oban - Argyll

Tel/Fax: 01631 720700

Mob: 077191 58777

www.burnside-builders.co.uk mmckay796@btinternet.com

"You only get what you pay for" is a fond saying of joiner Willie Kerr of Burnside Joiners and Builders. And you certainly get something special when you pay for one of Willie's cabin sheds. From start to finish, the range of stunning sheds are made by experienced craftsmen and are of such good quality they last through even the severest stormy weather. The timber is imported from Canada and is built to last because it is so well treated. The plated roof trusses are made up in Willie's workshop where they are all glued, and customers have the choice of either a pitch or sloped roof.

Burnside Joiners and Builders also construct chalets in a similar way to their sheds, with the inside insulated with log lap or gyproc finish and comprise of two bedrooms, toilet, shower and an open plan kitchen and lounge area or can be built to clients requirements, and we guarantee to be wind and watertight. Along with cabin sheds and chalets they make garages and outdoor children's playhouses as well as providing all kinds of joinery and building work.

Models of the beautiful cabin sheds can be viewed at the MRC shed in Barcaldine at the Burnside Joiners and Builders Workshop.

For more information visit www.burnside-builders.co.uk

LISMORE

Your correspondent is Pauline Dowling: 01631 760293

Choir visits

THE THRILLING music created by the choir of St Andrew's and St George's West from Edinburgh (the Rev Roderick Campbell's previous parish) rang around the Parish Church of St Moluag on Saturday evening when they performed a wide range of secular and sacred music from the 16th to the 21st century.

Though small, the choir makes a bright and focussed sound, with a huge dynamic range and wide variety of styles from Pergolesi to Gershwin via the Teddy Bears' Picnic. Their Director of Music, Brigitte Harris, has created a fresh professional sound though the majority of singers are amateurs. She was ably assisted by Colin Tipler at the organ and by student Katherine Wade, an organ scholar. Soprano Emily Walker, also a music student, sang the only solo, the 'Quae moerebat et dolebat' from Pergolesi's Stabat Mater, her tone rich and bright. Music of this standard is a rarity anywhere, so it was greatly appreciated by people from both Appin and Lismore.

The following morning there was a chance to hear the choir again as they led the service with a brilliant Introit and closed it with a sustained and moving 'Amen'.

We wish them well in their many endeavours which include leading the Sunday service at St Andrew's and St George's West, singing on both Radio Scotland and Radio Four and touring, this year they hope, to the United States. A collection raised £341.70 half of which will go to the choir and half to church funds.

A gift from South Dakota

THE CHILDREN of Lismore have been given two beautifully illustrated Lakota storybooks based on traditional native American Lakota legends and art.

They come from Jemma MacKiegan, the daughter of Margaret MacKiegan and Don Moccasin, a native of the Lakota tribe in South Dakota. Margaret had been a regular visitor to Lismore before she married Don and, in 1996, they visited together giving a memorable demonstration of native American dancing as Lakota customs and traditions.

Sadly, Don died last year just at the time of the Homecoming and Jemma has given the books in his memory.

Community bus AGM

This was not well attended by user groups or islanders in general and as the time is coming when the bus will need replacing or scrapping it is in the interest of all to consider what its future is to be. The committee are doing a demanding job running the bus and would love to hear from anyone interested in joining them.

Reducing our carbon footprint

Julie Fairbrass from the GRAB Trust (Group for recycling in Argyll and Bute) was invited as part of the recently set up Lismore Energy Project to hold a composting workshop in the hall.

As GRAB's project manager, Julie was well placed to convince those present that composting could single-handedly reduce Lismore's carbon footprint by substantially reducing the amount of rubbish leaving the island.

Argyll and Bute are running out of landfill sites, she told us, and huge amounts of wasted food along with mountains of packaging, are being sent to landfill quite

unnecessarily. Both cooked and uncooked food and paper and packaging waste can be composted whether or not the compost is ever used for gardening. Anything that has come from the earth can, by and large, be returned to it with very little effort.

The potential savings from composting are vast and, as removing rubbish from Lismore is hugely expensive, everyone could make a very significant contribution to reducing Lismore's carbon footprint. Julie provided us with information on the type of bins to use and where they can be bought at greatly reduced price. Some time in the nineties islanders were provided with green cones, which are particularly good for all food waste cooked and raw, and later the "dalek" type black bins have been on offer.

However there is still a great deal to do to reduce the island's waste production, but it is a very achievable goal. For further information about the Lismore Energy Project see www.isleoflismore.com

Strawberry and pink champagne

Beth Campbell held a strawberry and pink champagne day in the isle of Lismore café recently raising £206 for Pancreatic Cancer research. She has also been running takeaway Tuesday nights with a fish and chips, Indian, Chinese and Italian nights on offer. All houses have received details and relevant menus.

The difficult decision to postpone the sports and raft race had to be taken with the rain being so relentless and the forecast against it.

However normal service will resume on Saturday, July 31.

Entry is free, there's an all day BBQ with burgers, hot dogs and vegetarian options, soft drinks Tea/coffee, and the raft race starts at 12 in Sailean Bay.

Rev Roderick and Sue Campbell are judging the rafts, so fairness guaranteed.

A full afternoon of track and field events will follow for all age groups with cash prizes as well as trophy and challenge cups to be won.

Rev Roderick Campbell will referee the Tug of War between the North and South ends of the island and present the prizes.

Murray's ceilidh trail

Congratulations to Murray Willis, one of Lismore's young musicians, on being selected to join the Argyll & Islands Ceilidh Trail - Ceol mun cuairt.

This is the first year this project has been run and Murray will be touring for two weeks with six other musicians.

For details about where to catch them see www.isleoflismore.com from where you can navigate to their facebook page.

ISLAY

Your correspondent is Susan Campbell: 01496 850215

Islay Show

EVERYONE with an interest in farming and the countryside will be heading for this year's Islay Show on Thursday, August 12 at the Show Field, Bridgend, organised by the Islay, Jura and Colonsay Agricultural Association show committee.

Show day involves nearly everybody in the island either as exhibitors, stallholders or spectators.

Girlguiding Centenary Exhibition

THE GIRL Guide Movement was founded in 1910, and to mark the occasion of the Centenary of Girlguiding here on Islay, it is planned to mount an exhibition to celebrate the history of Guiding on Islay.



The Russian TV crew and interactive guides outside Inveraray Jail: Camera man Alexey Lebedev, prisoner Rob Irons, presenter Mikhail Kozhukhov and prison matron Hanna Nixon.

Russian TV focusses on Inveraray

INVERARAY Jail is set to appear on a major Russian television channel, after VisitScotland arranged for a film crew to visit the Royal Burgh.

Travel programme

The jail will be the focus of an episode in a new travel guide series on Russia's TV 3. Inveraray: Desire for Travelling, is to be broadcast in September.

TV3, which reaches 60 million viewers in Russia, regularly features programmes devoted to myths, legends and traditions from places all over the

world. Show presenter Mikhail Kozhukhov, dressed up as a prisoner during the filming last Thursday and learned about the prison's history from the interactive jail guides.

Kozhukhov, one of the most famous journalists in Russia, is the author of many travel shows including In Search of Adventures and Round the World.

Gavin Dick, prison governor at Inveraray Jail said: 'We were delighted to play host to TV3 and Mikhail Kozhukhov. The crew were good fun, very enthusiastic

and interested in our history. The show will be a fantastic opportunity to spread the historic story of Inveraray Jail to such a wide audience overseas. Our thanks go to VisitScotland for the opportunity.'

Research carried out by VisitScotland has found that Russia is a major market for luxury tourism products and the country's growing middle class are increasingly travelling abroad. The organisation claim Russia is now ranked as the world's ninth largest market in terms of expenditure on

international travel.

Denise Hill, head of international marketing at VisitScotland, said: 'As well as working hard to attract visitors from established markets, we are developing links with emerging markets like Russia. Working closely with their media - including major broadcast companies - is a key way of raising awareness of Scotland and ensure its attractions are forefront in their mind.'

Inveraray jail was also the focus of the British TV programme Most Hunted last year.

The exhibition will be held in the Baptist Church in Bowmore from September 6 - 11.

The guides are looking for material to display, memorabilia from anyone who has been involved in Guiding as a Rainbow, Brownie, Guide, Ranger, Young Leader, Adult Leader or Supporter.

Photographs, badges, books, uniforms or other items connected with Guiding will be most welcome. All items lent will be carefully looked after and returned after the event.

During the exhibition open days, teas and coffees will be available and contributions of baking as well as offers of help throughout the week would be appreciated. Please contact Marian Senior (01496 810 476).

Also, if anyone knows the whereabouts of the Guide World Flag, please let Marian know. It is a blue flag with the Guide badge in the middle. The pole has a metal Guide badge on it and it should be stored in a dark blue bag.

Fèis Òigridh Ile is Dhiùra

WEEKLY classes in traditional music could start in the new term if funding is secured by Fèis Òigridh Ile is

Dhiùra, the Gaelic teaching festival for children. This could be a hugely exciting opportunity for young pupils, and could also have an enormously positive effect on the cultural life of all in Islay and Jura.

Fèis Òigridh needs to demonstrate an interest in and demand for traditional music teaching, or the opportunity to access funding could be lost.

All levels of fiddle, clarsach and Gaelic singing classes will be on offer, and clarsachs will be made available for hire in Islay. If children wish to take part, please ensure Lorraine Ferguson at Ionad Chalum Chille Ile has their name on her list: Tel: 01496 810818; or e-mail sm001f@groupwise.uhi.ac.uk.

SCALPAY

Your correspondent is Donald Morrison: 01859 540217

Shops

TESCO and the Co-operative are the main markets supplying groceries in the Western Isles, as the traditional shops are being pushed out of contention.

The old shop on Scalpay, although it continues to fall into disrepair, gives us a

glimpse into the traditional shops of years ago.

Fire brigade

ON SCALPAY there is a volunteer fire brigade team that assists in event of a fire or rescue.

Not only do they have call-outs on Scalpay but also anywhere on Harris or Lewis.

Tourists

THERE are still a lot of tourists calling at Tarbert, Harris and on Scalpay.

This is encouraging from an economic point of view but we wish them all a jolly good time in exploring the Hebrides.

Fishing

FISHERMAN have had another go at pollock and recently some were caught with lines trailing after the boat.

Of more concern is the lack of herring and mackerel. In the case of mackerel there isn't enough fry or plankton to feed on in home waters yet.

Water pipe refit

THERE are currently arrangements being finalised for new water main pipes to be put in place on Harris.

The old cast iron pipes will be replaced by more durable plastic ones.



The young pipers performing at Ceòlas in South Uist.

Ceòlas festival is resounding success

THE WEEK long Ceòlas festival in South Uist has once again proved a resounding success as visitors from across the world mingled with island folk to enjoy a musical feast.

Amongst this year's attractions were performances from the singers Rona Lightfoot, Mairi MacInnes, Mairead Stewart, Kathleen MacInnes, Gillebride MacMillan and Paul McCallum. Cape Breton fiddle player

SOUTH UIST

Kimberley Fraser played at a ceilidh in Eriskay Hall and received three standing ovations for her performance.

The Ceòlas fringe programme included an art exhibition by two local artists, Amanda Rae and Mairi Thomson, and a printmaking workshop organised by Sarah MacIntyre of Taigh Chearsabhagh. There was also the premiere

of 'Duisg' - an animation by Daliburgh School pupils and Leslie MacKenzie of West Highland Animation.

Minister for Culture and External Affairs Fiona Hyslop and local MSP Alasdair Allan were among the guests. Ceòlas chairperson Mairi MacInnes said: 'The attendance of such high profile politicians as Ceòlas is very significant as we move towards attaining our ambitious project of a folk music and dance centre in Uist.'

Lewisman breaks records at North Uist Games



Young dancers give their all at North Uist Games

NORTH Uist Games committee came in for plaudits as islanders and visitors praised this year's games as 'very busy with lots going on, and very well organised.'

Always strong in athletics, this year's event saw high participation from youngsters and members of the thriving North Uist Amateur Athletics Club, plus holidaymakers like Jamie Reid from Glasgow who won the famous hillrace in a time of 10'57".

The dancing stage was also busy with youngsters from throughout the islands, and proved one of the most popular arenas on the Balelone machair where the games settled permanently three years ago.

NORTH UIST

Benefiting from the presence of many of Scotland's finest young pipers already on the islands for the Highlands and Islands Young Piper of the year in Benbecula the day before, piping was also vibrant with the games now benefitting from a stage each for the juniors and seniors. The day's judges were Archie Maclean, Iain MacFadyen and John Don MacKenzie.

As in the South Uist Games, Lewis heavy Ranald Fraser swept the board in the field events, setting records for Balelone in the light hammer, heavy hammer, weight for distance and throwing the weight over the bar.



Ranald Fraser winds up the light hammer

- Lewis 11.99m 2 Donnie MacLean, Paible 11.18m 3 John MacLean, Paible 9.22m
- Putting Shot 22lb 1 Ranald Fraser, Lewis 10.26m 2 Donnie MacLean, Paible 9.14m 3 John MacLean, Paible 8.26m
- Throwing Hammer 16 lb: 1 Ranald Fraser, Lewis 35.76m 2 Donnie MacLean, Paible 24.94m 3 John MacLean, Paible 23.47m
- Tossing the Caber: 1 Ranald Fraser, Lewis 2 John MacLean, Paible 1.65m
- Throwing Hammer 22lb: 1 Ranald Fraser, Lewis 27m 2 Donnie MacLean, Paible 18.14m 3 John MacLean, Paible 18.13m
- Weight for Distance: 1 Ranald Fraser, Lewis 20.17m 2 Donnie MacLean, Paible 12.88m 3 John MacLean, Paible 12.32m
- Weight Over Bar: 1 Ranald Fraser, Lewis 3.89m 2 John MacLean, Paible 3.51m 3 = Douglas MacLean, Paible & Joseph Hanson, Arran 3.20m
- Throwing Hammer (U18): 1 Andrew Currie, Carinish 21.54m 2 James Stewart, Carinish 3 Angus MacIntosh, Sollas
- Putting Shot Girls U16: 1 Nadine Froughi, Sollas 6.8m 2 Hannah MacDougall, Paible
- Throwing Hammer Women: 1 Rhona Skivington 16.15m 2 Shona Currie, Carinish 3 Kareen Currie, Carinish
- Putting Shot Women: 1 Rhona Skivington 7.92m 2 Kareen Currie, Carinish 3 Shona Currie, Carinish
- Wrestling Heavy: 1 Paul MacLean, Carinish 2 Lachie MacIsaac, Paible 3 Angus MacKinnon, Paible
- Wrestling Light: 1 Andrew Currie, Carinish 2 Fraser MacDonald, Paible 3 Angus MacIntosh, Sollas
- Track
- Pre-school Race: 1 Alexander MacDonald, Paible 2 Archie MacLellan, Paible 3 Ruairidh MacLellan, Lewis
- Long Jump Boys U 16: 1 James Stewart, Carinish 4.06m
- Long Jump Girls U 16: 1 Ann M Beaton, Carinish 1.11m
- High Jump Girls U 16 1st Equal Ann M Beaton, Carinish Eilidh Johnson, Sollas 1.21m
- High Jump Boys U 16 1st Equal Lewis Doherty, Lochmaddy, Seannaidh MacLeod Lochdar 1.40m
- Long Jump Men 1 Andrew Currie, Carinish 5.33m
- Long Jump Women 1 Helen Haxby, Carinish 3.89m
- Sack Race Girls U 13: 1 Mairi MacIntosh, Sollas
- Flat Race Boys 50m U 7: 1 Ben Shepherd, Paible
- Flat Race Girls 50m U 7: 1 Orin Shepherd, Paible
- Sack Race Boys U 13: 1 Iain MacIntosh, Sollas
- 100m Race Boys U 13: 1 Calum Fraser, Carinish
- 100m Girls Race U 13: 1 Mairi MacIntosh, Sollas
- 100m Boys Race U 16: 1 Alasdair Summers, Harris
- 100m Girls Race U 16: 1 Lauren Nicholson, Claddach
- 100m Race Men: 1 Iain MacCorquodale, Paible
- 100m Race Women: 1 Helen Haxby, Carinish
- 200m Race Men: 1 Alasdair Summers
- Harris 200 m Race Women: 1 Mairi MacLennan, Inverness
- Hill Race Men: 1 Jamie Reid, Glasgow
- Hill Race Women: 1 Sarah Johnson, Carinish
- Hill Race Boys U 16: 1 Brandon MacLeod, Inverness
- Hill Race Girls U 16: 1 Mairi MacIntosh, Sollas
- High Jump Men: 1 Stephen Morrison, Carinish 1.65m
- High Jump Women: 1 Kareen Currie, Carinish 1.32m
- Pillow Fight Boys U 10: 1 Alasdair I MacIsaac, S Uist
- Pillow Fight Girls U 10: 1 Mairi MacVicar, Paible
- Pillow Fight Boys U 13: 1 Angus MacVicar, Glasgow
- Pillow Fight Girls U 13: 1 Henrietta Peters, Germany
- Highland dancing
- Hormpipe: 1 Claire MacLellan, Hormpipe: 1 Alana Fraser, Jig: 1 Sophie Bell, Jig: 1 Megan O'Donnell, Seann Trubhas 1 Alana Fraser, Barracks Johnnie: 1 Claire MacLellan, Barracks Johnnie: 1 Morven MacKellaig-Fraser Reel: 1 Sophie Bell Reel: 1 Morven MacKellaig Reel: 1 Alana Fraser, Fling: 1 Sophie Bell, Fling: 1 Morven MacKellaig, Swords: 1 equal Claire MacLellan + Hannah MacPhee, Swords: 1 Anna MacLeod, Seann Trubhas: 1 Mairi MacKellaig, Seann Trubhas: 1 Anna MacLeod
- Intermediate Under 14 yrs: 1 Rhona Clifford, Barracks Johnnie: 1 Rhona Clifford, Reel: 1 Rhona Clifford, Fling: 1 Rhona Clifford, Swords: 1 Rhona Clifford, Seann Trubhas: 1 Rhona Clifford, Novice Under 12 yrs and Novice Under 15 yrs
- Fling: 1 Heather MacKinnon Benbecula Fling: 1 Siobhan Nicolson, Swords: 1 Siobhan Nicolson, Seann Trubhas: 1 Anna MacKellaig, Seann Trubhas: 1 Siobhan Nicolson, Reel: 1 Nicola MacLellan, Reel: 1 Lauren Skinner, Lilt: 1 Megan MacKinnon, Lilt: 1 Lauren Nicolson, Flora: 1 Heather MacCorquodale, Seann Trubhas: 1 Laura J Steele, Seann Trubhas: 1 Laura J Steele, Seann Trubhas: 1 Marion MacCorquodale, Reel: 1 Kayreen MacLeod, Sollas, Reel: 1 Anna MacLellan, Lilt: 1 Joanne Walker, Lilt: 1 Joanne Walker, Lilt: 1 Joanne MacCorquodale, Flora: 1 Joanne Walker, Sack Race Girls U 13: 1 Mairi MacIntosh, Sollas
- Primary: 6 yrs and Under: Pas de Basques: 1 Elisa Morrison, 16 Pas de Basques/High Cuts: 1 Elisa Morrison, 100m Fling: 1 Elisa Morrison
- Dancing trophies
- Premier 12 yrs and Under: Morven MacKellaig, 15rs and Under: Mairi MacKellaig, Adult: Alana Fraser
- Intermediate Under 16 yrs: Rhona Clifford, Novice Under 12 yrs: Heather MacKinnon, Benbecula, Under 15 yrs: Siobhan Nicolson, Beginners Under 9 yrs: Marion MacCorquodale, Sollas, Under 15 yrs: Joanne Walker

Sir Jimmy to miss the Games

THE LOCHABER Games will be missing its former chieftain Sir Jimmy Savile on Saturday for the second year in succession.

The cigar-smoking Top of the Pops legend is on a relaxing cruise – but has pledged organisers he will attend the 40th anniversary games next year.

Sir Jimmy stepped down from his long time role as honorary chieftain in 2006 but agreed to continue in 2007 and 2008 as organisers searched for an equally high-profile replacement. The 'Jim'll Fix It' star was unavailable last year because of a dates mix-up.

In a message to games secretary Allan Lindsay, Sir Jimmy, 83, said: 'Much as I love Lochaber Highland Games and being a part of the day I also like the occasional cruise, which is where I am today. Enjoy yourselves and I will be there next year for the 40th.'

Mr Lindsay told The Oban Times Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson would undertake the chieftain's duties on Saturday – and kept his fingers crossed for a good day. He said: 'We are hoping for good weather, but given that we have had 30 days of rain broken by only one day of sunshine a sunny day would be a bonus.'

'The weather does not really affect the number of people on the field, but it does affect the length of time they stay there.'

The traditional parade to An Aird leaves the Grand Hotel in High Street at 11.30am.

A full programme of events includes athletics, junior and senior heavy events, Highland dancing competitions, Glen Mhor Pipe Band, and the hill race to Cow Hill and back.

NEWSDESK
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High Street transformed: the new Travelodge and retail complex planned for the West End of Fort William

The new face of Fort William

NEGOTIATIONS are continuing this week to finalise a deal that would see JD Wetherspoon open an outlet in Fort William.

As exclusively revealed in last week's The Oban Times, developers Ashford Property are close to signing up two units at their Grand Hotel/MacTavish's Kitchen site on the west end of High Street. Should a bargain be struck, Ashford could be on site within weeks to begin demolishing the Grand Hotel and clearing the site for building work.

The £7.5 million development, next to the refurbished Gordon Square and its new West Highland

Way start/finish point, would see three shops and the JD Wetherspoon pub on the ground floor with a 60-room Travelodge built above.

Ashford is targeting the September 14 Ross, Skye and Lochaber licensing board meeting to have the required drinks licence approved.

Director Andrew Smith told

"If an application is passed, we hope to be on site by the end of September."

Ashford director Andrew Smith

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

The Oban Times terms had been agreed and solicitors are concluding details of the missives of the lease.

He said: 'In terms of the operator for the pub, we hope to be submitting a licence application shortly with a view to making the September committee meeting.'

'It will be the operator who will submit the application. If it is passed, we hope to be on site by the end of September. We cannot start on site until the operator has a licence. I don't have exact

timescales for completion of the demolition phase, but the total build period is 11 months.'

Any application would have to be displayed 21 days before the board meets to allow the public, including neighbouring publicans, to make representations.

A spokesperson for JD Wetherspoon confirmed negotiations on a leasehold for the property with Ashford

were ongoing.

He told The Oban Times: 'We have not exchanged yet on the property. The landlord is keen for us to put in a licence application, but we don't want to put in that application until we have exchanged. Until we have actually got the property we are not likely to lodge an application for a licence.'

Highland Council, under delegated powers, approved

an application from Ashford to alter its original planning consent to include a pub/restaurant on July 5. Outside seating also forms part of the new planning permission.

That decision cleared the way for Ashford and JD Wetherspoon to move on agreeing a leasing deal.

The development would be a major boost for the West End and could spark a wider regeneration of the area.

Lottery funding tour brings tips to Western Isles

BIG Lottery Fund chiefs are heading for Stornoway and Benbecula to promote their new £400 million 'Investing in Communities' programme and advise on how to apply

for funding.

Dates include question and answer sessions with individuals and community groups at the Comhairle Chambers, Stornoway, Isle

of Lewis on August 17 and Balivanich Community Centre, Benbecula on August 18.

The sessions start at 10am and finish at 2pm.

Inveraray pipers play in France

INVERARAY and District Pipe Band has this week played to 30,000 people - its largest audience yet.

The band played in the grand finale of the Festival de Cornouaille in the medieval town of Quimper in Brittany. Band secretary Jim McMillan said: 'It was an incredible thing to be involved in. There is a strong Celtic influence in Quimper and the people really appreciate Scottish traditional music.'

The band returned to Scotland on Monday and are currently preparing for the European Piping Championships, which take place in Belfast this weekend. For a full report on the festival see the next edition of The Oban Times.

Main route public toilets set to close

'ESSENTIAL' public toilets in Tyndrum, Crianlarich and Killin are among those outlined for closure by Stirling Council.

16 toilets to close
The cost cutting exercise will see the closure of up to 16 public toilets within the local authority.

The council is now exploring an option of working with local businesses on Comfort Partnership Schemes. Under such a partnership agreement a local business would allow the public access to its toilet facilities and be paid between £600 and £2,000 per annum for the service.

The closures were agreed by councillors after they heard it would require around £400,000 to bring

all toilets up to the same standard.

The Crianlarich toilets, sited on the main A82 route between the west Highlands and the central belt, was used 50,949 times during the last calendar year.

John Riley, chairman of the Strathfillan Community Council, said: 'We regard these toilets as an essential service for tourists and the general public and strongly believe that they should be kept open.'

'Also, we are well aware that they really need refurbishing and if this were to take place, we would consider operating the facility in a partnership arrangement.'

He told The Oban Times: 'There is a will

in the community to take responsibility for community facilities but it needs to be thought out.'

Stirling councillors also agreed to a four-week closure of any non-heated public toilets during mid December to mid January to alleviate the possibility of bursts. Consultation will take place with local communities on the proposed changes and a report brought back to the council in early 2011.

A spokeswoman for Stirling Council said: 'We will now go ahead and explore the options available. It is our intention to close these toilets in the future but no date has been set and we are looking to provide alternative toilet provision.'



The swimmers get ready for their swim.

Oban to Kerrera swimmers raise funds

FOURTEEN-year-old Abigail Evans was the first swimmer across Oban Bay at this year's Kerrera Swim. Organised by Atlantis Leisure, the sponsored event on Saturday saw 27 swimmers – and one inflatable dolphin – take part in the swim from Kerrera

slipway to Oban Sailing Club. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution Oban branch and the Atlantis Leisure Playpark Fund were the nominated charities for this year but a final fundraising total will not be known until all sponsor forms are handed in.

Ben Pollock, Atlantis Leisure sports co-ordinator, said: 'Thanks to everyone who came along and to all the swimmers; we had a great day. We would also like to thank Alan Strang and everyone else who helped make the day a great success.'

Man dies following A83 road crash

ONE OF the men involved in an A83 road crash near Furnace last week has died.

The 40-year-old was a front seat passenger in a car travelling between Auchindrain and Furnace when it collided with a Vauxhall Vectra.

The dead man, along with a 30-year-old driver and the 45-year-old driver of the Vauxhall Vectra, were taken to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow.

Strathclyde Police confirmed that the man succumbed to his injuries on Tuesday, July 20.

The A83 between Lochgilphead and Inveraray was closed for five hours on Saturday July 17 while emergency services worked to clear the wreckage.

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World's longest tapestry comes to Lochaber

LOCHABER and Western Isles volunteer embroiderers who helped create the world's longest tapestry are to have first chance to view the finished article.

Prince Charlie's journey

The 104-metre work, its panels stitched in sequence to follow Bonnie Prince Charlie's journey from Eriskay in July 1745 to the Prestonpans victory two months later, was unveiled to the world's media on Monday.

It now heads north for the first dates of its Scotland-wide tour, starting with Eriskay Village Hall on July 31 and August 1 and Arisaig's Astley Hall on August 3-4. After a showing at

Invergordon Naval Museum, the tapestry returns to Lochaber for a two-day showing at the Nevis Centre on August 19-20 and Glenueig Hall on August 21-22, before it heads south to Stirling.

The tapestry, commissioned by the Battle of Prestonpans Heritage Trust, was inspired by the Bayeux Tapestry, but actually outmeasures it by 34 metres.

Individuals or groups along the Prince's route embroidered most panels but volunteers from Australia, the USA, France and Ireland also took part.

Artist Andrew Crummy researched and designed the 104 panels and was 'astounded'

by the response from stitchers wishing to contribute.

He said: 'The result has been a truly amazing tapestry which I'm sure will impress audiences for decades to come.'

'Perhaps one day it will become as famous as the Bayeux.'

Volunteers included Helen MacLean (Howmore, South Uist); Christine Haynes (Mallaig); June Cairns, Pauline Elwell, Helen Brodie and Anne Cameron (Arisaig); Daphne Stewart (Caol); Sandra Provan (Corpach); Sandra Casey, Norma Callison, Karen Lees and Johan Morton (Fort William), Joan Kerr (Banavie) and Helen Nairn (Kinlochmoidart).

West Highland Way goes American

ASHARED geological heritage has led to the West Highland Way being added to one of North America's longest trails. The move could see walkers completing the 2,174-mile International Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Newfoundland flying over the Atlantic to continue their trek over similar terrain in Scotland.

Keith Hoole of Lochaber Geopark explained the West Highlands and the Appalachian mountains were part of the Caledonian-Appalachian land mass until 60 to 65 million years ago. 'This could put an international perspective of the walk,' he said.

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Former pupil travels from Melbourne, Australia to be with old school friends Lochaber High School reunion at Nevis Centre

FORMER pupils from Lochaber High School were reunited at the Nevis Centre in Fort William on Saturday night.

Anyone who turned 51 this year and attended the school was invited to join the celebrations.

Around 50 schoolmates from the 1970s came from far and wide to attend and enjoy a social evening of dancing and reminiscing.

Those present included Ross Davidson, who travelled from the south of England, and Ann McNeill, who came all the way from Melbourne, Australia.

One of the event organisers John MacLennan said: 'A great night was had by all. We're planning the next reunion for when we turn 55 - we might not all be mobile enough to have one when we're 60.'



Ex-Lochaber High School pupils at their reunion on Saturday night 10_f31reunion01.

MP opens new play park at Upper Achintore

A COMMUNITY group in Fort William has unveiled its latest project - a new play park.

The Upper Achintore Regeneration Group officially opened the Banff Crescent Amenity Area on Saturday, with a small crowd of locals braving the

heavy rain to attend. Based on a piece of previously derelict land, the park contains benches, a picnic table, swings and a work of rock art as a centrepiece.

The regeneration group, formed in 2008, has embarked on a number

of community projects to revive the area. Local MP Charles Kennedy was invited to open the park, and he praised the hard work of the group.

He said: 'The amount of work and achievement that has gone on in this part of town is terrific.'



Members of the Upper Achintore Regeneration Group at the opening of their new play park. 10_f31park01

Dangerous driver escapes jail term

Fort William man crashed car while trying to scare his girlfriend

SPECIAL REPORT

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

A LOCHABER sawmill worker has escaped a prison sentence after admitting driving dangerously along a Caol street in an attempt to scare his girlfriend and crashing into into a lamppost.

Robert MacGillivray was still in a rage when he spotted Billie Hamilton walking with friends along Kilmallie Road on the afternoon of Sunday, April 11 after she had told him to pack his bags the previous night after a row.

He overtook another car, roared away and slammed on the brakes - but lost control and crashed, leaving 95-foot skid marks on the tarmac before careering another 57 feet along the Caledonian Canal bank into the pole.

Fiscal Alison Wylie told Fort William Sheriff Court the couple had been at a local house party the night before and fell out after they got home. MacGillivray was told to leave and he returned to the other house to sleep.

When he woke up around 1.30pm he tried to contact Ms Hamilton, but she did not answer. Out driving later around 4.30pm he spotted her by chance and decided to make 'a deliberate attempt to scare her' with his driving - but only succeeded in crashing.

'The vehicle was substantially out of control,' said Ms Wylie. 'The airbag activated on impact.'

MacGillivray, 23, of 6 Cameron Place Fort William, fled the scene and gave a statement to police the following morning.

'I wanted to give Billie a fright,' he told police.

Speaking for MacGillivray, Hamish Melrose said: 'He is back in a steady relationship with his partner. He does show remorse and is determined that this does not happen again. He dealt with this in completely the wrong way in trying to find a focus for his anger.'

MacGillivray, who was appearing for sentencing, had previously admitted driving dangerously at excessive speed, deliberately

braking with the intention of scaring pedestrians on the pavement, losing control of the car and colliding with a lamppost. He also admitted failing to report an accident.

Sheriff Douglas Small told MacGillivray a custodial sentence for his 'stupid, reckless and dangerous' action was 'a serious option' - but instead sentenced MacGillivray to 150 hours unpaid work in the community and 15 months probation.

MacGillivray was also banned from driving for 30 months and ordered to resit his driving test after his disqualification was over.

Sheriff Smith told him: 'You could well have injured someone or injured or killed yourself as well.'

Kinlochleven Post Office on the move

POST OFFICE Ltd has confirmed the current branch at Leven Road, Kinlochleven will close at 5.30pm on Monday, August 16 and the newly located branch at The Aluminium Store in Linnhe Road will open at 9am on Wednesday, 18 August.

Customers are advised to use Post Office facilities at Glencoe or Ballachulish during the short period of closure.

Fort William drink theft men in court

TWO FORT William men have admitted their part in stealing alcohol from a Fort William bar and selling it.

Jake Black, aged 20, of 111 Lochaber Road appeared from custody at Fort William Sheriff Court to plead guilty to breaking into the Maryburgh Inn on High Street and stealing a quantity of drink from the premises on July 2. Michael MacNeil, aged 21, of 16 Malt Barn, admitted reset.

A third man, Liam Johnstone, 19, of Flat 6, Caledonian Court, Fort William denies breaking into the bar and stealing a quantity of alcohol from the premises.

The three have been ordered to appear at a further hearing at Fort William Sheriff Court today.

Skye Bridge 10k numbers up

ENTRIES for the Kyleakin Gala Day Skye Bridge 10k road race next Saturday are on schedule to break three figures, according to race organiser Jonathan MacKinnon.

The race was revived last year after a gap of two years and proved a huge success. Mr MacKinnon said: 'I'm hopeful that we can match the entry of 94 last year or go one better and make the 100 mark. We are grateful to our main race sponsor, the Red Skye Restaurant for their support.'

West Ardnamurchan hosts big day out

'... another step in the right direction to supplying what we feel is a truly unique Highland experience'

REPORTING FROM KILCHOAN

STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

SHOW and sports day at West Ardnamurchan on Friday once again proved to be very special day on the local calendar.

Hundreds of visitors arrived by ferry from Mull and by road from Salen to join local people for what turned out to be a fantastic family day out at Kilchoan playing fields.

The weather gods again smiled on Ardnamurchan, with warm sunshine and a gentle sea breeze making for ideal conditions throughout the day.

Local man Duncan Logan, manning the donations box at the gate with partner Marge, estimated at least 400 people were in the field by 2pm.

'There a good few from Tobermory here and being the Glasgow Fair has made a big difference,' he said.

The excellent turnout of spectators and competitors ensured all sporting events were well supported, with entries up on previous years.

Heavy events official Dave Cash said 21 strong men took part in the hammer, shot putt and tossing the sheaf events, compared with 17 last year.

Craignure construction worker James Campbell again reigned supreme, winning all three disciplines to take the title.

Visiting band McGinty Pink got the day underway with a pipes and drums rendition. Piper Caitlin MacDonald, 17, from Newton Mearns, has her roots in Kilchoan and travelled up with her

grandfather, retired minister Iain MacDonald, who is the son of the late Rev Neil G MacDonald, minister at Kilchoan from 1925 to 1962.

'It definitely feels I have come home when I come up here,' Caitlin said.

Changed format
Another youngster making the trip 'home' was Perth girl Laura Glasgow, overall junior sports winner.

Laura, 15, was cheered on by her grandfather, West Ardnamurchan Regatta co-organiser Alastair MacColl.

Attractions on the field included baking and horticulture competitions, stalls and stands, pet parade, bouncy castles and slide, as well as the beer tent and refreshments.

Culmination of the afternoon came with the annual tug o' war followed by the prize giving ceremony.

West Ardnamurchan Show and Sports chairman, Gus MacLean said a shake up this year's format had been vindicated.

He told The Oban Times: 'We made some bold changes this year by changing the layout of the show field and introducing a barbecue to replace the evening dance.'

'Thankfully the decision

paid off and the response from the public was very positive, so it seems we've moved another step in the right direction to supplying what we feel is a truly unique Highland experience. I think the committee and all the volunteers can be proud of their achievements.

'My thanks goes out to everyone who attended the day and donated money so generously and also to all the volunteers for their hard work before, during and after the show. I would also like to thank the committee members who every year seem to raise the bar with their hard work, dedication and commitment to this worthy cause.'

Results:
Junior Sports - Overall points winner, G M MacMillan Quaich, Laura Glasgow and Kharis Cunningham; Runner up, Gillies O' Hanlon and Sarah Cameron; Junior Hill Race, Boys' Junior Hill Race Cup, Liam McLoone; Girls' Hill Race Cup, Kharis Cunningham; Senior Hill Race, Men's Glenborrodale Cup, Simon Cash; Ladies' McConnell Salmon Challenge Cup, Lorraine Peterson. Baking Competition - adults section cup, Bridget Cameron; baking and picture competition, children, Christy O' Hanlon and Kharis Cunningham; children under 5, Megan Curtis. Poem competition - children, Cheyenne Cameron; children under 5 Eilidh Cameron. Mixed veg competition - Angus Henderson Cup, Kirstie Shirra. Pet parade - Holly Cameron with Zac. Senior heavy events - Overall points champion, Championship Cup, James Campbell; local with most points, F MacDonald Cup, Richard Van de Peer; junior heavy events, overall points winner, Boys' Selkirk Cup, Calum Cooper; overall points winner, Girls' Cup, Laura Glasgow.

See more West Ardnamurchan Show results on page 15



Holly Cameron, aged four, of Loch an Gorm, Kilchoan, won the pet show with her chocolate Labrador Zak 10_f31kilchoan04



Above - Rosie Curtis, right, keeps the commentary going while Gus MacLean keeps the results in order 10_f31kilchoan09

Left - Girls take the strain in the tug o' war 10_f31kilchoan01

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Members of the Novice Juvenile Inveraray and District Pipe Band. From left – Megan Howath, Ailish MacLaren, Tom Curd, Jade Brown and Morven MacIntyre. 06_a30inv17



Their Graces The Duke and Duchess of Argyll with their three children – Lord Rory, Lord Archie and Lady Charlotte. 06_a30inv03



The Rev Brian Wilkinson retired from his post as pipe band convener for the games and was given a presentation by His Grace the Duke of Argyll and Games Convener Alasdair Chrystal, left. 12_a30inv55



Winner of the men's 600 metre local: Gordon Thomson of Oban. 12_a30inv38



Providing commentary at Inveraray was Jim Brown MBE of Fettercairn. 06_a30inv09



Competing in his first Highland games was the Royal Burgh's very own Steven McKillop. Steven is pictured competing in the heavy stone event. 12_a30inv24



Winner of the World Caber Tossing Championships, Sebastian Wenta from Poland is congratulated by the event sponsor Donald Clark of the George Hotel, Inveraray. 12_a30inv62



Piper Euan Dewar of Oban competing in the Strathspey and reel. 12_a30inv28

Interest from around the world results in record entry for dancing classes

Inveraray Games keeps smiling through the showers

ORGANISERS of this year's Inveraray Highland Games are delighted at the success of the event.

Heavy rain
The annual games, which took place in the grounds of Inveraray Castle last Tuesday saw an abundance of umbrellas, raincoats and welly boots but the heavy rain did not dishearten the spectators.

Keeping up with previous years, last week's event saw around 3,000 people through the gates. Organisers feared the recession and bad weather could take its toll on visitor numbers. But Margaret Mather, secretary of Inveraray Highland Games, said: 'We are pleased that so many people turned out to the games and we're happy we've managed to average our visitor numbers.'

REPORT By JENNY SUTHERLAND

Not only did visitors from across the world attend the games but organisers say they received a record number of overseas entries.

Largest dancing entry
This year saw the largest entry to the Highland dancing competition with 260 competitors taking to the stage; 50 travelling from around the globe to compete.

The piping classes also drew a large entry with 110 solo pipers taking part. Inveraray and District's two pipe bands, the Novice Juvenile and the Grade One band, stepped out with The Pipes and Drums of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, as they led the games procession through the main street and into the

castle grounds to officially mark the start of the event on Tuesday morning.

After a busy day at the games, the youngsters of Inveraray Pipe Band had to be up bright and early the following day to travel to the Festival de Cornouaille in Brittany, France.

In the heavy athletics section, judge Brian Robin had 22 entrants from across the globe, one of the biggest fields in years and he was impressed by the high standard of competition.

Two conveners also said goodbye to the event this year and were thanked for their hard work by the Duke of Argyll and games convener Alasdair Chrystal.

Ruth Paterson and the Rev Brian Wilkinson have been ensuring that the stances and pipe bands run smoothly at the games for several years.

Distillery to sponsor Islay Jazz

LAGAVULIN Single Malt Whisky will sponsor this year's Islay Jazz Festival. The festival attracts hundreds of jazz lovers to Islay from Scotland, the rest of the United Kingdom, and overseas.

In 2010 the festival programme features acts such as Zoe Rahman, Jesse Davis; Mercy, Mercy, Mercy and award-winning Scottish guitarist Graeme Stephen.

Elderly Callander woman attacked

AN ELDERLY woman was assaulted and robbed in her home in Callander on Sunday last week.

The 87-year-old was attacked in her house in Marshall Crescent in the early hours of the morning.

The victim was taken to Stirling Royal Infirmary but was released without treatment.

Police are appealing for witnesses who may have been in the Main Street area of the town between 1.30am and 2am.

Glasgow Islay Association tartan goes to the show



A NEWLY struck Glasgow Islay Association tartan has been specially created to mark the association's 150th anniversary in 2012.

The tartan will be officially launched at the Islay Show on August 12 this year.

Argyll boys chance meeting in China

THERE was a chance meeting of Argylls at First Minister Alex Salmond's reception in Shanghai, China.

Three band Skerryvore were playing at the reception, where Oban man Murray Campbell, who now lives in China, was a guest.

Murray said: 'I noticed these boys in kilts so I went to say a quick hello.'

'When they heard I was from Oban, they told me where they were from and we chatted amongst ourselves for quite a while.'

Murray said he had a brief chat with the First Minister and mentioned a mutual acquaintance – Murray's uncle, SNP Councillor Roddy McCuish.

Murray added: 'Afterwards, a friend and I couldn't get a taxi to the Scottish Bar in the city so had to take the subway with our kilts on. The looks we were getting were unbelievable!'

Highland youth leader for Turkey

HIGHLAND Youth Convener has been chosen to help represent Scotland at an international congress in Turkey.

Magnus Monohan, 19, is one of 10 delegates being sent from Scotland to attend the two-week long World Youth Congress in Istanbul.

Peacocks come to Oban Co-op

CLOTHES retailer Peacocks have confirmed they will be opening up a branch inside the Co-op store in Oban.

The retailer best known for clothing singing sensation Susan Boyle before her first trip to America, are hoping to open in early October.

Western Isles could pilot fuel duty discount scheme

THE WESTERN Isles could feature in a fuel duty discount scheme being considered by the UK Government.

Western Isles MSP Alasdair Allan received a response from the Economic Secretary to the Treasury Justine Greening MP on Monday about fuel prices in the Western Isles.

Dr Allan had raised the issue of the commitment in the coalition partnership agreement regarding measures to help with fuel costs in remote rural areas, starting

with pilot schemes. As a result, the Treasury is now considering parts of Scotland may be used in any pilot schemes.

Mr Allan said: 'I have highlighted the situation in the Western Isles to the Treasury, where fuel costs are extreme and where there is virtually no public transport alternative.'

'We have, for years, suffered from having to pay significantly higher prices at the pumps for petrol and diesel than those living in urban parts

of Scotland. This imposes a serious burden, which leads to the inevitable suffering of individuals and businesses through no fault of their own.'

'Given that the Western Isles has amongst the highest fuel prices in the world, I believe that the case for fuel price reduction measures being piloted here is very strong and I have urged the UK Government to respond positively to my request to start any fuel price pilot in the islands.'

'This is not an issue which communities in the Western Isles will let lie and I will continue to press the UK Government for answers on this matter.'

SNP members in the Western Isles have reselected sitting MSP Alasdair Allan to be their candidate at the Holyrood elections in May 2011. He was the sole nominee and at a weekend meeting in Rodel, Harris, members voted unanimously to ask Dr Allan to fight the seat again next year.

MSP praises Mull care group

LABOUR MSP Rhoda Grant was in Oban last week to hold discussion with David Whiteoak, NHS Highland's Lorn and Islands locality manager.

During her visit Ms Grant praised the work of Mull's Progressive Care Centre group who are due to be start building at Java, Craignure at the end of the year.

She said: 'A modern and efficient health care unit in the Highlands and Islands is an important facility to keep people cared for in their own communities.'

'People, especially the elderly, need to be able to get back home for their care package. Research has shown that people who are in their own communities seem to get back on their feet quicker.'

CMAL launches its Gaelic Language Plan

CALEDONIAN Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL), who own ports and ferries at more than 24 locations across the country, has this week launched its Gaelic Language Plan for 2010 - 2015.

The plan, one of the first to be approved by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, marks the company's commitment to promoting and developing the Gaelic language.

CMAL hope to integrate the Gaelic language in the operation of its functions and communications with the public and key partners.

This will be done with bilingual publications, including CMAL's annual report, bi-annual newsletter, marketing materials and press releases. A Gaelic version of the CMAL logo will be introduced along with Gaelic signage at harbour facilities and construction sites; and bilingual communication with individuals and communities by letter and telephone will be implemented.

Grenville Johnston, chairman of CMAL, said: 'CMAL recognises that Gaelic is an integral part of Scotland's heritage, national identity and cultural life.'

Arthur Cormack, Chair of Bòrd na Gàidhlig, said: 'Bòrd na Gàidhlig is delighted that CMAL has published a Gaelic Language plan which will enable the company to increase the visibility and use of Gaelic in its ports across Scotland.'



MSP Rhoda Grant discusses rural health care with locality manager David Whiteoak of NHS Highland. 16_t31rural1

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Appin art display

APPIN Art Group's 15th Annual Exhibition this week attracted record entries of 230 pictures from as far afield as Fife, Devon and Canada.

All artists had some connection with Appin and many different media were on display; the oldest exhibitor was 93 years old.

The Group has 100 members and meets on Mondays in Port Appin when the artists work in studio conditions with no formal tuition, but additional courses are held in subjects as diverse as wood engraving and colour mixing and application. MG

Circus come to Islay

FOR THE first time in 40 years, Ileachs will experience the thrills and spills of the big top on home soil as the Circus Fiesta comes to Port Ellen.

Circus Fiesta features a world-class programme, including artists from across the globe. Performers come from the UK, Russia, Mongolia, Hungary and Portugal and include clowns, illusionists and acrobats.

The performances on August 2 and 3 will be at Port Ellen Playing Fields.

Argyll Bird Club photographic competition deadline edges closer

ARGYLL Bird Club is expecting a lot of late entries in its 25th anniversary competition, which closes on August 31.

Perfect shot
Many amateur photographers are expected to submit their entries in the next few weeks as they try to get the perfect 'shot'.

Entry is free and open to non members - see www.

argyllbirdclub.org for further information. July produced highly unusual sightings of a Spoonbill on Mull and at Balvicar.

This bird is white and about the size of a heron with a spatula, or spoon-like end to its bill.

It is a recent colonist of the UK and caused a great stir when it recently started

breeding on the Solway Firth. The other white heron-like bird you may see soon is the Little Egret, as they start moving about following breeding in the south.

Waders
The Little Egret is much smaller than a Heron; all white with black bill and legs and yellowish feet. The Spoonbill can

be distinguished in flight from the Little Egret by its extended neck and long trailing feet. Both birds will be found in estuaries or mudflats.

Please contact county recorder Paul Daw with any sightings. Telephone: 01546 886260

Following our previous article on conservation, the club was delighted to receive

records of new Corncrake locations including near Loch Craignish, Mid Argyll.

Other birds to watch out for now are migrants returning from their northern breeding grounds, especially waders such as Black tailed Godwits and Red Knot recently sighted still in their colourful breeding plumage.



The Little Egret.
Picture courtesy of Morag Rea.

Good Oban Flower Show entries anticipated

AT THE latest meeting of Oban and Lorn Horticultural Society the forth-coming Oban Flower Show on August 21 in the Church Centre, Glencruitten Road, Oban was discussed.

Committee members anticipate there will be a good entry of flowers and vegetables as it had been good growing weather.

This year a special prize will be awarded to the photograph voted the best by the visitors to the show.

Entry forms for the photographic sections are available from Oban's photographic shops.

Schedules for the flower and vegetable sections are available from local garden centres or David Hodge on 564326.

President Jim Kirkpatrick paid tribute to society member Donnie MacKenzie who died a few weeks ago.

Donnie had been an active member of the society for more than 50 years.

Rugby club fun day

A FUN DAY out is planned for August 14 at Oban Lorne Rugby Club.

The whole family will be kept entertained with everything from bouncy castles and face painting to bottle stalls, burger stands, five-a-side football and even signed football strips up for grabs in the raffle.

All money raised is going to the Friends of Oban Hospice and the event is being supported by the local Masonic Lodge who will be playing 5-a-sides on the day.



Piping and dancing at McCaig's Tower

MCCAIG'S Tower attracted a bigger crowd than usual last Thursday night as guests were treated to a special show.

Oban Pipe Band and dancers from the Eilidh MacInnes School of Dance entertained more than one hundred visitors at the tower in a bid to raise funds for the Oban and Lorn Lions Club.

The event is one of a series of four that will be taking place throughout the summer. The next show will be on August 5.



Emily Hunter, 9 with Bluebell, Callum Hunter, 10 with Snickles, Ellis Hunter, 7 with Blackie, Kate MacPherson, 9 with Scrabble, at the guinea pig guess 15.131fete01

Ardchattan Priory hosts fete

THE SUN was shining as the crowds came out for the Guiding and Scouting fete held at Ardchattan Priory on Sunday afternoon.

The gardens were alive with games including tin can alley, the cake stand and

guinea pig guess.

Bramble the horse, from Argyll Riding for the Disabled Association, kept visitors entertained with carriage rides around the grounds while soup lunches, home baking, teas

and freshly cooked mussels were enjoyed by all.

The amount raised on the day exceeded everyone's expectations at around £3,400, in aid of Guiding and Scouting and the Scottish Garden Scheme.

YOUR STARS WITH PATRICK ARUNDEL

ARIES Mar 21st - Apr 20th 090 6612 4520
You're going to need to juggle the side of you that likes to do your own thing, with the expectations of others, who will very much want you to do their thing! The best way through this is with compromise on both sides, and copious amounts of give and take. Circumstances could seem to cramp your style, especially if you're a less conventional type. Call for more advice...

TAURUS Apr 21st - May 21st 090 6612 4521
You can work tremendously hard this week and if there's any overtime available, you could be the first to put their hand up to volunteer. Yet, don't overdo it, especially over the weekend. Give yourself permission to do things for you. Your motivation to catch up on domestic chores can also be high. Getting your hands in earth can be good for the soul. Call for your in-depth forecast...

GEMINI May 22nd - Jun 21st 090 6612 4522
A more amorous side of your nature can take a partner by surprise. However, you can be feeling both impish and romantic. Yet if this fails to resonate with them, you may find yourselves at loggerheads. Everyone needs to show a good deal of patience this week, so this calls on you to show some tact. Understand this change may not be easy to respond to. Call for your love scope...

CANCER Jun 22nd - Jul 23rd 090 6612 4523
If you have gutting swinging wildly in the wind or a roof tile loose, this can be a fine week to get the repairs in motion. Yet you can find yourself in a pricklier mood than usual, and may prefer to find space for yourself. That's fine, but if solitary pursuits are not possible will people feel that they're walking on glass, such is your defensiveness? Call for more news and astral advice...

LEO Jul 24th - Aug 23rd 090 6612 4524
This is not the best of times to rush from pillar to post, and yet that's exactly what you can find yourself doing. You are in the mood for extra zest, both physical and mental. But this can also see you nerved up and if you don't pace yourself, you'll bang a shin or turn an ankle. Yet if you are a crossword or puzzle fiend, you can be on very top form. Call your prediction line for more...

VIRGO Aug 24th - Sep 23rd 090 6612 4525
You see something and you want it. Yes, there can be a real compulsion to enjoying life's goodies. But with Saturn lying in wait for the forceful, go get it Mars, double check your bank account before going on a splurge. Also check statements from last month to see what is due to come out this week. This way you can avoid leaving yourself short. Call for your financial forecast in full...

LIBRA Sep 24th - Oct 23rd 090 6612 4526
Mars joins your sign, and this is going to stiffen your resolve, not just now, but in the next two months. New beginnings excite you, but do be wary of expecting everything to fall into place, in a trice. These plans will require patience, and your natural diplomacy can be tested to the full. You may also be less inclined to be guided by convention. Call me now for more news and advice...

SCORPIO Oct 24th - Nov 22nd 090 6612 4527
Sensitive material can surface. Memories that are linked to difficult or painful events could have a tendency to come up. Equally, someone can remind you of something. There can be stress at work, because more and more is piled onto you, without a thought for your welfare. Don't take situations at face value for some secret opposition could be mounting. Call me for your in-depth forecast...

SAGITTARIUS Nov 23rd - Dec 21st 090 6612 4528
New horizons can tempt you. You can be a freedom loving person and your adventurous spirit can feel cramped by convention and the expectations of even friends. Yet if you are not careful, this could appear like you want absolutely everything your own way. One friendship could suffer from this, or perhaps each of you wants different things now. Call your prediction line for more news...

CAPRICORN Dec 22nd - Jan 20th 090 6612 4529
Be it in fashion, music or gadgets, you can have an uncanny knack of sensing where trends are heading. This can make you a kingpin with your friends, because anything that is cutting edge, can find you at the forefront. You may also make an audacious move in love or at work. You're brimming with confidence, but a reminder that pride goes before a fall. Call for your love scope...

AQUARIUS Jan 21st - Feb 19th 090 6612 4530
If you have felt unsettled in any kind of relationship, now, as a new month unfolds, you can put your foot down hard, and head off to more enterprising possibilities. But don't rush in where angels fear to tread. Although you can show a buccaneering side of your nature, not everything from the past is ripe for change. Resist change, for change's sake. Call for your love scope...

PISCES Feb 20th - Mar 20th 090 6612 4531
If you have been more forceful in one-to-one's over the last couple of months, it's because of the role of the demanding Mars. However, the problem with this is that it can make us much more egotistical about our own needs, to the exclusion of the feelings of others. Now it moves, and with the diplomatic vibes of Mercury it will get easier, to rub along. Call for more astral advice...

SP: Pronto Ltd, PO Box 52785 EC1P 1TY
Calls cost 60p per minute from standard landline
For entertainment purposes only



Presiding over the plant stall: (L-R) Margaret Parfitt, Joy Blakeney, Marilyn Garabet and Rita Gow.

St John's bazaar success

CROWDS of bargain hunters took over the Corran Halls on Saturday for St John's Cathedral Bazaar.

Children enjoyed toy stalls, cakes and face painting while some of the goods available for adults to browse included records, crafts, home grown fruit and vegetables and homemade

preserves. The event is the only fundraiser in the year for the Cathedral but a charity bazaar will be held at Christmas.

Irene Main, treasurer, said: 'We're really happy with all the people coming and going, everyone is having a great time.'



Savannah Devlin, aged 5. 15.131bazaar02

ALIENERGY
Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency
Have you got the Fuel Good Factor?
Renewable Heat Information Evening
Thursday 29th July
Victory Hall, Benderloch, 6pm - 7pm
Come along if you
• are looking for information on solar water heating and heat pump technology
• are thinking of replacing your heating system
• want to know more about wood fuel boilers, how they work, the costs and types of systems
for more information contact
ALIenergy 01631 565183

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

North Argyll Carers Centre
Albany Street, OBAN
OPEN DAY
Saturday, 31 July
11am - 2pm
Celebrate with us, the first anniversary of our move to independence. Join us for nibbles, meet new members of staff and find out about our new market stall and training for carers at the Centre. Information on digital switchover is also available.
ALL WELCOME

FASNACLOICH GUN CLUB
OPEN SHOOT
Saturday July 31, 2010
Trophy Shoot
12 o'clock Start

Mull Theatre's
Opium Eater
by Andrew Dallmeyer
Easdale
Community Hall
Friday, July 13,
doors open 7.30pm 8.00pm start,
£9/£1, accompanied under 16s free

R.N.L.I Book Fair and Tombola Stall
At Lifeboat Station, South Pier
On Thursday, 5th and Friday, 6th August
10am - 4pm
Numerous Books in Various Categories

The Royal British Legion Scotland
Easdale Branch
ANNUAL SALE
In aid of Forces Charities
Seil Village Hall
Saturday 31st July
2pm - 4.30pm
Enquiries Tel: 01852 314242
We look forward to seeing you on the day.

OBAN U3A
Monthly Coffee Meeting
Caledonian Hotel, Oban
Tuesday 3rd August, 2010 at 10.30am
A warm welcome to all members and an opportunity for anyone interested to find out about U3A activities

what's on
21 July - 31 July > Appin Art Group Art Exhibition
Port Appin Hall
Friday 30 July > Philomena Begley BA Club, Fort William
Tuesday 3 August > Film G Oban Story Development Workshop
Thursday 5 August > Producers Market Kintaline Farm, Benderloch
Saturday 7 August > Gaelic conversation classes Church of Scotland Centre, Glencruitten Road, Oban

gig argyll your essential guide to live music in argyll
Every Sunday > Quiz Night Markie Dans
Thursday 29 July > Live music with Markie Dans Tim O'Connor @ 9.30pm
Friday 30 July > Live music with Markie Dans Finn @ 9.30pm
Saturday 31 July > Live music with Markie Dans Chunks @ 9.30pm
Saturday 31 July > Relentless Skipinnish Ceilidh House
Friday 6 August > Two members of the Annie Duggan Band Puffer Bar, Easdale 8.30pm - No Ticket required
Saturday 7 August > Two members of the Annie Duggan Band Victory Hall, Benderloch 8.30pm Contact Campbell Cameron 01631 720247 for Tickets
Monday 2 August > Skerryvore Skipinnish Ceilidh House
Wednesday 25 August > Blazin Fiddles Skipinnish Ceilidh House
Thursday 26 August > Gunna Sound Skipinnish Ceilidh House

TOY SALE
Saturday 31st July
At 3.00pm
In The Undercroft, Glencruitten Parish Hall
Large selection of good quality toys following closure of local playgroup.

Loch Awe Improvement Association
2010 OPEN DAY
Sunday 1st August
11 - 4
Ardbrecknish Boat Yard, by Cladich
For anglers, locals and visitors
Interest and activities for all age groups
All Welcome. Free entry
For more info
Tel: 01866 833256
or go to www.lochawe.org

An Comunn Gaidhealach
CRUACHAN BRANCH
SUMMER CEILIDH
Thursday 29 July
8 p.m.
Taynuilt Village Hall
Admission £3
Members & Children (5-16 yrs) £2

Mid Argyll Art Society
43rd Annual Exhibition
Monday 2nd August - Saturday 7th August 2010
Lochgilphhead Parish Church Hall
Times of Opening
Mon - Fri 10am - 8pm
Sat 10am - 2pm
Handing in: Saturday 31st July
10am - 4pm at the Church Hall
Enquiries to: Angus MacNeill 01546 603074 / Vicky Lyon 01546 603281

To advertise in the
WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD
Telephone:
01631 568000

Advertise in the
Community Notice Board
for just £14.50 (plus VAT)
This section is available to charitable organisations with a charity number.
All AGM's will be placed on the Public Notice Page
Please ask for details

Local Producers Markets
Thursday 5th August
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch
1 mile along the Tralee road
10am to 3pm
Lots to eat and do
Every first / third Thursday
Interested Producers contact
01631 720223
Local Origins Rural Network
www.lorn.org.uk

Eye to eye
with John Wallace

Our Children's Heritage
It just seems like yesterday since the schools shut down for their summer break though I suspect for parents at home with children since the rain started four weeks ago it probably feels like an eternity. My own youngster has spent the summer playing on the computer, drawing, reading or building Airfix models. With the persistent rain may youngsters will have spent most of the holidays playing on the computer.
I am often asked just how much time should a youngster spend on a computer. There is no hard and fast rule. If an adult uses a computer in an office environment they are advised to take regular breaks and vary the tasks performed throughout the day. The same advice applies to youngsters playing on the computer. The problem with computer games is they suck the participants in and they forget just how much time has been spent on the computer.
Recent research has shown children who use computers for several hours a day or who read voraciously have a high likelihood of becoming myopic (short sighted). There have been many millions of pounds spent on myopia research and the conclusion is we should insist our children spend a few hours a day outside playing.
There is an epidemic of myopia occurring throughout the world. Some of it is genetic in origin but most is caused by excessive close work. Even adults who previously had excellent eyesight are becoming myopic. Why should we, as parents, worry if our children become myopic? Being myopic limits a child's ability to participate in sport. Myopia is linked to a variety of eye health issues from trivial to potentially blinding. Your optometrist should be able to advise you on preventative actions needed to protect your child's eyesight. Taking your child for regular eye examinations is a first step.
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

George St Fish and Chip Shop are proud to sponsor
Argyll Animal Aid
Tel 01631 566406

Mr Chips

George Street Fish & Chip Shop
Tel 01631 566664



Friday 30th July -
Friday 6th August

All images supplied by Ron Cowan www.yachtingimages.co.uk

Tunnock's Tea Cakes



Afore.



The noo.

Our new robot is packing 3 million every week and developing a lovely Scottish accent!



Old Mill Road, Uddingston G71 7HH Tel: 01698 813551 www.tunnock.co.uk

THE 63rd West Highland Yachting Week gets under starters orders on July 30th and runs until August 6th 2010. Set around the three centres of Craobh, Oban and Tobermory in Argyll this unique regatta aims to offer a mix of racing opportunities for a wide range of competitors. With some new faces added to the regular WHYW contingent the 2010 event looks set to be another memorable week of racing and après sail social entertainment. And it is the ability to offer something for everyone that makes this event so famous. There are nine classes, four of which are for restricted sail to allow all the family to take part without using spinnakers and two extra this year to accommodate competitors that want to race with the IRC handicap system. Boats can also enter on a day to day basis. Some yachts compete only in the passage racing and take the day off when the heat is on racing around the buoys!

Feeder races from Inverkip on Friday 30th July and Gigha and Oban on 31st July bring the fleet to Craobh Marina for the start of the week. The Inverkip to Ardrishaig covers a course of around 35 miles following the inshore route and through the Crinan Canal to Craobh. Competitors choosing the offshore option will muster at Gigha for the feeder race to Craobh on Saturday July 31st, a distance of 31 miles. The evening before at Gigha centres on the Gigha Hotel which will be open for food both in the bar and restaurant with entertainment from the Gigha Players...

Similarly boats from the north race from Oban to Craobh on a 19 mile course bringing the entire fleet together at this popular marina. Half price berthing will again be enjoyed by WHYW competitors. Marina manager Jim Berry said he and his team were delighted to host the start of the regatta again. 'We look forward to welcoming the WHYW fleet back and will go out of our way to see that everyone has a great time at Craobh.'

Jim added that the Mid Argyll Pipe Band would play in the evening to welcome the fleet and pipe everyone ashore to the events at the Lord of the Isles. 'This year we have our new all facilities building in full use with new toilets, showers, laundry and chandlery,' he said. Facilities for yachts are also available at nearby Kilmelford, Crinan and Ardferr.

Craobh to Oban Passage
With the WHYW fleet gathered at Craobh the first regatta race is to Oban on Sunday with boats sailing through the Sound of Luining and Insh Island to finish in the Sound of Kerrera unless the committee shorten course.

Oban is the WHYW base till Wednesday morning. Monday's racing sees the fleet divide into those racing with spinnakers - The Tunnock's Fleet and those in restricted sail - The Argyll Fleet with racing in the Firth of Lorne sponsored by The Oban Common Good Fund. The Argyll Fleet course is to the south round Bach and Insh Island with the colourful Tunnock's fleet racing round the cans off Ganavan. Race officer Malcolm MacGregor plans two races for the Tunnock's fleet.

The ever popular circumnavigation of the isle of Lismore takes place on Tuesday August 3rd where the whole fleet comes together to race clockwise round the island in what must rank as one of the most scenic round the island races in the UK. Wednesday sees the fleet race to Tobermory where the usual warm welcome awaits with Tobermory Harbour Association offering moorings, pontoon berthing and anchoring as well as the town's excellent collection of shops, pubs and eateries.

Racing off Tobermory the Tunnock's fleet again has two Olympic style courses on Thursday August 6th whilst the Argyll Fleet race out to Ardmore, Quinish Point and Ardnacross Bay. After two nights in Tobermory, the fleet races back down the Sound of Mull on Friday August 6th hoping for a good breeze to get them to Oban for the final night's celebrations at the prize-giving ceilidh in the Corran Halls.

Where to watch the racing
Sunday - Watch the fleet coming through at Easdale and finishing at the bottom of the Sound of Kerrera from Gallanach or Kerrera itself. **Monday** - Best views from Dunollie Point as the fleet head out and then Ganavan to see one fleet race around the buoys. **Tuesday** - Watch from Oban esplanade or Dunollie Point from 8am and finishing in the afternoon racing off Ganavan to finish near Maiden Island. **Wednesday** - See the fleet head out to start the race to Tobermory off the north entrance to Oban Bay from Dunollie Point. **Thursday** - head to Ardmore Light to see the fleets racing. **Friday** - Watch from Tobermory Bay at 8.30 as the boats head down the Sound of Mull to Oban.

Who's Who on the Joint Regatta Committee / Race Team
Chairman of the JRC is David Waltho from Oban with secretary Julia Heap who heads up the organization of WHYW. The Joint Regatta committee that runs WHYW comprises Neil MacInness from Western Isles Yacht Club, Bob Clement, Irene Murray and Roy Tait from Royal Highland Yacht Club with Eric Chapman, Twig Olsen, Phil Preston and George

Seaton from Oban Sailing Club. Iain MacKinnon is the Health and Safety Officer. Principal Race Officer is Malcolm MacGregor with Phil Preston and George Seaton assistant race officers. The Protest Committee Chairman is Terence Brownrigg. Competitors will already know Marjory Seaton in the Race Office caravan. Adam Fewkes is in charge of the website and posting the daily results as quickly as possible. Alison Chadwick is in charge of press and publicity and organizing the après sail events.

In addition to the above the Race team has Neil MacAulay, Tom and Alison McCrindle, Iain and Ruaraidh MacKinnon, Irene Murray, Carol Olsen, Dave Pinkerton, Mary Walthe and Alyson Preston, Anne MacGregor and Claire Firth and other volunteers. Committee boats for 2010 include Elizabeth G, Orcades, Laura Dawn, Power of Scotland, Thalassa and Gaeldom.

Locals on the start line
WHYW always attracts a good entry from the local area. This year Ian Cleaver opts to race Class 1 IRC with his Melges Clapped Out Toyboy. Mid Argyll's Brian Robertson is back with his X332 Celtic Spirit racing in Class 3b, the new IRC class introduced this year and lining up alongside is Ken Grant of Lochaber with his J109 Tigh Soluis Leisure. CYCA Class 3a is a big one. Oban's Steven Forteith of Oban steers father Billy's Shadowfax with competition from Graham Anderson's Lucky Ned Pepper. Another Oban based boat, Anne Campbell's X34 Ajax also contends CYCA 3a as does Beppo Buchanan Smith of Eriska with his exciting Delphia 24. Class 5 looks interesting with the Sigma 33s incorporated hotting up the competition. Eric Chapman of Oban is always to the fore in Amber Haze with his family and local crew aboard. Fellow OSC member Colin Crawford Nimrod also races Class 5 with a local team as does Adrian Laycock in Prime Cut, his Oyster 37. Stewart and Dorothy Ritchie of Salen contend white sail Class 6 with their family and Ronnie Haggerty races here with Sirius of Lorne and Murray Wiseman with the family boat Sorr of Appin. Class 8 sees many regular local faces with Lochaber based Marian Austin and her all girls team on Scintilla of the Sea and Donald Smith from Kilmelford with his usual team on Tilty Too. Glencoe Boat Club's David Cooper's races Redwing in Class 8. Tom Grant with Inspiration and Alistair Cousin's Carma from Campbelltown are regular competitors in this class as is Alison Chadwick's Hot Toddy and Kenneth MacKinnon's Clandara. Findlay Clark of



Kilmelford sails his Club 19 Red October as the smallest boat in the fleet and will battle it out with Oban's Murray MacDonald with his newly launched Hunter 19 Michelle Dawn. In restricted sail class 9, Toby Sherwin, OSC commodore helms Torranan alongside Frank McHardy with Blue Liz and Judy Orr's Eureka, both from Campbeltown. Stanley Hampton of Craobh is a first time entrant with his Twister Dycer, also in Class 9.

The competition....

Noticeable for 2010 is the interest in the extra IRC classes introduced. Class 1 is all IRC with Class 3 split between IRC and CYCA. If successful it may point to the addition of more IRC classes for the future.

The classic 12m Sceptre is back again with Tom Smith at the helm racing IRC Class 1 as is Andy Knowles' Xanadu. Add to this Chris Tiso's Thunderbird of Rhu, Ian McNair's First by Farr, Steve Cowie's Zephyr and Rod Stuart's Eos and this looks to be a hotly contested class.

Robin Murray's First 40 Elf Too drops the kite to compete in restricted sail class CYCA 2. Regular visitor Manuka is back with Patrick Clark as are Wardance and the Aikman's Skanne.

IRC Class 3b has Iain Laidlaw's new J97 Jaywalker with the Robertson/Bolton partnership's Hops, the Taylor's Sigma 33 Sula and Mike Spence's Le Basculer also here. WHYW stalwarts, the Jeffery and Scutt partnership with Carmen II also race IRC as does Hoo-Ha and Ian MacLachlan's Dehler 36 Polaris.

CYCA 3a is a big one and sees Delinquent returning, Roy D'Silva's Canna of Clyde, Geoff Bowerman's AeRo, Robert Howison's Elan 434 Kinabalu, Andy Thoms' Scot's Legende and Ken Andrew's SJ35 Nuage amongst the starters. Gordon Tourlmain's impressive CNB 60 Sunbird, dubbed a mini-super yacht, will be one to watch at the starts.

Argyll fleet white sail Class 4 has Tim Gale back with Fizz, Stevie Andrews from Northern Ireland with Scary the Boat, David Harcourt's An Doochallie, Tir na Nog of Rhu and Taika. Leomaris of Clyde, Robin Ferguson's Hoodlum, Andy Sime's Ogun and Steve Williams Mystic Sun are also all familiar Class 4 competitors.

In Tunnock's Class 5 the Sigma 33 Ziggy Stardust joins fellow Sigma 33s Leaky Roof II and Catalina

alongside Craig Anderson's Cool Bandit II, former overall title winner. Other Moody 336's here are Stuart Hamilton's Piecemaker and Gregor Finlay's Saorsa. They will face stiff competition if conditions are right for Alan Dunnet's evergreen Swan 36 Valhalla of Ashton, always in contention. Other strong contenders in this class include John Corson's Astral and Mark Taylor's Strike 3.

White sail Class 6 sees the return of Laurence Jacobsen's beautiful 8m Inismara after several years absence. Overall WHYW 2009 winner Brian Young's Glenafton returns as do Ronnie and Jane Harris with their Maxi 1000 Orinoco, Alan Creevie with Serendipity and Tam and Angela Anderson with Juniper Groove, Mike Stanton's Sorcery and Alan MacPher-son's Raskl also join Class 6.

Class 7 will be dominated by Ruaridh Angus's SJ30 Misjif after good results in the Scottish Series.

Stephen Pickles in Tango Too will not be letting the competition get away and similarly Jock McDougall in Shoki is always up there in contention. Alistair Hart's Just'Cos, Ian Munro's Hendrick's will also be racing hard with Stewart Robertson's Hunter 707 and the Ohlson 38 Mistral. Ross Ryan's Truant will be a stunning sight under full sail on the first passage race in Class 7 with the 'Three Men in a Boat' aboard.

Class 8 has been widened this year and Alistair's Pugh's Marisca will be to the fore having already notched up a class win Round Mull. He will match race with Circe the other Contessa 32. Peter Brown's Moody Eclipse Eas Mhor is also back with Alistair Gray's Nicholson 35 Orwell Lass.

Class 9 stalwart WHYW competitor Iain Forsyth once again lines up with Geen Caubeen, his Westerly Griffon as does Seonaid Reid in the lovely McGruer class, Malindi of Lorne.

Setting the Social Scene

The Lord of the Isles

THE festivities at Craobh Marina are based at the Lord of the Isles. The pub and restaurant are offering a full day catering service with a range of food from the bar, barbecue and restaurant including special WHYW dinners. The popular Oyster and Champagne Bar is also available this year and there will be the famous Marquee Dance in the evening, music

from the Mid Argyll Pipe Band and the now traditional fireworks by the Lord of the Isles to celebrate the launch of the regatta.

Chunks at Oban Marina

Local band Chunks are set to get feet tapping to their own brand of music in the big barn at Oban Marina on Kerrera after the passage race on Sunday. This will be a true barn dance with hay bales and a can bar to augment the main bar at the Waypoint Grill. The Waypoint will be serving a delicious selection of food all day for competitors as well as bacon rolls in the morning!

Oban Sailing Club Barbecue

A now traditional family barbecue to satisfy hungry sailors - come along for fantastic burgers at OSC's seafront clubhouse!

Oban High School Junior Pipe Band on the Open Top Bus

This talented young pipe band will play at various locations in Oban prior to the Skippers Reception on Monday to celebrate the WHYW fleet being in town. Watch out for the Open Topper courtesy of West Coast Motors.

Skippers' Reception

On Monday the Skippers' Reception is being hosted by Caledonian MacBrayne. Skippers, sponsors and guests are invited to enjoy a canapé and refreshment at the CalMac terminal in Oban. The Oban High School Junior Pipe Band will pipe guests into the reception and the feeder race prizes will be presented.

Skerryvore entertain at the Ceilidh House

Later on Monday evening Skerryvore take to the stage to play for the fleet at the Skipinnish Ceilidh House in Oban. The well known band from Tiree is now a major player on the world stage. Angus MacPhail of Skipinnish who runs the Ceilidh House said it was great to have Skerryvore playing on 'home ground'. 'There is always a buzz when the West Highland Yachting Week fleet is in town and Skerryvore is a big boost for the event,' he said.

The Wide Mouthed Frog

Always a popular venue at Dunstaffnage Marina the Wide Mouthed Frog is now under new proprietors Chris Willeman and Cathryn Jones and will have a great array of food available for competitors. Breakfasts will be available and on Tuesday the centre piece will be a Spit Roast and barbecue. Bar meals will be available throughout the day and there will be entertainment on Tuesday night.

Touch Rugby is also on offer on Tuesday evening with teams to touch down at 7pm at Oban Lorne Rugby Club. Take up the challenge with your team mates!

Class 7 will be dominated by Ruaridh Angus's SJ30 Misjif after good results in the Scottish Series.



Atlantis Leisure offers free family swimming at the leisure centre on Tuesday for WHYW competitors.

The West Highland Yachting Week Beach Party at the Ceilidh House

Bring on the fancy dress beach ware and enjoy a frenzy of dancing and fun - Famous guest DJ will host the inter-yacht dancing competition!

Tobermory

The après sail social scene in Tobermory is excellent with ceilidhs and pub entertainment on the agenda as well as the best of Scottish fare offered by the wide range of restaurants and cafes. This year as one of the WHYW sponsors Tobermory Distillery is hosting a whisky tasting of their famed Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky at MacGochans on Thursday evening. This is followed by a ceilidh sponsored by Tobermory Whisky with music from Gunna Sound.

Final prize-giving ceilidh - Oban

Back by popular request, Craighdarloch is the headline event for Friday's final headline event in Oban. After the silverware is presented for the week competitors will enjoy dancing to a mixture of ceilidh rock from one of the top bands in Scotland.

Support for West Highland Yachting Week

After long standing sponsors Tennents bowed out in 2009, this year West Highland Yachting Week moves forward into a new era. Sponsorship support now comes from Tunnock's, the famous family biscuit makers, The Oban Common Good Fund, Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky, Tobermory Harbour Association and Argyll and Bute Council. In addition The Crown Estate and Caledonian MacBrayne have stepped back aboard to help run the event, West Coast Motors provide help with transport linking with the après sail social programme in Oban and BP Marine is providing fuel for some of the many committee boats.

Joint Regatta Chairman Dave Waltho said: 'We are grateful to all our sponsors and supporters for their input without which we could not run this amazing event. The partnership with all these companies bolsters the success of one of the most popular yachting regattas in the UK.'

Tunnock's

Tunnock's came on board last year and the spinner classes at WHYW are known as the Tunnock's Fleet. The support of this well known Scottish firm is fitting for a unique Scottish regatta. Family bakers since Thomas Tunnock formed the company in 1890 in Uddingston, their products have acquired a cult status. There will be top up packs of the famous Tunnock's survival packs that are a 'must-have' on every yacht.

The Oban Common Good Fund recognizes the input from the regatta to the community of Oban. This is seen both in terms of economic input and the Festival atmosphere created within the town itself, a major attraction for both locals and visitors Argyll and Bute Council also supports WHYW with the event overall estimated to be worth between £600-700,000 to the area of Argyll and Bute. The partnership points up both the substantial economic input of the regatta and the new focus on building West Highland Yachting Week into a more community oriented event.

Tobermory links

New supporters this year are Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky and Tobermory Harbour Association. In welcoming both aboard Dave Waltho commented: 'We already have a close bond with Tobermory with two days based here during the Regatta so this strengthens our base in this iconic port. Whisky distilling and sailing go back centuries on the west coast and it's really nice to have a good West High-

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www.barcaldinmarine.co.uk

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CRAOBH MARINA

Come along and join us for the start of the 63rd year of West Highland Yachting Week on the 31st July for full details visit www.WHYW.co.uk

Tel 01852 500222 craobhmarina@talk21.com

CRAOBH marina

land whisky brand in partnership with our unique West Highland event.'

Katherine Crisp, Tobermory Brand Manager said: 'We are delighted to be involved with such a respected event in the sailing calendar. There is a strong association between whisky and sailing, in particular with Tobermory whose history is steeped in stories of adventures at sea including the Spanish Galleon, whose treasure is reportedly still sitting at the bottom of the bay. The distillery looks forward to welcoming both competitors and spectators to enjoy a dram or two.'

Tobermory Harbour Association
Alison Rimmell at Tobermory Harbour Association said: 'Once again Tobermory welcomes the fleet for West Highland Yachting Week. Come ashore and sample our restaurants which offer the very best of Mull produce. For the non-sailor there is a lot to do - from golf and fishing to visiting the craft shops on the main street and at Baliscate. Also there is the Tobermory Museum and a fantastic arts centre - An Tobar - both well worth a visit.'
'This year Tobermory Harbour Association is delighted to have been able to help sponsor this fantastic event. The harbour facilities are there to be used

Crinan based Ross Ryan's restored classic 8-metre The Truant will be raced on the Craobh to Oban passage by Griff Rhys Jones, Dara O'Briain and Rory McGrath of 'Three Men In A Boat' fame.

and our moorings officers, Jim and Barbara, will be on hand to help and to make your visit to Tobermory pleasant and trouble free.'

As well as offering free anchorage in Tobermory Bay and moorings for hire, Tobermory Harbour Association operate the pontoon berths at Ledaig which offer fuel, power and water plus the new all facilities building ashore in Taigh Solais. The ethos of THA is to provide 'facilities for all' and encourage visitors afloat to bring benefit throughout the Island.

Brian Swinbanks, chairman of THA said: 'West Highland Yachting Week brings enormous benefit to all our community on Mull. Like the Mull Rally WHYW is a major event bringing not only the yachts and competing crews to Tobermory but many visitors who are attracted by the spectacle of the regatta and the great atmosphere.'

The Crown Estate
Similarly The Crown Estate has invested in the pontoon facilities at Tobermory through its Marine Communities Fund. Paul Bancks, Coastal Manager of The Crown Estate (Scotland) said: 'West Highland Yachting Week is an excellent opportunity to promote the huge tourism benefits that sailing offers to coastal communities. The Crown Estate is contributing by investing in pontoon and onshore facilities, which not only attract tourism but also provide facilities for local boat owners.'

Caledonian MacBrayne
Caledonian MacBrayne adds support this year and also hosts the Skipper's Reception in their airy departure lounge at the ferry terminal in Oban on Monday evening.

Providing a lifeline transport service to the islands and their communities CalMac ferries are a familiar sight throughout the week as the fleet move between Craobh, Oban and Tobermory. The passage races of WHYW between ports mirror CalMac's sailings that now include 24 Scottish destinations.

West Coast Motors
West Coast Motors have been bringing people together with their transport services since 1923 and this mirrors the WHYW fleet coming together to race for 63 years. WCM is putting on a shuttle bus service on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Friday when the fleet is in Oban to link up with après sail events. On Sunday the bus links with the ferry to Kerrera for Kerrera Capers where Chunks are playing and the service can be used for all the other events on the social programme.

New trophies recognise sponsorship support
The Oban Common Good Fund trophy will be awarded to the winner of the Class 3a IRC Points Series. The Oban Common Good Fund also sponsors the Social Programme for WHYW. Recognising this year's support from Tobermory Single Malt Whisky, the Oban to Tobermory Race will be known as the Tobermory Whisky Race and the winner of Class 2 will be awarded the Tobermory Whisky Trophy. The new IRC Class 1a Points Class will compete for the Ben Hiant Cup for the Series.

All information about West Highland Yachting Week and how to take part is on the website www.whyw.co.uk

West Highland Yachting Week Window Dressing Competition
The window dressing competition in Tobermory is again being run for 2010 with businesses invited to take part with the theme 'The link between West Highland Yachting Week and Tobermory'. A prized silver trophy will be presented to the winner with a bottle of malt and Tunnock's survival pack. Tobermory Distillery, Tobermory Togs and Clogs, The Mull Pottery, Catriona's Hair and Beauty Salon, Tackle and Books, Seafare, The Isle of Mull

Soap Company, Browns and the Mishnish have all expressed interest so far. Last year's winner was Seafare with the Mull Soap company second and Mull Pottery third.

Mary Waltho of the Joint Regatta Committee who judged the competition said: 'Last year's winning windows were of an exceptionally high standard. We hope this year will see the same in what is a brilliant community contribution to West Highland Yachting Week.'

Any business who wishes an entry form please contact Alison Chadwick at mail@amcnab.co.uk

Photographs at West Highland Yachting Week
Ron Cowan, the well known yachting photographer will be at West Highland Yachting Week this year and a selection of his photographs from last year are on his website www.yachtingimages.co.uk
If you have a particular query about your boat picture contact him either via the website or Ronald M. Cowan ABIP, Incorporated Photographer, 85 Eastwoodmains Road, Clarkston GLASGOW G76 7HG
For further details, please contact ron@yachtingimages.co.uk

Three Men in a Boat come to West Highland Yachting Week!

ONE ENTRY on the West Highland Yachting Week start line this month will be attracting more attention than most.

Crinan based Ross Ryan's restored classic 8-metre The Truant will be raced on the Craobh to Oban passage by Griff Rhys Jones, Dara O'Briain and Rory McGrath of 'Three Men In A Boat' fame. The latest series following the adventures of the three sailing 'heroes' will be filmed on the west coast of Scotland. Keen to compete in West Highland Yachting Week as a unique sailing event, the three intrepid mariners have teamed up with the kenspeckle Truant and will compete in Class 5. Filming will also take place at Crinan aboard the puffer Vic 32. This will be the fifth series of this popular BBC programme and will include other activities in the Oban area including Griff, Dara and Rory competing at the Kilmore Highland Games.

Said Zoe Timmers, associate producer for the series: 'This year's Three Men in a Boat is set to be the best yet. We all can't wait to spend time on the stunning west coast of Scotland - and to see it from the water too is even better. The Three Men have a fair bit of sailing experience behind them now, so hopefully they'll do well in West Highland Yachting Week.'

The series is due to be aired on BBC2 over the Christmas period.



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Craobh Haven • Restaurant & Bar 01852 500658

West Highland Yachting Week - What's On at LOTI!

Friday 30th July
Oysters & Seafood together with our a la carte menu served all day
Evening Live Music - enjoy 'Danny Carol'

Join us on Saturday 31st July for a day and night to remember! or not...
- Beer Tent & Music throughout the afternoon -
- Oyster & Seafood Bar - Spectacular all day Barbecue - Hog Roast -
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 live band 'Shanagin' followed by a fabulous Fireworks Display before last orders...

On Sunday 1st August Breakfast sit in or carry out will be served from 8am
On the way home.... Friday 6th of August - Join us at LOTI for Live Music and Good Food

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Homemade Mouthwatering Menu with Local Seafood & Barbeck Farm Beef
Light Lunches from £3.50, Kids Menu from £1.50
Real Ales, Perfectly Chilled Wines, Malt Selection

Call to Book
Table Reservations Essential
01852 500 284
www.galleyoflorne.co.uk

If you're looking for a friendly place to go with great food and a well stocked bar, then the award-winning Galley of Lorne Inn is for you. Just 10 minutes drive from Craobh Haven and a stone's throw from Ardfem Marina, hosts Andrew and Sarah Stanton have transformed this lively little Inn into a must stop visit on the Argyll coastline for yachts and foodies alike. The menu at the Inn boasts the freshest seafood from local waters and meats from local suppliers such as the meltingly tender beef from Barbeck Farm just along the road. For lunch or dinner, you won't be disappointed with The Galley and each time a warm welcome awaits. Book in advance to avoid disappointment, 01852 500 284.

AULAY'S BAR
A bar of character
8 AIRDS CRESCENT
OBAN
Welcoming West Highland Yachting week
Tel: 01631 562596
Proprietor: Aulay Dunn

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 £14 (inc VAT) - up to 25 ft £11 (inc VAT) per 24 hours.

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant

A great spot for a crew dinner
West Highland Yachting Week

Overlooking the harbour
Gallanach Road • Oban • 01631 562087

Dunstaffnage Marina
Wishes Everyone a Successful West Highland Week

Although we are still a busy Marina we can find berthing for boats throughout West Highland Week as we have in the past: we have the usual showers, toilets, and laundry facilities.

Our 18-ton travel hoist and dedicated team will be on site all week to handle any of your problems.
Marina VHF Frequency M1 or Channel 37

The Wide Mouthed Frog Is now OPEN!

The Iona Shop
A family business since 1947
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Wishing all competitors good luck for this years West Highland Yachting Week

2 Queens Park Place, Oban
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Fusion Marine pontoons are ideal for all kinds of situations and can be sited in remote locations so as to allow easy access to the shore.

The individually designed plastic pontoons are perfect for small communities or coastal hotels looking to attract passing yachts, these pontoons are a great way of gaining new business.

For more information
Fusion Marine Ltd, Marine Resource Centre
Barcaldine, By Oban PA37 1SE
01631 720 730
e: info@fusionmarine.com

www.fusionmarine.com

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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!

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Best wishes to all competitors and visitors for the coming events from your BP Marine Fuel Distributor.

The ideal west coast cruising base which is quiet and protected yet conveniently located.

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CRAOBH MARINA

West Highland Yachting Week Social Scene 2010

Sponsored by The Oban Common Good Fund

Friday 30th July

ISLE OF GIGHA

Bar suppers and dinners available at the hotel from 18.00hrs to 20.30hrs with local fish being the focal point of the menu at the moment. Booking advised.

Saturday 31st July

CRAOBH MARINA & LORD OF THE ISLES PUB & RESTAURANT - LORD OF THE ISLES OPENING PARTY

11.30 am to last orders
All day & evening entertainment from 11:30am. Enjoy an all day barbecue, oyster, champagne & seafood bar, fireworks and live music. Bacon butties or a full Scottish breakfast from 08.30 (with a complimentary glass of bucks fizz on Sunday only). Booking is advised for special West Highland Yachting Week evening dinners in the restaurant and Sunday sit down breakfast.

Sunday 1st August

'CHUNKS' AT OBAN MARINA, ISLE OF KERRERA - THE KERRERA CAPERS BARN DANCE! WIDE SELECTION OF FOOD FROM THE WAYPOINT GRILL

20.30hrs till late. Last ferry (Oban Marina Shuttle Service) from Kerrera 01.00 hrs. Enjoy live music from well known band Chunks in the massive Oban Marina Boatshed - a true barn dance with a hay bale bar! Seafood grill, barbecue and drinks in the attractive Waypoint Bar overlooking the marina - fast growing its reputation as one of the finest on the west coast and with new pontoon capacity for 2010.

Monday 2nd August

OBAN SAILING CLUB - EARLY EVENING BARBECUE PARTY

18.00hrs to 20.30 hrs
Come and enjoy a 'light bite' with a barbecued burger and salad at Oban Sailing Club. Team this with a drink from the bar and catch up on tales of the day's racing with one of the best views of Oban Bay.

OBAN HIGH SCHOOL PIPE BAND TOUR OBAN

19.00hrs to 19.30hrs
Get your feet tapping to the rousing 'skirl of the pipes' with this young pipe band as they play at various venues in Oban on the open top West Coast Motors double decker bus.

SKIPPER'S RECEPTION AND TOBERMORY WHISKY TASTING (INVITATION ONLY) - CALMAC FERRY TERMINAL

Arrive 19.30hrs for 20.00hrs start (finishes 22.00hrs)
The popular Skipper's reception takes place in the attractive and spacious departure lounge in Oban's CalMac Ferry Terminal. Oban High School Pipe Band will be playing to greet guests on arrival and there will be complimentary drinks and delicious canapés to enjoy. The Prize-giving for the three Feeder Races will be held during the reception. Whisky tasting with WHYW sponsor's Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky.

SKIPINNISH CEILIDH HOUSE - LIVE MUSIC FROM SKERRYVORE!

22.00hrs till late
Tickets £10 with WHYW voucher and £12 on the door. Vouchers issued with Skipper's packs at Craobh Marina.

Playing especially for the WHYW fleet, this world renowned band is not one to miss! The very best of traditional Scottish music from the best of bands and fantastic to dance to! Skerryvore are local to Tiree so it's a fitting event for West Highland Yachting Week.



Tuesday 3rd August

ATLANTIS LEISURE CENTRE - FREE FAMILY SWIM NIGHT

18.00hrs to 20.00hrs - The chance to go swimming with all the family at Atlantis. Relax in this excellent pool after a hard day's racing. Other facilities ie gym, sauna, classes are all available at Atlantis Leisure Centre at cost.

OBAN & LORNE RUGBY CLUB - INTER YACHT TOUCH RUGBY

19.00hrs PROMPT to 22.00hrs
Bring your team along to this fun rugby tournament. All teams to turn up at 1900hrs prompt! To enter complete the registration form included in the sailing instructions and return to the race office. Forms can also be collected from the race office. Bar open at club.

THE WIDE MOUTHED FROG, DUNSTAFFNAGE MARINA

All day food at the Wide Mouthed Frog with a fantastic atmosphere at this picturesque marina. Entertainment on Tuesday night.

SKIPINNISH CEILIDH HOUSE - WEST HIGHLAND YACHTING WEEK BEACH PARTY!

22.00hrs till late
Tickets £5 with WHYW voucher and £8 on the door. Voucher issued with Skippers Packs at Craobh Marina. Come along in fancy dress beach wear for the party of the week! Famous guest DJ and Inter-Yacht Dance Competition. Show off your dancing skills and win some great prizes!

Wednesday 4th August

MACGOCHANS PUB

This well known Tobermory venue features 'The man from del Monte', Enjoy a selection of 80s rock covers - great music, great dancing. Meals available from 12 noon till 2200hrs.

Thursday 5th August

TOBERMORY DISTILLERY COURTYARD

20.00 - 21.00hrs
Midweek Prizegiving for racing from Sunday to Wednesday.

MACGOCHANS PUB

Tobermory Single Malt Scotch Whisky tasting courtesy of Tobermory Distillery. From 2100hrs-2200hrs.
Enjoy the lively atmosphere of MacGochans bar and be entertained by live music from the popular ceilidh band 'Gunna Sound'. Ceilidh sponsored by Tobermory Distillery.

Friday 6th August

FINAL PRIZE-GIVING NIGHT - CORRAN HALLS

20.30 to 0100hrs. Prize-giving from 20.30-21.30hrs.
Celebrate the final night of West Highland Yachting Week and dance the night away to live music from fantastic ceilidh rock band 'Craigendarloch'.

WEST COAST MOTORS BUS

West Coast Motors are running their special West Highland Yachting Week bus service for competitors between Dunstaffnage Marina and Oban. Timetables are available from the race office and within the Sailing Instructions. (Bus Fares: Adult Single = £1.50, Adult Return = £2.50, Child Single = £1.00, Child Return = £1.50, Scottish Concession card holders (age 60+) travel free).

Moorings & Facilities

Barcaldine Marine - New Pontoon Berth at Barcaldine

The development of facilities at Barcaldine Marine, Loch Creran, continues with the construction of a short term berthing and landing pontoon to improve the service to yachts on long term moorings, and to visitors.

Located close to existing waterside car parking, the new pontoon has been recently constructed by Fusion Marine, who are based at the Marine Resource Centre, home of Barcaldine Marine. The hammerhead arrangement will provide temporary berthing for up to 6 vessels at a time allowing ease of access for loading/unloading. The pontoon is moored in deep water and has 3m of depth at low water.

Barcaldine Marine currently has 50 deep-water swinging moorings in a minimum depth of 6m. These are professionally laid and serviced and are suitable for vessels up to 11.6m in length or 15 tonnes gross weight, although larger or heavier vessels can be accommodated on request. In addition visitors' moorings are available for occasional overnight use.

Martin Waterhouse, Chief Executive of Barcaldine Marine said:

'The introduction of this temporary loading pontoon is a significant stage in the development of Barcaldine Marine. We currently have 50 swinging moorings and our plan is to extend this to 100 as demand for moorings increases. The availability of the pontoon adjacent to waterside car parking and installed with freshwater supply, WiFi, and night lighting will compliment the existing range of services available. Barcaldine Marine has been established as a winter storage facility for 10 years offering indoor and outdoor storage options, the afloat facilities now give the complete year round package for the yacht owner seeking a base on the west coast of Scotland.'

More information on the range of services at Barcaldine Marine is available on the website: www.barcaldinemarine.co.uk or Telephone 01631 720291.

Craobh Marina

Craobh Marina is again looking forward to welcoming the sailing fleet with there crews and family's to this the 63rd year of West Highland Yachting Week. A fun filled week on land and sea.

This year's event begins on Friday 30th July with the feeder race from Inverkip to Ardrishaig, followed by the various feeder races on Saturday 31st from Oban and Gigha to Craobh Marina.

With all the fleet safely berthed, the first of the week's social events will commence at The Lord of The Isles with the Champagne and Oyster bar, also the open barbecue in the marquee and all the usual very tasty bar food and dining facilities normally available.

Saturday's entertainment to include music by the popular group Framed, and by POPULAR DEMAND a return and not to be missed Guest Appearance of the Mid Argyll Pipe Band who will be playing a number of tracks from their current CD 'Blackwood and Hickory'. To conclude the evening there will be a fabulous fire-work display. Throughout the day and evening fine ales, beers and spirits will be available. Sunday morning breakfast complete with Bucks Fizz will be available at the Lord of the Isles (booking advisable) prior to the fleet departing 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 and a very enjoyable week.

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 outdoor 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.

Eating Out Guide 2010

Oban Fish & Chip Shop:
116 George Street, Oban
Fried fish made to order incl haddock, cod, local sole, hake, Fresh oysters.
Homemade meals.
"The best fish and chips I have ever tasted"
- Rick Stein
01631 567000

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

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
Newly Refurbished restaurant
01631 710666

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.
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Norie's:
Award winning Fish and Chip Shop and Restaurant
Visit the most established and best Chippy in town
Sit in or Take Away
86 George Street Oban
01631 563736

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A friendly and informal café, serving imaginative and inexpensive home-made food, using local ingredients wherever possible.
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01852 500303 / 50068

Tigh an Truigh Inn:
Delicious Bar Food daily 12noon-2pm and 6pm-8.30pm
Just over the Atlantic Bridge
Isle of Seil
Tel 01852 300 242

The Puffer Bar & Restaurant:
A warm friendly welcome, great homemade food, local seafood and a beautiful location are here for you to discover
Evening bookings recommended
Tel. 01852 300022 www.pufferbar.com

The Western Isles Hotel:
Isle of Mull
If you're interested in good food and good wine then you need look no further than the Western Isles Hotel.
We have some of the finest suppliers of fresh fish, meat and cheese on our doorstep and we'll serve you with the minimum of fuss and bother
Telephone 01688 302012

Markie Dans:
Victoria Crescent, Corran Esplanade, Oban
Best beer garden in town, Excellent bar meals served all day 12noon-9pm with views across Oban Bay
selection of over 100 malts
Live music from Finn on Monday 2nd August
01631 564448

Café Fish:
Tobermory, Isle of Mull
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Champion of Champions at last Friday's annual Tiree Agricultural Show was a purebred British Blue heifer, Ruaig Destiny from Iain MacInnes, Ruaig



Angus John Cameron with his champion Blackface gimmer

Ruaig British Blue is Tiree's Champion of Champions

TIREE Show basked in glorious sunshine to welcome record crowds last Friday. Joining many mainland visitors was a RIB-full of 14 Islay farmers along with neighbouring islanders from Coll, Lismore and Barra. Duncan Low from Banchory, Aberdeenshire and Tony Jones Oswestry, Shropshire judged the cattle and crossbred sheep sections respectively. Both are no strangers to the island's stock being regular buyers at cattle and sheep sales and were impressed by the high standard of stock on show.

The winner in the crossbred cattle section was an April born Charolais cross bullock calf by Inverloch Up and Up from Archie John MacLean, Heylipol Farm. Reserve stood another April born calf from young Colin MacKinnon, Kilkenneth. This Limousin cross heifer calf was by a Shannas bred bull from the Crofters Commission. After exhibiting some quality young calves, Gilleasbuig Campbell, Garaphail won the Crofter's Shield for most points in the cattle section.

The supreme cattle champion came from the purebred section. Ruaig Destiny, a November '09 British Blue heifer by Elogieux from Iain MacInnes, Ruaig. This heifer also went on to be Champion of Champions. Although numbers were down in the crossbred sheep ring, there was strong competition with the champion coming from Ruaig with a Texel cross ewe.

Reserve was the overall ewe lamb winner from Alexander MacKay,

Balemartine. Most points in the sheep section and winner of the Crofter's Shield was show stalwart Maggie Campbell, Benview.

The Blackface sheep section saw an increase in numbers with their champion coming from Colin MacKinnon, Kilkenneth with a gimmer bought as a ewe lamb from Donald Cameron, Inion, North Connel. Matthew Ralston, Rhoin, Campbeltown has been a regular visitor to Tiree Show and was over this year to judge the purebred sheep section. His champion was a homebred Suffolk gimmer by Strathisla Speed out of a Brackenhill ewe from 17 year old Fraser MacLean, Heylipol.

After strong competition from his younger brother Alasdair's Beltex entries, it was the Suffolk that went on to be the supreme sheep champion at the Show. Struan, the Highland gelding from Janis MacArthur lifted the pony championship. Lesley Stewart, Onich had a busy time judging the pony classes before joining her team members to take part in the main attraction, the Lochaber Dog Agility Team.

The afternoon programme attracted crowds to the popular pet show. This year the champion was a pointer from island visitor, Annalle Duncan of Morpeth. The home industries section saw produce numbers down however the children's sections produced a great display of entries. The day was rounded off with Mr and Mrs Lachie MacKinnon, Parkhouse, Balmaghie presenting the prize winners with their



Supreme sheep champion was the homebred Suffolk gimmer from 17-year old Fraser MacLean, Heylipol



Champion dog was this stylish Pointer from Tiree visitor Annabelle Duncan



Nan MacLachlan and Angus John Cameron won the reserve champion and overall champion respectively at Kilchoan Show with their Blackface sheep

Home Industries Section
Tiree Agricultural Society Cup
Cup Most points for pre-school children - Neil Hugh MacKinnon
Tiree Agricultural Society Cup
Cup Most points for children under 7 - Darren MacCallum
Tiree Agricultural Society Cup
Cup Most points for pre-school children under 11 - Kirsteen MacKinnon
The MacDonald Memorial Cup
for Most points children under 16 - Ashleigh Watson
The Lady Peggy Hoare Salver for Best Knitted Article in show - Jennie Niven
Tiree Agricultural Society Cup
Cup Most points in Home Industries Section - Jennie Niven
Tiree Agricultural Society Cup
Cup Most points in Produce section - Fiona Munn
The Rural Cup - Most points in Home Industries and produce section - Fiona Munn
Bruton Challenge Trophy - Most points in Horticulture Section - John Fletcher
Co-op Special prize - Most outstanding item in Produce section - Janis MacArthur
Co-op Special prize Best exhibit in Home Industries - Jennie Niven
Co-op Special prize Best exhibit in Horticulture - Nancy Brown
Co-op Special prize Best exhibit in local children's section - Beatrice

Thomson
Visitors' section
The Christina Maclean Cameron memorial Salver for Most points in Visitors' section - Lawrence McGarvey
Tiree Agricultural Society Most points in Children Pre Five - Eubha Fraser
Tiree Agricultural Society Most points in visiting children under 7 - Iain MacDonald
Tiree Agricultural Society Most points in visiting children under 11 - Kirsty MacArthur
Tiree Agricultural Society Most points in visiting children under 16 - Ellie Galbraith
Co-op Special prize Best exhibit in visitors' section - Carol Ball
Co-op Special prize Best exhibit in visiting children's section - Poppy Cox



There was strong competition in the home industries section and in the horticultural classes where the Bruton Challenge Trophy for most points was won by John Fletcher

No horses - but plenty more at Lorn Show

LORN Agricultural Show will be held at Dunstaffnage Mains Farm on Saturday, August 7, however, there will be no horse events at the show this year, and no horses will be allowed on the showfield.

The show will host sheep and cattle classes, dog showing classes and children's classes and a packed programme also includes a visit from a dog display team, vintage tractors, a six a side shinty competition, and new this year, a children's fancy dress competition with three age groups. Age groups are on posters locally.

Prime lambs maintain rise at Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 77 prime cattle at Dingwall last Tuesday when prime cattle were back slightly on the week while prime lambs continued to rise. Prime bullocks averaged 158.4p (-6.4p on the week) and sold to 173p per kg for a 575kg Charolais cross from Easter Strath of Auchterflow, Killen and £1,046.50 for a 650kg Charolais cross from Bridgend, Dingwall. New season lambs averaged 160p (+0.9p) and sold to 166.3p per kg for 43kg Texel crosses from Scroggie Farm, Dingwall, and £73 for 48kg Suffolk crosses also from Scroggie Farm, to John M. Munro Ltd., Dingwall.

Store cattle trade a little easier at Stirling

UNITED Auctions sold 635 store cattle and 94 cows at Stirling on Wednesday.

Bullocks averaged 157.17p (-5p) and sold to 204.2p per kg for a 257kg Limousin cross from Bogend and £995 for a 632kg Simmental cross from Easter Clunie.

Heifers averaged 160.2p (-2.7p) and sold to 184p per kg for a 250kg Limousin cross from Bogend and £870 for a 512kg Charolais cross from Macharoch, who also sold heifers at 169.9p, 168.2p and 163.9p per kilo.

Cast cows averaged 92.48p and sold to 125.4p for a Limousin cross from No9 Killeonan and £915 for a Limousin cross from Clarkton.

Forward cattle averaged 128.2p and sold to 136.6p per kg for a British Blue cross from Newfield Mains and £985 for a Limousin cross from The Ross.

Prime lambs ease back at Millhall sale

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd sold 880 prime lambs and 255 cast ewes and rams at Millhall market last Tuesday when prime lamb trade was back on the steep trade of the previous week. Prime lambs averaged 166.34p (-3.04p on the week) selling to 198p for Texels scaling 40kg from JG and K Graham, Easterton Farm, and £90 twice for Texels from D Henderson, Auchernivoch and Morgan Farm.

Ewes sold to £83.50 for Texels from White, Pett to average at £52.40.

Stirling sheep trade still on upward trend

UNITED Auctions sold 2,798 prime sheep including 2,373 lambs averaging £72.84/hd (+£1.64) and 166.3p/kg (+1.9p) and 425 ewes and rams at Stirling last Thursday.

Texel lambs from Cherryfield sold to £99 and to 184p per kilo from Glenlyon. Suffolk lambs from South Flanders sold to £87 and 178p per kilo while Cheviots from Gilston sold to £71 and 161p per kilo.

Texel ewes from Connachan sold to £114, with Suffolks from Wester Ochtermuthill selling to £89.50. Blackface ewes from Woodhall sold to £64, with Gilston selling Cheviots to £60.50.

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No seed, no growth, no harvest

THIS WEEK, the second stage of Scotland's national renewables infrastructure plan was revealed by Highland and Island Enterprise (HIE), with the announcement drifting in largely unnoticed.

Yet the proposals to create 11 manufacturing sites to construct wind turbines could have a greater effect on the economy than the controversial introduction of the wind turbines to the landscape.

More than 5,000 jobs could be created as the sites in Kintyre, Arderseir, Arnish, Kishorn, Peterhead, Methil, Hunterston, Aberdeen, Dundee, Leith and Nigg are developed and expanded to construct the 750 off-shore wind turbines per annum required to meet current estimates of Scottish and world-wide demand.

Upgrading existing construction sites to encompass this new market appears like a common sense approach, however, without huge investment from both the private and public sector, the potential annual income of some £300 million per year will simply not be achievable.

Given the lack of enthusiasm from the financial sector to become involved in seed spending, perhaps this renewables plan will be blown away with the chaff.



John MacKellar admires stirks in a field at Selma, Benderloch in 1935. C C Bullock from Coventry sends us this picture of rural life in the 1930s. We invite readers to send in flashback photographs. 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.

GLASGOW LETTER

Piping Live 2010

THIS year, 2010, will be the seventh year of the Piping Live Festival in Glasgow, the city's week long (Monday 9th August to Sunday 15th August) global celebration of modern piping music organised by the Glasgow International Piping Festival.

Taking place across various venues, and set to attract 30,000 visitors, the festival will showcase traditional and contemporary cutting edge piping. The week will culminate with the World Pipe Band Championships on Saturday 14th in Glasgow Green when more than 8,000 pipers, in front of 50,000 spectators, will battle it out. Piping Live has something for everyone ranging from headline concerts, which are ticketed, to a host of free events. Much will take place at the National Piping Centre, indoors and outdoors, and George Square will be another important focus for events. Next week I shall provide details of the terrific variety which will be available and so that tickets can be purchased in advance I shall limit this column to the main concert programme.

Monday 9th Opening Night Concert, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 7.30pm, Lord Todd Bar, 7pm, Willie McCallum, Angus MacColl, Stuart Liddell, Jack Lee, Gordon Walker.

Wednesday 11th Music of the West Coast, St Andrew's in the Square, 7.30pm, Julie Fowlis, James Graham Trio

Thursday 12th Pipes and Strings, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 7.30pm, Allan MacDonald, Finlay MacDonal, Neil Johnstone, Roddie MacLeod, MBE. Grand Summer Ceilidh, St Andrew's in the Square, 7.30pm, Fergie MacDonald Band. University of Strathclyde Piping Recital Challenge, Lord Todd Bar,

7.30pm, Angus MacColl, Stuart Liddell, Alasdair Gillies, Bruce Gandy.

Friday 13th International Piping Concert, Lord Todd Bar, 5pm, Marco Fox, Patrick Mollard, Armagh Piper's Club, Xeremiers de Soller. Capercaille and friends, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 7.30pm.

Saturday 14th After the Worlds Shindig, Old Fruitmarket, 8.30pm, Breabach, Fred Morrison, The Treacherous Orchestra, Black Rose Ceilidh Band. Piping Live at Ceol's Craic, CCA, Sauchiehall Street, 9pm.

In addition there will be Piobaireachd of the Day each week day at the College of Piping, Otago Street at 12.30pm and the Festival Club will take place in the National Piping Centre at 10pm with a selection of artists performing each evening. Tickets are available online at www.pipinglive.co.uk or also at 0141 353 8000 for Concert Hall events or 0141 353 0220 for other events.

Anna Cameron

I am sure those who frequent the ceilidh scene in and around the city will be saddened to learn of the recent death of Anna Cameron.

Anna performed the duties of accompanist at many functions giving much fun and pleasure to many and our sympathy is extended to her immediate family at this time.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday July 29 Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Maeve MacKinnon, Lauren McColl and Ewan MacPherson.

Friday July 30-Sunday August 1 Lomond Folk Festival

Thursday August 5 Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Gabelrunzie

Friday August 6 Tolbooth, Stirling, 8pm The Wilders

Pub Scene

In the Park Bar this weekend the music will be provided by Ballochmyle on Friday, Eriskey Lilt on Saturday and Burns Brothers on Sunday while in the Islay Inn it will be the Clachies on Friday and Parting Glass on Saturday.

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

PRESS POLICY

WEATheObanTimesdoourmosttomakesurethatallour 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.

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Speaking on behalf of the people

Sir, After reading Councillor Foxley's take in The Oban Times on why Lochaber's Independent councillors should rejoin the administration, I would ask why should I rejoin an administration that ignores its commitments to the Lochaber electorate?

Readers will recollect administration members were expected to renege on the care home commitment and support a business case review against Highland Council's own policy and against the interests of Lochaber residents.

At an administration meeting to discuss the issue, Councillor Foxley from the top table said he expected all political groups to take action against any councillor voting against the administration.

On an earlier occasion, I refused to vote with the administration to allow the director of social work to take up outside duties and pay someone else £25,000 on top of their £75,000 salary to carry out the director's day-to-day work, while the council was cutting front line services at the same time.

Subsequently, the Independent group brought in new standing orders to deny councillors the right to act independently. We did not sign and we are no longer in the administration, which, when we joined it, assured us our independent status would not be compromised when it came to supporting issues affecting our local communities.

I am not prepared to go along with the administration if I believe it is wrong and detrimental to residents in my ward. The only way out of this mess is to devolve decision-making powers back to the areas.

That is a cause worth fighting for - but until then I will continue to speak and vote in the interests of those I represent.

Councillor Bill Clark
Caol and Malaig Ward

Spending on Argyll and Bute roads

Sir, Jamie McGrigor's suggestion in The Oban Times (July 15) that the Scottish Government should spend more on Argyll and Bute's roads at the same time as the Tory/LibDem coalition are inflicting savage cuts to public sector spending seems disingenuous.

With a significant new oil find in the North sea, Scotland's huge renewable energy potential, and a year on year fiscal surplus, the time has never been better for Scotland to seek separation and escape the economic incompetence inflicted upon us by successive Westminster Governments.

Argyll and Bute's roads have not deteriorated

overnight and are ailing like much of Scotland's infrastructure. We have failed to invest properly in upgrading our roads and infrastructure for many years only because we lack borrowing powers.

At the very least Jamie should support the campaign for fiscal autonomy and borrowing powers for the Scottish Government. It is only when, like every other country, we are able to borrow to fund the cost of large scale infrastructure improvements, that our roads will be brought up to the required standard. Many younger Tories already support this view and he should join them or risk being culled by the electorate like an elderly stag.

Jamie and his Tory colleagues may be in the fortunate position of never having had to borrow a penny. I should therefore point out that there is a world of difference between the credit card style borrowing advocated by both Tory and New Labour for PFI projects and responsible Government borrowing at keen rates for capital projects.

If Jamie has any influence at all with his Etonian friends he should also support the Scottish Government's request to spread the cost of the Forth bridge replacement over several years. Perhaps then there might be something left in the budget for Argyll and Bute's roads.

Use of helicopters for medical evacuations

Sir, In answer to a recent letter in The Oban Times: A life threatening medical evacuation from Oban to a hospital in Glasgow would be much quicker by helicopter.

The flying time by helicopter is about 25 minutes whereas a fixed wing aircraft can not achieve this trip any quicker due to the requirement to take off from and land on a runway. In the event of a life threatening emergency the individual would either be stabilised at the hospital or at the scene of an accident.

For either location it must be appreciated that a helicopter can pick up at any hospital and with only the odd exception any accident site and travel directly to a hospital in Glasgow. This negates the requirement for any road travel at both ends to and from an airport.

It is feasible that travel in this circumstance could be twice as quick by helicopter. Think of the driving time to Oban Airport from a road accident in Dalmailly or Easdale just to get the victim to an aeroplane and compare this to the use of a helicopter direct from the scene of an accident.

Even from the airport

at Oban to any Glasgow hospital I put my money on a quicker transfer by helicopter.

Helicopters also have a far greater ability to operate in bad weather which can only be an advantage in Argyll.

Anative Argyll professional helicopter instructor and fixed wing pilot

Lochaber statue to Tom Weir?

Sir, So now the tired walkers of the West Highland Way are expected to walk the extra mile to the 'new end' of the Way at the West End of Fort William.

There they will come weary and tired and see a poor soul sitting rubbing his feet and think 'He's walked the West Highland Way and someone's stolen his boot!' Don't get me wrong folks, I like the new statue but I believe some more consideration should be given to one and all regarding public sculpture.

Sore Feet is fine but if we are going to put up statues for the West Highland Way why not go for someone with a higher profile - someone like Tom Weir MBE, the famous climber, author and broadcaster.

His long running television series Weir's Way inspired many to take to the hills and the West Highland Way. In 1950 he was a member of the first post-war Himalayan expedition and in 1952, was one of the first to explore the previously closed mountain ranges of Nepal, east of Kathmandu.

He was also the first to be awarded the inaugural John Muir Lifetime Achievement Award by the John Muir Trust in 2000 in recognition of his environmental work.

One of his earliest fights for the environment was to stop a hydro scheme going ahead at the top of Glen Nevis.

If we are going to be putting up statues we could honour no better than the lovable Tom Weir, a hero to the climber, the walker and environmentalists and a great story teller to boot. We can still do it and before anyone else.

We should do it to thank Tom Weir for what he did for Lochaber and people will come from far and wide to see it. He was a hero in Lochaber, the Outdoor Capital of the UK.

Lachie Mor MacDougall Glenloy Street, Caol Argyll councillors congratulated

Sir, A full year has now passed since Argyll and Bute councillors made the unanimous decision to fly our nation's flag, the Saltire, every day of the year from all of the council's flagpoles.

Many readers of this paper will remember when our flag was just seen on one day

each year, St. Andrew's day. My main purpose in writing is to offer congratulations to our councillors for what, I think, has become a most welcome and momentous decision.

Just recently I stood and watched as a small group of happy and smiling French tourists took it in turn to have their photograph taken by the front green at Lochgilphead. They patiently waited for the breeze to be just right to show our flag at its best.

It is not just tourists who have their photo taken there because I know of some local people who have done the same.

Local shopkeepers have discussed it with me and I have not heard one word against this welcome change.

I think it is timely that our councillors are congratulated again for having got this decision right.

I offer a special photo of yet another Saltire which appeared in the heavens right above my house at Bun-an-Loch, Achnamara. I have named it 'the Heavenly Saltire' and it is almost as if the good Lord is endorsing the recent decision of Argyll and Bute councillors.

Well done!
Bill McDonichie,
Bun-an-Loch, Achnamara,
Lochgilphead.



A Saltire appeared in the sky above Achnamara

Saving St Conan's Kirk

Sir, Iain Thorner's letter in The Oban Times, July 22, said it all. St Conan's Kirk must be saved.

Funding can be found if public support can be demonstrated.

The Three Wee Crows Theatre Company has used the kirk for several performances over the past two years. Our evenings of short plays bring to life the history and legends of the Lorn area.

We now want to be part of the campaign to save the Kirk. To this end, there will be a late summer season of performances - August 8, 20 and 25, and September 10, 17 and 24, all starting at 7.30pm. Over 50 per cent of ticket sales will be donated to the kirk. By coming along, audiences will enjoy a great evening's entertainment, learn lots about our history, and be part of the campaign to save St Conan's Kirk.

David Price, Kilchrenan for Three Wee Crows Theatre Company

A view from the tower

by McCaig

First things first, Mr Cameron

WHEN the Liberal Democrats agreed to enter into a coalition government to run the country I and many others hoped that Mr Clegg would force David Cameron to abandon some of his backward-looking policies and make his priority getting Britain out of the mess into which the Labour party had plunged us.

Unfortunately, it appears that Mr Clegg appears to have become so besotted with his place at the Cabinet table that he would agree to anything as long as he got his poor form of proportional representation and same-sized constituencies. In return for this rather pathetic concession, he has been allowed a waste of valuable parliamentary time for the Prime Minister to indulge his public school-type fantasies about the 'Big Society' and enforced non-military service for all young people of 16 and over.

Obviously, he enjoyed himself at Eton and can forget that even in the two decades since he left his old school and almost all others of similar ilk have had to abandon CCF (combined cadet forces) - but have retained the social service element of what is recognised as 'training for life'.

However, he and his privately educated cohorts have forgotten that what may seem to be for those whose only choice is to conform or quit - only to be sent back by 'doting' parents who are glad to have their kids educated at arms length - is not necessarily good for all. Added to this is Mr Cameron's total ignorance of the enormous amount of good work already being done by the large and willing voluntary sector in Britain who, being nearer to the communities which they serve, know the needs of those who live there and strive to meet them with as little attention to the inevitable bureaucracy that any form of intervention requires.

Of course, we have to remember that Nick Clegg is also a public (in the English sense of the word) schoolboy. While young people educated in the state-sector are those to whom his non-military service is directed the Government must remember that come the summer holidays thousands of them are looking for a job to enhance their pocket money and to fund a holiday - or educational trip of their choice. Their 'work experience' is much more valuable than anything that Mr Cameron and his pals can provide as well as giving them practical training in handling money that they themselves have earned.

Pack it in Prime Minister and get on with your proper job!

A breath of fresh air

LIAM Fox, the Scot, who is in charge of the defence

of the realm, has always appeared to be a 'loner' when compared with his Cabinet colleagues.

In Opposition, and now in Government, he seemed to be rather right-wing, but he has turned out to be a realist.

In an interview in one of the few broadsheet daily newspapers left in the UK he has answered some very penetrating questions in a manner which I'm sure rather shocked its defence correspondent initially but, he presents the article in such a way that he seems to accept that Dr Fox has got it right.

The Minister tells it straight: 'What on earth are we keeping thousands of troops in Germany for when we are at peace with that country and indeed are in various military alliances with it?'

'The Royal Navy', he says has been too centred on the top end of high specification ships to the detriment of more vessels for less arduous tasks.'

And, as far as the RAF is concerned he points out that we seem to be happy to go on replacing too many aircraft whose purpose is not now always clear. The only thing on which he seems to be a Tory right-winger is the replacement of the Trident nuclear missile system with another nuclear weapon.

His thoughts must spread alarm through the minds of the Generals, Admirals and Air Vice Marshals as a government Strategic Defence Review is due to start in the autumn.

Does Sir Walter Scott need to be rescued

AS a schoolboy, a student and as an adult I've only read the novels and poems of Sir Walter Scott when I absolutely had to and that without any pleasure whatever.

I have found him 'a dry old stick', humorless and not even sleep-inducing. Now, it seems there is a sort of media campaign to put him on a pedestal and rate him alongside Robert Burns, and Robert Louis Stevenson and far superior to anyone writing today.

The latest claim is that his writings 'united Scotland'. It seems that the Victorians loved him. Well, they wouldn't they?

Heavy, ponderous, colourless prose in profusion was his metier and brevity was not a virtue. Perhaps, we should commission an opinion poll to see how many MSPs - particularly from the SNP ranks - have read more than six of his books and can quote 10 lines of his poetry. Not too many, I'll wager; not even the First Minister or his Cabinet Secretary for Education.

McCaig

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



Mary Taylor, who still lives in the house where she was born in the village of Tighnabrauaich, explains why this spectacular corner of the Cowal peninsula is so special to her.

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What makes the village special for you?

It is where my roots are and that is very important to me – generations of my family have lived and worked here. The place and its people have made me what I am. It is also the most beautiful place in the world.

Does the village have an interesting history?

Tighnabrauaich has a comparatively recent history having grown with the age of steam when many holiday homes and hotels were built along the Kerry shore. It grew to be the hub of the community with its pier, shops, bank, medical and dental surgeries and school. Many large houses became hotels or boarding houses.

The wider Parish of Kilfinan has a long and fascinating history.

How would you describe the village to someone who has never been there?

The area is West Highland in character and is more easily accessible than many other villages. It is scenic and peaceful with a local population, which tries to maintain traditional values of good neighbourliness and hospitality.

Were you born in the village? How long have you lived there?

I am privileged to live in the house I was born in.

I went away for education and worked for a few years in Glasgow where I met my husband, John. We took over the Burnside Teashop in 1969 (the year the 'new road' opened) and ran that together with a craft/gift shop for 15 years. The village was busy then, although things started to change slowly with the demise of the steamers and the increase in road traffic. One by one, shops and businesses disappeared and services were brought in from outwith the area.

Despite all the changes this is still a wonderful place to live and retirement here is marvellous.

How much has the village changed since you were a child?

It has changed so much. Electricity came in the late 1940s and tourism was



The spectacular view of the Kyles of Bute that can be enjoyed from the new road into the village.

booming in the 50s with 16 well-stocked and well-staffed shops. Smith's yard was still building boats and hotels and boarding houses were full all summer. Most locals 'let out' part of their homes in the summer and the same families returned year after year. The local population worked and played hard. Farmers still grew crops, fishermen caught fish and visitors arrived by the boat load. We had the Manor 'Kinema', three to four dances each week in the summer and annual events like the regatta and

sheepdog trials were hugely attended day-long affairs. The famous Kyles Athletic Shinty Club continued to excel, especially at school level, shaping up well for the future; Kyles of Bute Sailing Club was formed and the Youth Hostel Association ran sailing courses. The Golf Club, however, did not re-open till 1968 but winters were cold enough for outdoor curling. Most importantly everyone knew everyone else. Community care was unstructured but real and effective. There were five churches

and four ministers in the parish in the early 1950s, and all were well attended.

The greatest changes probably came from alterations in education provision and the building of the 'new road' to Glendaruel. When I was there, Tighnabrauaich School had Junior Secondary status allowing pupils to leave school at 15 years (most of whom found employment locally) or to go on to further education at Dunoon Grammar School and into 'digs'. Throughout my 10 years at Tighnabrauaich

School there were very few changes in staff and many teachers gave freely of their time in extra-curricular activities. Now our school is primary only with a roll of under 30 and most of the secondary pupils stay at the school hostel in Dunoon mid-week. The absence of teenagers affects the viability of local shops and social activities. Young people tend to leave home at an earlier age now and without them we may not be able to maintain our tradition of effective volunteering in so many areas.

The opening of the new road made it easier for locals to travel to Dunoon or further afield which again affected the shops. It also made it easier for outsiders to come in and encouraged people who had often holidayed here to buy a second home. This has resulted in higher house prices and a shortage of affordable housing.

Do you have a favourite place or building in the village?

My favourite place used to be Portavadie but the construction of a white elephant oil-rig production yard ruined Portavadie and changed the life of the community with serious economic and social implications. Hopefully the tide will have turned with the new marina facility at Portavadie.

Now my favourite place must be the view looking down the Kyles from the New Road just above Tighnabrauaich Fank. No matter how short or long a period away from home, when I reach this I never fail to be moved and know I have come home.

Do you have a favourite time of the year in the village?

My favourite time of year must be May/June when we usually get the first warm and dry weather after winter with beautiful effects of light on the landscape - and no midges.

What do visitors like about village?

Many visitors come to re-live early visits and holidays, to research family history, to have

the opportunity to choose to be active in sailing, walking, cycling, golfing etc. or just to chill out and relax in beautiful, peaceful surroundings.

Is there anybody famous from the village?

We have had some modest heroes from the sports of sailing, shinty and golf. Most famous were the Nicolson brothers who excelled in heavy athletics in the early 1900s - Tom appearing in two Olympic Games.

What are the challenges facing the village or how could it be improved?

The dropping school roll is worrying and, for once, lack of employment cannot be blamed. A number of people actually commute to jobs in the area, for example home-carers have to travel from Dunoon and elsewhere to support some of our elderly population because the Social Work Department is unable to recruit locally.

Lack of affordable housing continues to be the major concern of young people who wish to own their own home. House prices here appear to be inflated compared with other areas such as around Dunoon. Any properties which do come on the market tend to be bought as retirement or holiday homes at prices beyond the reach of local incomes.

The recently formed local marketing group is advertising the area as 'Argyll's Secret Coast' and people must be encouraged to come to unlock our secrets - find the treasures of some of the best natural facilities for sailing, walking and other outdoor activities in outstanding surroundings. Our history and geology too are pretty secret yet both are well documented, though fragmented and scattered.

A community/heritage centre would be a great asset, providing space for indoor activity for children and adults as well displaying the many interesting objects and photographs which are secreted throughout the area.



Mary's painting of the village captures the character that draws visitors back year after year.

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 www.obantimes.co.uk

15 Years Ago Those Were The Days
 The Oban Times Thursday August 3 1995

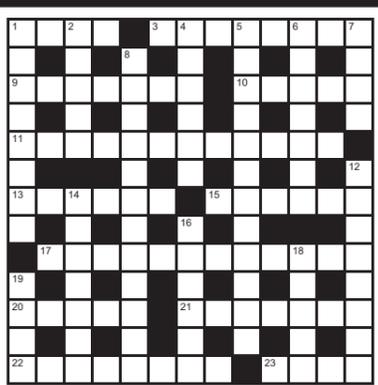
Baron hands £1,000 to Dalmally charity
 A Scottish baron with a big heart has donated £1,000 to Scottish International Relief (SIR) after reading in the Oban Times of a callous theft from the Dalmally based charity.
 SIR was broken into last week and thousands of pounds taken only hours after volunteers had returned from collecting in Stirling.
 The cash was to be used to take aid supplies to refugees in the UN 'safe area' of Tuzla in Bosnia where thousands of men, women and children are short of food, water and clothing.
 The thieves broke into the charity's headquarters at Craig Lodge during the night, taking all 20 collection boxes as well as an undisclosed sum.
 Dr Nelson Ying, Baron of Balquhain in Aberdeenshire, a nuclear physicist at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, read of the theft while

holidaying on Mull.
 'The dreadful deed spoilt my holiday,' said Dr Ying who contacted the Oban Times to give the cheque to SIR.
110 Degrees at Fort William
 As the West Highlands sweltered, a Fort William woman got a shock when she left her thermometer in the sun.
 Jan Nicolson couldn't believe her eyes when her old alcohol thermometer tipped 43.3°C, or 110°F, at around 3.20pm on Tuesday afternoon. Jan, of Blar Mhor Road, Caol, had put the reliable instrument in her garden.
 The thermometer was inherited from her mother, Jessie Nicolson, who was a teacher at the former Tomacharrich School.
 Jan said: 'It's the old school thermometer and it is very accurate. I put it in the garden just to see how hot it would get - little did I think it would

be well in to the hundreds.'
 Oban reached a temperature of 26.5°C, or 79.7°F, in the shade at midday on Tuesday, with Tulloch Bridge north of Fort William recording 27°C - 80.6°F.
 Kinloss, on the east coast, at 29.6°C - 85.2°F - was the hottest place in Scotland along with Dumfries.
Fly the flag for Her Majesty The Queen
 Flags will be flying and the crowds will be out on Tuesday in the hope of catching a glimpse of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as she tours around Oban.
 Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh Prince Phillip will be arriving at The Oban Times slip by Royal barge at 10.30am and people will be able to see them as they walk towards a Guard of Honour on the North Pier.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

- Across**
- Pack (4)
 - At sixes and sevens (8)
 - Nourishment for moggy (3,4)
 - Adage (5)
 - Defeat (12)
 - Sickening! (6)
 - Apollo's Oracle site (6)
 - Let down (12)
 - Duck of the Campbell family! (5)
 - Licentious (7)
 - One-seed fruit (8)
 - Forbid (4)
- Down**
- Idle? (4,4)
 - Voiced in church (5)
 - Man of increasing years (3,3)
 - Movies (7,5)
 - Put your foot in it! (7)
 - US coin (4)
 - Dictator (12)
 - Hot dish (8)
 - Written at one's end! (7)
 - Ideals (6)
 - This could be a crowd (5)
 - Podded vegetable, used in soup (4)



Last Week's Solution

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | A | T | E | S | C | I | S | O | R | S | | |
| U | R | S | O | E | R | T | | | | | | |
| B | R | A | I | L | L | E | A | S | I | D | E | |
| S | P | I | R | S | G | P | | | | | | |
| P | O | S | T | O | C | T | O | R | A | L | | |
| A | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| C | O | M | I | N | G | E | T | H | I | C | S | |
| E | O | G | W | I | O | | | | | | | |
| H | O | U | S | E | O | F | C | A | R | D | S | |
| P | R | C | M | K | E | T | | | | | | |
| P | E | R | I | C | A | B | E | E | F | T | E | A |
| R | N | L | A | T | C | S | | | | | | |
| V | I | G | N | E | T | T | E | | | | | |

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TO LET

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The Greens, Glencruitten : Oban,

Available on a long let. A luxury apartment, with beautiful views overlooking the golf course. Accommodation comprises hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, two bathrooms (one ensuite). Off street parking. Monthly rent £600 plus all bills. No DSS, references required.

Tel: 01631 730 491 or mobile 0781 645 9503

Bell Ingram  01631 566 122
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bellingram.co.uk

Machair, Heanish, Isle of Tiree

Detached stone cottage in need of upgrading and modernising. Stunning island location, situated on the machair, with panoramic sea views and close to a beautiful sandy beach.

The accommodation comprises: Hall, lounge, sitting room, kitchen, store, two bedrooms and bathroom.



Offers in the region of £130,000

COMMERCIAL

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Glenshellach House
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High quality modern office accommodation with car parking

Approx. 82.28sq.m (886 sq.ft)
(first floor to lease as a whole or as individual offices)



Scott's Sandwiches
Stevenson Street, Oban
Popular town centre sandwich shop / takeaway
Fitted to a high standard
Leasehold offers over £12,500



Old Tweedmill Building, Oban
2 storage / workshop units located within a busy commercial location within Oban
Unit 11 Approx 332 sq.m (3,573 sq.ft)
Unit 13 Approx 101.01 sq.m (1,087 sq.ft), includes ground floor & mezzanine
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Argyll Square, Oban
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Please call 07775508305

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2 Bedrooms
Unfurnished
£550 deposit
£550 pcm
No D.S.S.
References required

Tel: 07766811082

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6 Barr Mhor View, Kilmartin
Semi detached 3 bedroom property in a central location, close to local amenities.

Well presented modern detached bungalow in a popular and picturesque village location. In good decorative order and walk-in condition. Vestibule, hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and shower room. Double glazing. Night storage heating. Off street parking. Integral garage.



Offers in the region of £150,000

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bellingram.co.uk

Cuilvona Ganavan, Oban

Beautifully presented, upgraded and modernised detached bungalow occupying a prime site in a desirable residential area of Oban. Lovely views to the front over the Firth of Lorn to Lismore and the distant hills of Morvern. Recent upgrades include new windows, new modern kitchen and bathroom, rewiring, reinsulated, solid oak flooring and new carpets. The accommodation comprises: Hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, 3 bedrooms and bathroom. Double glazed. Total Control heating. Spacious, well maintained garden. Off street parking and garage. Decking.



Offers in the region of £330,000

ANDERSON BANKS

Solicitors : Notaries : Estate Agents

Curragour, Laurel Crescent, Oban
Extremely attractive detached property in quiet elevated location near McCaig's Tower.

glazed with LPG central heating and multi-fuel stove in the lounge. It also benefits from two bedrooms having en-suite facilities. Other notable features include the stylish family bathroom with separate shower, large and well fitted kitchen with dining area, galleried landing on upper floor and attractive outside space. Laurel Crescent is situated in a popular residential area in the upper part of town within easy walking distance of the town centre and amenities. The accommodation comprises: Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining, Bathroom, 3 Bedrooms (2 with en-suite facilities)

This three-bedroom family home is immaculately presented with spacious accommodation and enjoys a lovely outlook. It is fully double

Guide Price £215,000

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Tel: 01631 563158 : Fax: 01631 565459
www.andersonbanks.co.uk

M C & D Mactaggart SOLICITORS KINTYRE ESTATE AGENCY

Dunollie, Askomil Road, Campbeltown
Modern family house in excellent walk-in condition. Desirable location with spectacular views over Campbeltown Loch.

- Reception Hall
- Living Room
- Family Room
- Dining Room/Bedroom
- Kitchen
- Large Utility Room
- Three Bedrooms (one with en-suite)
- Family Bathroom

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(24-Hour Answering Service)

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Telephone (01546) 602581
E-mail: mail@cdm-law.co.uk

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Delightful bungalow situated in the popular holiday village of Carradale with lovely views over the Kilbrannan Sound towards Arran.

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| *Less GSDL delayed deposit | £13,125 |
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Monthly mortgage repayment (Over 25 years) £478
*GSDL delayed deposit is where the developer suspends 15% of the price up to a maximum of 10 years (Package is available subject to status)

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Jamie McGrigor
Highlands & Islands MSP
will be available for
consultation with
constituents on
Wednesday 4th August,
10.30am- 12 noon,
at the Coll Hotel,
Isle of Coll.

No appointment is necessary but for any further information, please call Jamie's office on 0131 348 5616.

COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949
2 NEW MOORINGS: ISLE OF COLONSAY

Notice is hereby given that David Binnie has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, in respect of two new moorings at the following locations:

| Description | Latitude | Longitude |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| 1: Loch Staonsaig | 56 03.634N | 06 11.480W |
| 2: Port Mhor | 56 04.360N | 06 14.775W |

(WGS84)
Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at the Post Office, Colonsay General Stores, Scalasaig, Isle of Colonsay, Argyll, PA 61 7YR

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: 2SPC/2/4/61

David Binnie
Benoran
Scalasaig
Isle of Colonsay

WATER ENVIRONMENT AND WATER SERVICES (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003
WATER ENVIRONMENT (CONTROLLED ACTIVITIES) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2005 ("the Regulations")

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Regulation 13 of the Regulations, that an application has been made to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) by Achnacreebeg Energy Ltd for authorisation to carry out a controlled activity, namely:

- 1) Abstraction (proposed) of 18,490 m³ per day from Achnacree Dam at NGR NM 93193734 from July 2011.
 - 2) Impoundment (existing) of water within the Achnacree Abhainn at NGR NM 9319 3734
- "Any person affected or likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the application may make representations about the application to SEPA in writing within 28 days beginning with the date of this advertisement, at the following address, quoting reference number CAR/L/1086119 The Registry Department, SEPA Dingwall office, Graesser House, Fodderty Way, Dingwall, IV15 9XB
- "A copy of the application may be inspected free of charge, at the above address, between 9.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday (except local and national holidays) or by prior arrangement at SEPA's Lochgilphead office, 2 Smith Lane, Lochgilphead PA31 8TA. Telephone 01546 602876
- "Written representations received within 28 days of this advertisement will be taken into consideration in determining the application. Any such representations will be placed in a public register unless the person making them requests that they should not be. Where such a request is made there will be included in the register a statement indicating that representations have been made which have been the subject of such a request."



Blasting at Banavie Quarry,
Fort William on Friday 30th
July, 2010 at 12 noon.

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To service seasonally let holiday cottage 4 miles from Southend.
Days of week may vary depending on bookings. Own transport - 4x4 ideal - would be advantage but not essential.
For further details
Tel: 01586 830241 or 01586 830352

Accounts Personnel
wanted for busy small practice in Oban with a wide variety of clients. Jean Ainsley & Co are a successful firm with a friendly team atmosphere among their staff. Experience of bookkeeping and SAGE essential.
Please apply in writing with CV or by email to Audrey Carter, Office Manager, Jean Ainsley & CO, 21 Argyll Square, Oban Argyll audrey@jeanainsley.co.uk www.jeanainsley.co.uk

CARER required to help family of 66 year old disabled man who is mentally alert but in a wheelchair with limited speech.
Remote glen 18 miles south of Oban.
£150 per week net part-time plus tied small cottage.
Telephone 01866 844212 or email maolachy@firenet.uk.net

Personal Assistant / Carer
For a young man in Tarbert
Must be a driver and have own car
Telephone 01880 730208 for details

INVERARAY CASTLE GARDENS ASSISTANT GARDENER
Required to work alongside the Head Gardener.
Now open to the public, it is more important that the successful candidate demonstrates an enthusiasm and interest in the maintenance of this historic garden and therefore no previous experience is necessary.
Please apply in writing, indicating current salary details to :-
The Head Gardener
Argyll Estates Office
Cherry Park, INVERARAY
Argyll PA32 8XE

Simmers & Co Chartered Accountants
VAT Staff
We require a person, preferably with experience, to prepare clients VAT Returns. This would include maintaining clients bookkeeping records and would involve direct contact with clients.
The position also involves some basic office routines.
Please send CV and particulars to:
Staff Partner
Albany Chambers, Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AL
www.simmers.co.uk

DAB VJB
Dunbartonshire and Argyll & Bute Valuation Joint Board
THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS ANNUAL CANVASS
Electoral Registration Forms will be posted to every residential property in Argyll & Bute, during the month of August, listing the registration details held by the Electoral Registration Officer.
Register by Freephone , Internet or by Mobile Phone Text Message
Residents will be given the opportunity to use FREEPHONE, INTERNET and MOBILE PHONE TEXT MESSAGE to confirm their electoral roll details.
Details of how to do this will be on the Registration Form.
All services will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, throughout the canvass period and can be used by households where the names on the electoral register remain UNCHANGED from the previous year.
It is hoped that these convenient choices for making the return will be of particular benefit to the 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

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES
Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Limited
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2000
Notice is hereby given that ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Limited (whose Registered Office is at Arnott House, 12-16 Bridge Street, Belfast BT1 1LB) has applied to the Scottish Ministers for consent to construct and operate The Sound of Islay Demonstration Tidal Array at the Sound of Islay (Grid Reference of corner points 681462E 6192834N, 681664E 6192867N, 681940E 6191294N, 681741E 6191269N). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be 10 MW.
Scottish Power Renewables (UK) Limited has also applied for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted.
A copy of the application, with a plan showing the area of seabed and land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statement discussing the Company's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, will be available for inspection, free of charge, during normal office hours at:
Islay Energy Trust Offices, Custom House, Main Street, Bowmore, Isle of Islay, PA43 7JJ
Jura Servicepoint, Schoolhouse, Craighouse, Isle of Jura, PA60 7XG
The Environmental Statement can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh, EH11 3XD.
Copies of the Environmental Statement may be obtained from ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Limited, Spear Street, Glasgow G44 4BE (tel: +441415682153; e-mail: islaytidalproject@scottishpower.com) at a charge of £300 hard copy and £20 on CD (as PDF files for screen viewing only). 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/Infrastructure/Energy-Consents/Support-object or by email to The Scottish Government, Marine Scotland at env_prot@marlab.ac.uk or in writing to The Scottish Government, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, PO BOX 101, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen AB11 9DB, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation, not later than 28 days after submission or last advert.
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.
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 Ministers 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

Argyll & Bute Social Enterprise Network, ABSEN Development Manager
Fixed Term Contract to March 2011 with possible extension to September 2011
£26,000 per annum
This post will provide development support for Social Enterprise across Argyll & Bute. Applicants ideally should have business and community development experience.
The location of the post is flexible and can be negotiated by the successful applicant.
Travel around Argyll & Bute will be a necessary part of the job.
For an application pack or to discuss the advertised post please telephone 01369 707600 or visit www.absen.org.uk
Applications should be with ABSEN by Friday 20th August, interviews will be on Tuesday 7th September 2010
ABSEN is a Social Enterprise and a Company Limited by Guarantee not having Share Capital.
Registered in Scotland. Reg No. SC348009
Financial assistance is acknowledged from the Scottish Government Third Sector Division, Argyll & Bute Council and the Argyll & The Islands LEADER Programme

MACARTHUR STEWART
Visit our website at www.macarthurstewart.co.uk
Accounts Assistant/ Cashier required
Oban Based
The successful candidate should be computer literate and numerate.
Training will be given
Part time may be considered.
Please e-mail your C.V to oban@macarthurstewart.co.uk

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

| Reference Number | Development Address | Proposal Description | Alternative locations where application may be inspected and time period for comments |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| 1Q/03003/PIP | Site 90m North West of Torr An Eas Glenfannan | Erection of house (plot 1) (amended position to 09/00483/PI/PL0) | Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days) |
| 1Q/03004/PIP | Site 140m North West of Torr An Eas Glenfannan | Erection of house (plot 2) - (amended position to 09/00484/PI/PL0) | Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days) |
| 1Q/03005/PIP | Site 65m South West of 1 Torr An Eas Glenfannan | Erection of house (plot 3) - (amended position to 09/00485/PI/PL0) | Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days) |
| 1Q/03007/FUL | Smithy House Kikchoan Acharade | Extension to house | Acharade Service Point (14 days) |
| 1Q/03031/FUL | Land 650M North West of Poulary Invergarry | Erection of house and garage | Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days) |
| 1Q/03034/PIP | Site 80m North East of Drumdhu Arisaig | Erection of house | Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days) |
| 1Q/03041/FUL | Plot 7 Seafield Gardens Achintore Fort William | Erection of house (amended design) previous application 04/00311/FULL0 | Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days) |
| 1Q/03059/LBC | Telford House East Banavie Fort William | Erection of two houses and formation of access. | Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office Regulation 5 - affecting the character of a listed building (21 days) |
| 1Q/03062/FUL | Telford House East Banavie Fort William | Erection of two houses and formation of access. | Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office Section 60 Affecting Setting of Listed Building (21 days) |

Planning and Development Service
epanning@Highland1, PO Box 5740, The Highland Council, Inverness IV1 9DH

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Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED 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 67/69 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the location detailed below 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 67/69 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig PA30 8DX within 21 days of the appearance of this notice. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.
SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION PLANS
● Ref No: 10/01205/PP
Applicant: Jura Hall
Proposal: Erection of an extension and formation of new car park.
Site Address: Craighouse Village Hall Craighouse Isle of Jura Argyll and Bute PA60 7XS
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Craighouse Isle of Jura
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT
Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at 67/69 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR by the 19/08/2010
● Ref No: 10/00956/PP
Applicant: Mr Scott Hetherington
Proposal: Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse.
Site Address: 33 Nant Drive Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4LA
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office
● Ref No: 10/01182/PP
Applicant: Mr and Mrs P Poulton
Proposal: Erection of dwellinghouse and detached car port
Site Address: Plot 1 Land North East Of Ardrecknish House Ardrecknish Argyll and Bute
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Dalmally
Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. An extant list of planning applications can be viewed on the Council's website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.
A weekly list of applications can be viewed at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.
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

Growth at the Edge/Fas aig an Oir Local Development Officer - Ross of Mull & Iona Salary £22,000 p.a.
The Mull & Iona Community Trust is looking to recruit an energetic individual to support sustainable community development on the Ross of Mull & Iona. The Local Development Officer will work closely with a local Steering Group and with the communities as a whole to develop and implement a community growth plan.
The applicant will have a good understanding of the issues affecting fragile rural areas and be I.T. literate.
The ability to work on one's own initiative is essential.
Training will be provided & equal consideration will be given to full-time, job-share or part time applications.
To view the job description visit www.mict.co.uk
Closing date for applications: 15/08/10
This post is funded by Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Argyll and the Islands LEADER.
The Mull & Iona Community Trust is a Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital registered in Scotland Reg. No. 172897. Scottish Charity Number SCO25995

YOUR LOCAL PAPER
51% of people turn to their local newspaper first when looking for a new job.
Source: Recruitment Chronicle, The Newspaper Society 2009
Regional Press
closer to home

Oban Times RECRUITMENT
Oban Times RECRUITMENT

Oban Times RECRUITMENT

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVES

Salary £16,000 - £20,000 (dependent on experience)

Due to continued development we are looking to recruit several new advertising sales executives, based in Oban, to further strengthen our existing team and work across our various publications.

If you are lively, energetic and enjoy meeting people we'd love to hear from you.

You will be responsible for selling in print advertising face to face to a wide variety of organisations and businesses. Excellent communication skills, enthusiasm, creativity, computer literacy and a professional approach are imperative along with a local knowledge of the Argyll area. You will be able to identify sales opportunities and work towards set deadlines and targets.

Sales experience would be preferable, however, a good knowledge and understanding of the business market place will be considered.

Full clean driving licence is essential as some travelling will be required. In addition to salary, we offer attractive commission, bonus potential, group personal pension plan, life and medical insurance.

If you think this job is for you, please e-mail your C.V and a letter of application to: ali@obantimes.co.uk



Highlands and Islands Enterprise is one of Europe's most consistently successful development agencies and an award-winning UK employer. We're proud of our culture and history and we're determined to help shape a bright future for the people, businesses and communities in this unique part of the world.

HIE
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd's nan Eilean

Development Officer

Argyll Area Office

£14,621

Ref: 2010-113

We currently have a vacancy for a Development Officer within the Argyll Area Office of Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE).

HIE is seeking an individual with a good track record of working in a busy administrative and operational delivery role.

The post is based in Lochgilphead and will work primarily with our Business Growth team, providing administration support to our team of Account Managers, dealing with their clients and handling the full range of incoming enquiries to the Argyll Area Office. We are looking for a person who can handle competing tasks and priorities effectively, and who works well under pressure. Good communication skills are needed in order to understand and service enquiries effectively. It will also be important to be able to validate and process claims for payment accurately and quickly. A high level of IT skill and experience are essential, as the role will involve substantial use of a variety of IT systems.

The post holder will report to the Head of Business Growth.

Informal enquiries should be directed to David Smart on 01546 605425, or Lucinda Gray on 01546 605408.

Closing date: Friday 13 August 2010.

If you are interested in being considered for this position, please apply on-line by visiting our website. For a hard copy application pack, email: recruitment@hient.co.uk or call: 01463 244414 quoting the reference number.

www.hie.co.uk/hie-job-vacancies.html

ADVERTISING SALES/ ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT



We are looking for a lively, energetic individual to join our busy advertising team based in Oban.

This position is initially part-time although full time holiday cover will be required from time to time within our Administration Department.

You will be responsible for selling in print advertising face to face to a wide variety of organisations and businesses and supply holiday cover to our Fort William and Oban offices.

Excellent communication skills, computer literacy, enthusiasm, proficiency in spelling and grammar are all essential attributes for this position.

Sales experience would be advantageous, however, a good knowledge and understanding of the business market will be considered.

A full clean driving licence is essential.

In addition to salary, we offer attractive commission, bonus potential, group personal pension plan, life and medical insurance.

If you think this job is for you, please e-mail your C.V and a letter of application to: ali@obantimes.co.uk

WYVEX MEDIA www.obantimes.co.uk



IT Support Analyst

Inverawe Smokehouses is looking for an IT specialist to look after its network of 40+ PCs and four servers.

We require a self motivated individual who is able to provide support for the following environments:

Desktop PC's running Windows XP and Vista, Window server 2003 and 2008, Ethernet LAN switches and cabling, network printing, MS Office.

Experience in remote access security and planning, MS SQL server admin, IIS configuration and support, Active Directory admin, Backup Exec, SQL language and Crystal reporting, security procedure planning and writing, and the ability to converse without looking at your shoes would be advantageous.

Experience at any level will be considered as training can be provided.

This position could be full or part time, or on a contractual basis, and is based at Inverawe, Taynuilt.

Please send CV to jobs@inverawe.co.uk for attention of Christopher Cox



Make it happen.

new concession store - Oban

Peacocks - Britain's hottest value fashion retailer - is on its way to Oban, ringing the changes with our unique combination of amazing choice and fantastic value. If you want to be in at the start, move now.

store manager

competitive salary

assistant managers

competitive salary

We're selecting managers and assistant managers with ambition and ideas to share, leading their teams to top performance by retail's toughest standards.

In return you can expect job security, structured training and development, opportunities for career progression, company pension, generous holidays and a competitive benefits package.

To apply, please send your CV and current salary details to Pauline Denner, Human Resources Department, Peacocks Stores Ltd, Atlantic House, Tyndall Street, Cardiff CF10 4PS or email pauline.denner@peacocks.co.uk

Closing date: 6 August 2010.

www.peacocks.co.uk

We are also recruiting for sales colleagues, to obtain an application form please email pauline.denner@peacocks.co.uk

PEACOCKS



DEAF ACTION

Making the difference

We are a leading Scottish voluntary organisation providing a range of services to people with sensory needs. With funding from The Scottish Government, we are now recruiting to the following posts:

Sensory Support Workers (2 posts)

28 hours per week. Salary £20,388 - £22,371 (pro rata £16,310 - £17,897).

You will provide a wideranging information, advice and guidance service to people with a sensory loss in Argyll and Bute, including those who are blind or visually impaired, use British Sign Language, are hard of hearing, deafened and deafblind.

You should have:

- Experience of providing person-centred advice and support
- Knowledge of the practical issues faced by deaf and visually impaired people in everyday life
- Good organisational, IT, record-keeping and report writing skills.

We can offer:

- Skilled and supportive team working
- Training and professional development opportunities
- Contributory pension scheme.

For an informal discussion on these posts contact: Jackie Slater at our Head Office below. Application packs are available from: Lisa Roy, Deaf Action Head Office, 49 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QY Tel: 0131 556 3128 Fax: 0131 557 8283 Text: 0131 557 0419 SMS: 07775 620757 Email: admin@deafaction.org Closing date for applications: 12th August 2010.

Posts are subject to Enhanced Disclosure Scotland Checks. Applications welcome from all sections of the community. We expect you will share our commitment to the core values of Deaf Action. British Sign Language training will be provided if necessary. Scottish Charity Number SC009898.

www.deafaction.org



marine harvest
excellence in seafood

Kinlochmoidart

Due to the re-opening of the Company's contract site at Kinlochmoidart, near Lochailort, we are seeking to recruit individuals to fill the following positions.

Hatchery Manager - £30,000 - £34,000 per annum

The ideal candidate will have several years Freshwater experience with a proven ability for establishing best farming practice and developing site infrastructure. A working knowledge of recirculation based aquaculture would be a distinct advantage. Essential skills will include the ability to manage and motivate staff, first class planning and organisation skills and a high degree of computer literacy.

Assistant Hatchery Manager - £23,283 - £25,400 per annum plus overtime
The ideal candidate will have several years practical experience in salmon farming, preferably in freshwater production, with a minimum of one year at management level. Essential skills will include the ability to manage and motivate staff, first class planning and organisation skills and a high degree of computer literacy.

Hatchery Technician - £15,973 - £20,265 per annum plus overtime
This freshwater role is focused upon care of the eggs prior to hatching and also effective fish husbandry of the fry and smolts prior to their transportation to seawater farms. Applications would be particularly welcome from candidates who have some experience in freshwater operations but it is not essential as full training and support would be provided.

A driving license is essential for each post.

Beyond the nature of the roles, the post holder(s) would be expected to undertake over-time as required in order to accommodate the business needs of the Hatchery. The successful applicants will also be required to assist on the Alarm Rota approximately one in every 4 weeks.

If you would like to be considered for one of these interesting posts, please apply in writing, no later than Friday 20th August 2010 to: Vicky Ferguson, HR Manager, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd, Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William, PH33 7PT.

BARCALDINE MARINE

Boatyard Operator

Barcaldine Marine, the marine leisure division of the Marine Resource Centre Ltd, at Barcaldine on Loch Creran, seeks an experienced boatyard operator for its developing leisure marine business.

The successful candidate will have experience of yacht lifting/handling activities, as well as experience of mast step/unstep. A positive and enthusiastic manner in addition to exceptional interpersonal skills will be essential. You will be required to work in a small multi-skilled team, and a flexible approach to work will be a requirement.

This is a full-time position, which offers a competitive salary, membership of a pension and death benefit scheme and sick pay scheme.

If you are interested and confident that you can fulfil this role, please send a full c.v. to Martin Waterhouse, Chief Executive, The Marine Resource Centre Ltd, Barcaldine, Oban, Argyll PA37 1SE by 6th August 2010.

Cook/ Crew Person

Required for pleasure boat catering for small groups.

Operating from Oban
Tel: 07775508242

Job Search

Shepherd with good dogs available for contracts and other agricultural work.

Tel 07816063279

Social Worker

£30,823 - £33,724

Lochgilphead Ref: CSC62046/R3

CAMHS post in Lochgilphead - Adult Care, Temporary

Receptionist

£14,216 - £15,074

Oban, Lorn & the Isles Ref: CSD62143/1

Willowview Community Care Centre, Oban, Temporary

Home Carer

£8.51 per hour

Kintyre Ref: CSC66124

Community Services - Adult Care, Part Time, Variable hours, Temporary

01546 604713

Closing date: 13 August 2010.

To apply visit our website



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

Argyll & Bute Council is an equal opportunities employer.



ENABLE Scotland is a dynamic, vibrant and expanding organisation dedicated to improving the lives of people across Scotland.

OBAN

Part Time Team Leader/Support Worker

(Ref: O/7103)

Salary: £17,585 - £19,315 pa. Salary dependant on skills and experience.

The Team Leader role is entirely focused on the development, delivery and leadership of practice within each person's service, the post holder will ensure that each person we support has the opportunity to develop a person centred plan or alternative method of helping us understand the type of life they would like to lead. This information will help the post holder to plan the support necessary, ensuring that staff teams share the vision and direction and develop effective support strategies and methods of reviewing progress around each person. The post holder will take the lead in developing staff teams to make the best possible use of the resources and opportunities in each person's community, ensuring that people have the appropriate level of support to enable them to be included in every day life within their community, the aim will be to undertake as many positive opportunities to engage in community activities and roles in line with their hopes and aspirations. The successful candidate will be an integral part of our management team and will have previous proven experience in the care sector.

Part Time Personal Supporters (Ref: O/7104)

Salary: £13,936 pa, pro rata for part time.

We have a variety of exciting part time support roles throughout our services in Oban. We are looking for reliable and enthusiastic individuals who have a genuine interest in working with people and supporting people with learning disabilities or mental health issues to be included in the communities they live in. These roles will give you the opportunity to support people to live ordinary lives and realise their dreams and ambitions. Flexibility is essential as early morning, evening and weekend work is included as part of a shared rota system which is determined by the needs of the people we support. Sleepover duties may be required for some services for which there is a separate payment. If you think that you have the commitment to support people and to help them get the most out of their lives, this could be the opportunity for you. You do not need any previous experience to become a part of this work, only the right attitude and values.

Sessional Workers (Ref: O/7105)

Salary: £6.87 p/h plus holiday pay. Flexible working hrs to meet the needs of the service.

We are also looking for flexible individuals to increase our bank of Sessional staff who can work as and when required, including at short notice, to meet the needs of the people we support. If you believe you could be a flexible, reliable and available Sessional worker we would love to hear from you.

As an organisation, we are committed to developing all of our staff, providing an extensive training and development programme and career opportunities within ENABLE Scotland. We offer positive terms and conditions, including a contributory pension scheme.

For an application pack, please telephone 01631 565062 or e-mail obans@enable.org.uk quoting the relevant post reference. We particularly welcome applications from candidates with a disability and make our forms available in alternative formats. To view and apply for all our vacancies, please visit www.enable.org.uk Closing date: 13th August 2010.

ENABLE Scotland is an equal opportunities employer. Scottish charity number SC009204.



Caledonian MacBrayne

Hebridean & Clyde Ferries

CalMac Ferries Limited has a requirement for:

Port Assistant

£7.76 per hour

Ref: 338-SB

16 hours per week, permanent contract

Port Ellen, Isle of Islay

Reporting to the Port Manager, you will need a flexible approach to your day-to-day responsibilities. You will be responsible for all duties connected with ship movements, gangways and securing of vessels, customer enquiries, sales/collection and reconciliation of passenger/vehicle tickets. You will also deal with cash handling, banking and security, use of VHF and PA Systems and control of passengers and vehicles embarking and disembarking from vessels.

You must be computer literate with excellent verbal and written communication skills. A flexible approach to working is required, as shift and weekend work will be involved. Customer focused, you will have a clear understanding of the customer interface and have a proactive approach to customer care.

You will also cover at Port Askaig occasionally, therefore the ability to commute to the Port Ellen Ferry Terminal and Port Askaig Ferry Terminal is essential.

If you are interested in this position, please respond by sending your CV quoting reference number 338-SB no later than Friday 6 August 2010 to:

David MacBrayne HR (UK) Limited

Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

t: 01475 650100 f: 01475 650268

CalMac Ferries Limited is an equal opportunities employer.

European visitors give Isle of Skye's summer holiday season a lift



The Armadale to Mallaig ferry: a major carrier of visitors to Skye 10_01deck01

Tenants take over new homes in Plockton

THE FIRST residents of a new housing development at Plockton have moved into their homes. The 15 rented and nine shared equity Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association properties at Burnside constitute the first significant affordable housing to be built in the village for many years. The houses, all of which have front and rear gardens, make use of traditional materials such as slate, timber cladding and stone. High levels of energy efficiency have also been

built in, with all featuring air source heat pumps and exceptional levels of insulation. New tenants include Lennie Eardley, who has been living locally in caravans for over 30 years and suffered a stroke 18 months ago. Chair of Plockton and District Community Council, Charlie MacRae said: 'We are delighted with the houses and pleased to welcome the new residents. We are particularly pleased to welcome young people into the community and

hope that this will boost the numbers at Plockton Primary School.' Chief executive of Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association, Lachie MacDonald said: 'The high cost of property in the Plockton area has made it very difficult for local people to secure a home in the area and this development will go a long way towards addressing housing needs. We would like to thank everyone who has contributed towards the successful completion of

the development.' Minister for Housing and Communities Alex Neil welcomed the new development as 'great news' for people looking for a high quality, low cost home. He said: 'The Scottish Government is determined to increase the number of affordable homes and this is why we provided funding to help deliver this development.' All rented homes have been taken up but several shared equity properties remain available.

HOLIDAYMAKERS from Europe seem to be providing a boost to an otherwise mediocre tourist season on Skye.

Tourism businesses on the island are generally reporting a mixed picture so far, but European business is giving a much-needed fillip to local operators as visitors from the USA decline.

The volcanic ash also appears to have contributed to a quiet spring period, with many international visitors unable to get flights to Scotland for holidays in the Highlands and Islands.

Misty Isle Boat Trips in Elgol had a bumper summer last year, but this year visitor numbers have dropped back. Owner Seamus McKinnon said: 'The numbers are definitely down. Last year was an exceptional year though.'

'The road from here to Broadford is normally packed with visitors at this time of year. But I've not seen anything like that this summer.'

Dunvegan Castle also recorded a fall in visitor numbers according to MacLeod Estate Manager Hugh MacLeod. He told The Oban Times: 'Due to the volcanic disruption in April, the tough economic climate, the weather, we are down around eight per cent compared with last season to date.'

Also feeling the pinch is Skye Backpackers, whose numbers have fallen around five to eight per cent from last year. Owner Jonathon Supper said: 'Overall, our accommodation numbers are down. I think that what happened at Easter with the volcanic cloud has had an effect on visitors. But our other income - bar sales, food and so on - is up on last year.'

Owner of the Skye Museum of Island Life in Kilmuir Jonathon MacDonald reported a mixed picture. 'We're less busy, I'd say it's marginally down on last year,' he said. 'But there is a pretty steady flow of visitors from the continent, Germany, Russia, Holland. Once the English schools are on holiday it might change.' But it is not all doom and

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by RICHARD HADDOCK rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

"We have a lot of people coming from Europe - mainly France, Germany and Holland. We spend a lot of money on marketing, Marketing is very important."

manager Toravaig House Hotel, Sleat

gloom on Skye, with some businesses seeing an upturn in 2010. According to owner Terry Wilding the Glendale Toy Museum has seen an increase in visitors of about 15 to 20 per cent.

Mr Wilding said there were not as many visitors from America as usual, but travellers from mainland Europe had increased. He also suggested the weather might have had a positive effect on his business. He said: 'The wet weather has been great for us. It drives people indoors.'

Another business bucking the trend is the luxury Toravaig House Hotel in Sleat. Manager Alastair Gunn told The Oban Times: 'We had a 79 per cent occupancy rate in June 2009, and 83 per cent this June. At weekends we have lots of domestic visitors, but we are busier during the week, mainly with international guests. We have had a lot of people coming from Europe - mainly France, Germany and Holland.'

'We spend a large amount of money on marketing. Marketing is very important up here, as we don't get much passing trade.'

The Skye snapshot follows an Oban Times survey of tourism businesses in Lochaber, which showed a similar picture.

Skye Lines

THE KYLERHEA to Glenelg ferry is having another successful summer, with passenger numbers expected to reach 30,000 for 2010.

The 'Glenachulish' ferry is one of the smallest ferries in the Highlands and the only turntable boat in operation in the UK.

Until 1975, the 'Glenachulish' covered the crossing between North and South Ballachulish.

The boat, which has four full-time crewmembers, can hold six cars and 12 passengers.

Mainly used by tourists, the 'Glenachulish' allows passengers to see the local wildlife - including eagles, dolphins and seals.

□□□

ISLE of Skye Pipe Band have a busy August ahead of them as they prepare to entertain locals and tourists.

Their first engagement is a performance at the Skye Piping Society Ceilidh in the Gathering Hall in Portree on Tuesday August 3.

The next day, the band will perform at the Isle of Skye Highland Games alongside a visiting Belgian pipe band.

On Saturday August 7 the band will make its annual visit to the Lewis Carnival where they will perform alongside the Lewis Pipe Band before heading back to Portree for a performance alongside a Canadian pipe band on August 9. It is hoped the Canadians will be able to join their Isle of Skye counterparts to play at Skye Agricultural Show in Portree on August 14.

The band's final August gig is at the Naim Highland Games on August 21, where they hope to be joined again by the Lewis Pipe Band.

Drum major Peter MacDonald said this is always a busy, but enjoyable time of year. He told The Oban Times: 'We have some regular visitors from Norway and Finland who we like to meet up with, and for others it is their first experience of piping. We had a family from India who had never seen a pipe band before. They were delighted to get their photo taken with us.'

Peter added: 'We perform every Tuesday evening in Portree square for the tourists and locals. We've had very good, very appreciative crowds so far.'

□□□



Anne Marie MacRae from Portree enjoys a well-deserved rest after winning the two-lap race at last year's Isle of Skye Highland Games. 10_031skye08

PORTREE plays host to the famous Isle of Skye Highland Games at the 'The Lump', the legendary amphitheatre above the town, on Wednesday.

A crowd of up to 3,500 is expected to watch heavy field events, athletics, piping, and Highland dancing.

A packed programme for the day begins in Somerled Square at 9.45am, when the Isle of Skye Pipe Band will lead the march to the games field. The Highland dancing competitions, which are open to children and adults, start in the field at around 12.30pm, with heavy events and athletic events starting at 10.30am.

The piping competition will continue for a second day in the games field, having started on Tuesday morning in the Gathering Hall and St Columba's Church.

Games secretary Allan Stewart said one of the things that set the Skye games apart from others was its stunning location. He said: 'We are set in a natural amphitheatre, which makes us different from other games.'

'You can stand in one place and watch the dancing, the heavy events and the athletics.'



Morag Hughes relaxes in Folkstone after her swim.



Morag during her record-breaking channel crossing.

Lochaber woman breaks English Channel swimming record

Morag fulfills her childhood dream

LOCHABER swimmer Morag Hughes has become the oldest Scottish woman to swim across the English Channel.

Morag, of Corpach, took 18 hours and 31 minutes to complete the crossing and joins an elite group of around 15 Scots who have swum the Channel.

Dream

Morag fulfilled her childhood dream when she arrived on the French coast at 11.56pm on July 6 in almost complete darkness.

Her husband Ronnie was with her every step of the way, sailing alongside in a fishing boat to offer food, direction and encouragement.

Morag arrived at a dangerous rocky area known as Devil's Hole, just east of Cap Gris-Nez. The beam from a nearby lighthouse occasionally illuminated the night sky and Morag also had six light sticks on her back and a flashing light on her hat to light her way.

During the 18 and a half mile crossing, Morag swam across two flood tides and one ebb tide, as well as two busy shipping lanes, and at one point had to turn back to avoid the path of a Russian cargo ship.

Morag's achievement is all the more impressive as she broke her arm four years ago and was told by doctors that she would never swim front crawl again. With the exception of a few yards breaststroke at the finish, she swam front crawl all the way.

Morag dedicated her swim to the memory of her sister Lesley and brother Billy both of whom died from cancer. She will donate the money she has raised to Cancer Research.

Previously Morag had raised £2350 for Cystic Fibrosis in memory of Jonathan Fraser, her son's friend.

Morag has a just giving page at www.justgiving.com/morag-hughes-long-swim and can be contacted at moragswims@btinternet.com.

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Kinlochleven man accused of threatening to kill

A KINLOCHLEVEN man is to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court on August 11 accused of breaching the peace by threatening to kill another man at a supermarket in Fort William on March 26.

George MacLeod, aged 51, of 8 Nevis Road denies the charge. Hamish Melrose, defending, told the court that there would be at least one defence witness.

Darts professionals come to Lochaber

TWO PROFESSIONAL darts stars will be challenging the best players Lochaber has to offer at an exhibition in Corpach.

Pro players Ross Montgomery and John Henderson will take on 16 of the best local players at Tradewinds in the village. The exhibition begins at 8pm on Saturday July 31. Master of ceremonies for the evening will be Davie Hanson.

Council appoint new director

HIGHLAND Council has appointed a new director of social work.

Bill Alexander will take over from the retiring Harriet Dempster on September 1. Mr Alexander has been in social work for 30 years and has been with Highland Council for 10 years. He has most recently been acting chief operating officer for the council's social work service.

Caol man to stand trial

A MAN accused of assaulting a woman in Caol and brandishing a bottle at her during an incident on March 15 is expected to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court on August 11.

David MacLeod, of 24 Camecky Road, Caol, is also accused of breaching the peace at 9 Glen Nevis Road and nearby footpaths by shouting and swearing.

Mr MacLeod denies the charges.



Devoted couple Morag and Neil MacRaid

Sixty happy years together for Morag and Neil

FORT WILLIAM couple Neil and Morag MacRaid celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at their home in Mamore Crescent last Tuesday.

They received flowers from Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson on behalf of the Highland Council and Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the county Iain Thornber presented a card of congratulations from the Queen. The couple were married in the

Free Church at the Peirhead, Fort William on July 20, 1950 and had their reception in the Alexandra Hotel, Fort William.

Neil, 85, was a well-known train driver on the West Highland Line and Morag worked for a number of years in the Edinburgh Woollen Mill shop in High Street. Morag, 78, was born on Royton, Lancs, and moved with her family to Lochaber from Oldham

when she was 16. Her mother Mary Ann (Nan) Merrington, formerly Cameron, came from Kinlochell.

The couple's daughter Irene, son Malcolm and his wife Anne joined them for the celebration. Neil and Morag have two grandchildren, Lauren and Blair. Morag told The Oban Times: 'It was all a great surprise. They all turned up and we did not know a thing about it!'

Sheriff claims 'no alternative' as he sends Fort William man down for 114 days

Youth with violent history sent to young offenders' institution

A SHERIFF has ordered a young Fort William man with a history of violence to be detained in a young offenders' institution. Sheriff Douglas Small told Daniel McCann he had come to the end of being dealt with by fines, probation and community service after hearing details of his latest violent act.

String of assaults
At Fort William Sheriff Court Sheriff Small listed a string of assault charges MacCann had been convicted of since the age of 16 and ruled detention was the only remaining avenue open to him.

Plea
Stephen Kennedy, defending, made a lengthy plea on McCann's behalf that his client had been making progress in the last 12 months and could lose his employment as a roofer

and his new home if he was detained.

But Sheriff Small told him: 'He has got, for somebody of his age, quite a formidable record already.'

Punching
McCann, 20, of 15 Camanachd Crescent had admitted assaulting Donald Reid by repeatedly punching him on the face to his injury at Fort William Railway Station on June 27, and breaching the peace by shouting, swearing and uttering threats of violence to a couple in a superstore car park minutes later.

The court was shown CCTV evidence of the assault, which had been captured by cameras mounted on the station wall.

Sentencing McCann to 114 days, Sheriff Small told him he 'had no alternative' other than to impose a period of detention.

Fort William man hit 16-year old in the eye with can

A FORT WILLIAM man has been sent to a young offenders institution for hitting a 16 year-old boy in the eye with an unopened can of beer at a town bus stop.

Daniel Donoghue, of 13 Glen Nevis, assaulted the boy in Middle Street on December 11 last year.

Inebriated Donoghue, 21, mistook the youth for another man he believed had attacked a pensioner, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Fiscal Alison Wylie said Donoghue thought his victim was someone else and pulled the can from his jacket, hit the boy with it and 'simply walked off'.

Defending, Stephen Kennedy said: 'It was clearly a case of mistaken identity.'

Donoghue earlier admitted the assault and stealing packets of pasta sauce and a sandwich worth £3.80 from Tesco store on High Street on May 20 while on bail.

Sheriff Douglas Small ordered Donoghue to be detained for four months for the 'unprovoked assault' and fined him £400 for the theft.

Caol woman bought vodka for 13-year old boy

A CAOL woman who bought a half bottle of vodka for a 13 year-old boy from a local store has been warned by a sheriff she could face prison if it happens again.

Sheriff Douglas Small heard that Heather Dawson, of 7 Glenpane Street, had a previous conviction for buying alcohol for a minor.

Dawson was appearing for sentencing at Fort William Sheriff Court after admitting buying alcohol on behalf of a child on June 5.

The sheriff ruled 15 months probation 'was a far better way' of dealing with her so she could get proper social work support. Dawson was also ordered to perform 100 hours of unpaid work in the community.

Cattle could be key to black grouse revival in the Highlands

NEW research suggests cattle grazing could hold the key to stopping the rapid decline of the black grouse.

The population of black grouse in Scotland has been falling for a number of years, but research by the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust reveals the game bird is breeding better in fields grazed by cattle. These fields have around twice as many of sawfly larvae, a major part of the diet of young grouse.

A number of landowners in Lochaber, including the Great Glen Cattle Ranch near Spean Bridge, already use this method to try and raise black grouse populations.

Dan Tomes, regional reserves officer for the RSPB, welcomed the research: 'This is something we have been practising for a while but it's great to have more research into the grouse to refine the results.'

South Uist Highland Games

Junior piping:
Trophies:
John Steel Memorial Cup (overall U18): Alex Duncan/Alasdair Turner Archie Lindsay Memorial Trophy (under 15): Conor Sinclair/Seamus O'Boaighill

Roddy Morrison Memorial Cup (Jig under 18): Alex Duncan Pipe Major R.J. Gillies Memorial Trophy (overall U18 local): Eilidh MacKay

Chanter competition:
Beginners:
1 Cailean Martindale, 2 Alasdair MacIsaac, 3 Joseph MacInnes

Novice:
1 Kate MacDonald, 2 Finlay Cameron, 3 Katie MacLennan

Open:
1 Heather MacKinnon, 2 Rachel MacDonald, 3 Fergus MacVicar

Novice:
1 Andra MacIsaac, 2 Paul Morrison

Under 15
March:
1 Conor Sinclair, 2 Seamus O'Boaighill, 3 Sandy Cameron

Strathspey & Reel:
1 Seamus O'Boaighill, 2 Conor Sinclair, 3 Bright Campbell, 4 James Roxburgh

6/8 March:
1 Conor Sinclair, 2 Sandy Cameron, 3 Seamus O'Boaighill, 4 Bright Campbell

Jig:
1 Seamus O'Boaighill, 2 Sandy Cameron, 3 Conor Sinclair, 4 Bright Campbell

Under 18's
March, Strathspey & Reel:
1 Alasdair Turner, 2 Alex Duncan, 3 Alana MacInnes, 6/8 March:

1 Alex Duncan, 2 Alasdair Turner, 3 Paul Carlin, Adult piping

Piobaireachd
1 Robert Gray, 2 John Angus Smith, 3 Duncan Grant

Marches
1 John Angus Smith, 2 Fiona MacKay, 3 Derek Midgley

Strathspey & Reel
1 Derek Midgley, 2 James McKenzie, 3 Fiona MacKay

Jigs
1 James McKenzie, 2 John Angus Smith, 3 Derek Midgley

Local March:
1 Ishbel MacDonald

Local Strathspey & Reel:
1 Ishbel MacDonald

Local Jig:
1 John Angus Morrison

Trophies:
Major MacKenzie Quaich

awarded to Local Winner of March, Strathspey & Reel - Shield: Ishbel MacDonald

John MacDonal Memorial Cup awarded to Local Winner of Marches: Ishbel MacDonald

Finest Star awarded to Local Winner of Jigs: John Angus Morrison

The John Campbell (New Zealand) Challenge Cup will

be awarded to the Piper with most points in the Open Piping Competitions: John Angus Smith

R MacIntyre Memorial Cup: Robert Gray

The Archie MacDonald Memorial Shield plus £10 will be awarded to the Piper with the most points in competitions 4, 5 and 6:

Derek Midgley/James McKenzie

The Adam Scott Memorial Cup awarded to local winter of the Strathspey & Reel: Ishbel MacDonald

Dancing
16 Pas-de-Basque

1 Elissa Morrison, 2 Abie Muir, 3 Eilidh MacAulay

Pas-de-Basque - High Cuts
1 Eilidh MacAulay, 2 Abie Muir, 3 Elissa Morrison

Highland Fling
1 Abie Muir, 2 Elissa Morrison, 3 Eilidh MacAulay

Sword Dance
1 Abie Muir, 2 Elissa Morrison, 3 Eilidh MacAulay

Beginners aged 7 and under
Highland Fling
1 Marion MacCorquodale, 2 Shona Steele, 3 Alana Lindsay

Sword Dance
1 Marion MacCorquodale, 2 Alana Beaton, 3 Shona Steele

Seann Triubhas
1 Marion MacCorquodale, 2 Eilidh O'Donnell, 3 Alana Lindsay

Half Tullock
1 Marion MacCorquodale, 2 Alana Lindsay, 3 Eilidh O'Donnell

Flora MacDonald
1 Marion MacCorquodale, 2 Eilidh O'Donnell

Scottish Lilt
1 Marion MacCorquodale, 2 Eilidh O'Donnell

Beginners aged 8 and under
Highland Fling
1 Eilidh MacPhee, 2 Jordan MacKinnon, 3 Erin MacKinnon

Sword Dance
1 Eilidh MacPhee, 2 Jordan MacKinnon, 3 Erin MacKinnon

Seann Triubhas
1 Eilidh MacPhee, 2 Jordan MacKinnon, 3 Marsalli MacNeil

Half Tullock
1 Marsalli MacNeil, 2 Eilidh MacNeil, 3 Jordana MacKinnon

Flora MacDonald
1 Caitlin MacIntosh, 2 Marsalli MacNeil, 3 Eilidh MacPhee

Scottish Lilt
1 Ishbel MacDonald

Local Strathspey & Reel:
1 Ishbel MacDonald

Local Jig:
1 John Angus Morrison

Trophies:
Major MacKenzie Quaich

awarded to Local Winner of March, Strathspey & Reel - Shield: Ishbel MacDonald

John MacDonal Memorial Cup awarded to Local Winner of Marches: Ishbel MacDonald

Finest Star awarded to Local Winner of Jigs: John Angus Morrison

The John Campbell (New Zealand) Challenge Cup will



1 Sheena Peterana, 2 Megan Macleod, 3 Catriona MacKinnon

Flora MacDonald
1 Sheena Peterana, 2 Catriona MacKinnon

Scottish Lilt
1 Sheena Peterana, 2 Megan Macleod

Seann Triubhas
1 Sheena Peterana, 2 Megan Macleod

Beginners aged 16 and under
Highland Fling
1 Alison MacFarlane, 2 Anna Benistod, 3 Ailsa Mhairi Campbell

Sword Dance
1 Anna Benistod, 2 Joanna Walker, 3 Kayreen MacLeod

Seann Triubhas
1 Alison MacFarlane, 2 Joanna Walker, 3 Anna Benistod

Half Tullock
1 Alison MacFarlane, 2 Laura Steele, 3 Joanna Walker

Flora MacDonald
1 Alison MacFarlane, 2 Alison MacFarlane, 3 Kayreen MacLeod

Scottish Lilt
1 Marion MacCorquodale, 2 Eilidh O'Donnell

Beginners aged 11 and over
Highland Fling
1 Joanna Walker, 2 Alison MacFarlane, 3 Kayreen MacLeod

Novice section winner: Sheena Peterana

Novice aged 11 and over
Highland Fling
1 Claire Francis MacNeil, 2 Millie Iona Denchy, 3 Nicola MacAulay

Sword Dance
1 Millie Iona Denchy, 2 Nicola MacAulay

Seann Triubhas
1 Millie Iona Denchy, 2 Nicola MacAulay

Half Tullock
1 Anna MacKellaig, 2 Claire Francis MacNeil, 3 Nicola MacAulay

Novice aged 12 and over
Highland Fling
1 Claire Francis MacNeil, 2 Millie Iona Denchy, 3 Nicola MacAulay

Sword Dance
1 Lauren Skinner, 2 Heather Nichol MacKinnon, 3 Lauren Nicholson

Sword Dance
1 Lauren Skinner, 2 Mairi MacIntosh, 3 Lauren Nicholson

Seann Triubhas
1 Sheena Peterana, 2 Megan Macleod, 3 Catriona MacKinnon

Half Tullock
1 Sheena Peterana, 2 Megan Macleod, 3 Catriona MacKinnon

1 Lauren Skinner, 2 Mairi MacIntosh, 3 Megan MacKinnon

Half Tullock
1 Lauren Skinner, 2 Jessica MacNeil, 3 Heather MacKinnon

Flora MacDonald
1 Lauren Skinner, 2 Megan MacKinnon, 3 Heather MacKinnon

Scottish Lilt
1 Lauren Skinner, 2 Heather MacKinnon, 3 Jessica MacNeil

Novice section winner
Lauren Skinner

Intermediate
Highland Fling
1 Eilidh MacDonald, 2 Riona Clifford, 3 Mhairi Ann MacInnes

Sword Dance
1 Eilidh MacDonald, 2 Mhairi Ann MacInnes, 3 Riona Clifford

Seann Triubhas
Eilidh MacDonald, 2 Riona Clifford

Strathspey - Half Tullock
1 Eilidh MacDonald, 2 Riona Clifford

Hielan Laddie/Barracks Johnnie
1 Riona Clifford, 2 Eilidh MacDonald, 3 Mhairi Ann MacInnes

Sailors Hornpipe
1 Mhairi Ann MacInnes, 2 Riona Clifford, 3 Eilidh MacDonald

Irish Jig
1 Riona Clifford, 2 Mhairi Ann MacInnes, 3 Eilidh MacDonald

Intermediate section winner: Eilidh MacDonald

Premier aged 13 and under)
Highland Fling
1 Fiona MacNeil, 2 Kristie Boyd, 3 Morven MacKellaig

Sword Dance
1 Kristie Boyd, 2 Eilidh Johnstone, 3 Mairead MacLellan

Seann Triubhas
1 Fiona MacNeil, 2 Morven MacKellaig, 3 Kristie Boyd

Strathspey - Half Tullock
1 Fiona MacNeil, 2 Kristie Boyd, 3 Anna Marie Beaton

Hielan Laddie/Barracks Johnnie
1 Fiona MacNeil, 2 Kristie Boyd, 3 Morven MacKellaig

Sailors Hornpipe
1 Kristie Boyd, 2 Anna Marie Beaton, 3 Megan O'Donnell

Irish Jig
1 Morven MacKellaig, 2 Eilidh Johnstone, 3 Anna Marie Beaton

Kristie Boyd

Flat Race 880 yds:

1 Ian Townsend, 2 Carle MacPhee, 3 Donald Steele

Flat Race (one mile)
1 Ian Townsend, 2 Carle MacPhee, 3 Donald Steele

Wrestling
1 Willie Hollister

2 Donald K MacKinnon

Trophies:
David MacBrayne Trophy: Ian Townsend

Angus John Morrison Memorial Trophy: Willie Hollister

Finlay MacDonald Memorial Challenge Trophy: Ian Townsend

D.J. MacKinnon Memorial Cup: Willie Hollister

South Uist Games Trophy: Randal Fraser

Donald Mac Donald 'Empire Cup' Ian Townsend

Athletics
Junior Section - Amateur

Under 6 Flat Race Boys
1 Blair MacDonald, 2 Lewis Nicholson, 3 Calum Grant

Under 8 Flat Race Boys
1 Ben Shepherd, 2 Ross MacRury,

Trophies:
A.P. Walker Memorial Cup: Kristie Boyd

D MacRury Memorial Cup: Eilidh MacDonald

Margaret Moir Memorial Cup: Mairi MacKellaig

Archie Lindsay Memorial Trophy: Sheena Peterana

Norman MacDonald Memorial Trophy: Mairi MacKellaig

Athletics
Open

Throwing the Heavy Hammer
1 Randal Fraser, 2 Stuart MacKenzie, 3 Willie Hollister

Flat Race (100 yards)
1 Scott Matheson, 2 Ian Townsend, 3 Donald Steele

Putting the Heavy Stone
1 Randal Fraser, 2 Stuart MacKenzie, 3 Kenny MacLennan

Flat Race (220 yards)
1 Scott Matheson, 2 Ian Townsend, 3 Donald Steele

Light Hammer:
1 Randal Fraser, 2 Stuart MacKenzie, 3 Willie Hollister

Flat Race 440 yds:
1 Ian Townsend, 2 Robbie Johnstone, 3 Scott Matheson

Putting the Light Stone
1 Randal Fraser, 2 Stuart MacKenzie, 3 Kenny MacLennan

High Jump
1 Calum Campbell, 2 Angus Campbell, 3 Donald Steele

Long Jump
1 Carle MacPhee, 2 Donald Steele, 3 Ruairidh Steele

Throwing Weight for Distance
1 Randal Fraser, 2 Stuart MacKenzie, 3 Willie Hollister

Hop, Step and Leap
1 Angus Campbell, 2 Carle MacPhee, 3 Donald Steele

Throwing Weight Over Bar
1 Randal Fraser, 2 Angus Brendan MacNeil, 3 Stuart MacKenzie



Fèis group session: tutors, left to right, Sophie Johnson from Sweden, Martin MacDonald (Lewis), Iain Ross (Inverness), Catriona Sime (Perth) and Fiona Young (Roy Bridge) with students Sally Swanson, Rachel Kay, Heather Sime and Shannon Hosie

Feis hits the right notes

FÈIS GLEANN Albainn hit the high notes last week for 50 youngsters brushing up their musical skills at its Fèis an Samhraidh (Summer Fèis) in Fort Augustus last week.

Traditional music

Some 19 children aged between five and seven and 31 eight to 18 year-olds enjoyed expert tuition from some of Scotland's finest traditional music exponents, in a rolling programme of tutorials in Kilchuimen Academy. Accordion, bodhran, Celtic art, chanter, drama/stagecraft, fiddle, groupwork, guitar, and whistle classes all formed part of the varied week of activities, which also included Gaelic tuition and shinty.

Musical highlight of the week was a concert by tutors and their young students in the school on Thursday night.

This year's summer fèis featured new tutorials in sound production and stage lighting, courtesy of £16,000 funding for new equipment from the local community company, Fèisean nan Gaidheal and HiArts, FGA treasurer Maria MacRae told The Oban Times.

Keyboard classes were also added to the programme after £3,500 additional funding bought ten new keyboards 'Getting all the new equipment has been brilliant,' she said. 'The whole week has gone very well and all the kids have enjoyed themselves.'



Front, 10-year-old Megan Stewart from Invergarry and her fèis friends enjoy a keyboard session with tutor Catherine MacDonald from Invergarry, Spean Bridge



Fiddle tutor Rona Cooper with pupil Jade Douglas, from Invergarry

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- 54 Nissan Micra S 1.2, 3dr, blue, 28,000 miles£3,250
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Mull Highland Games Results
Open Piping
 Pibroch: 1 Angus MacColl, 2 Euan Dewar, 3 Cameron Drummond; March: 1 Angus MacColl, 2 Oliver Rigg, 3 Struan Thorpe; Strathspey & Reel: 1 Angus MacColl, 2 Oliver Rigg, 3 Struan Thorpe; Junior: Pibroch: 1 Bradley Parker, 2 Angus MacColl, 3 Donald MacDougall; March: 1 Bradley Parker, 2 Angus MacColl, 3 Caitlin MacDonald; Strathspey & Reel: 1 Bradley Parker, 2 Donald MacDougall, 3 Angus MacColl.
Dancing
 Adults: Reels: 1 Emma Lawson, 2 Laura Smith, 3 Ross Croll, 4 Forfar, 5 Laura Smith, 6 Huntly, 7 Ross Croll, 8 Forfar, 9 2 Swords: 1 Laura Smith, 2 Ross Croll, 3 Emma Lawson; Highland

Fling: 1 Emma Lawson, 2 Laura Smith, 3 Robyn Hart Winks, Kirriemuir; Seann Triuhas: 1 Emma Lawson, 2 Laura Smith, 3 Ross Croll; Irish Jig: 1 Ross Croll, 2 Laura Smith, 3 Emma Lawson; Juveniles: 1 Kaidi Hall, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Euan Dewar, 4 Elyayne Seaton, 5 Kaidi Hall; Fling: 1 Elyayne Seaton, 2 Kaidi Hall, 3 Kirsty Barrett; Reel: 1 Kaidi Hall, 2 Elyayne Seaton, 3 Megan Poole, 4 Rothesay; S Hornpipe: 1 Kirsty Barrett, 2 Elyayne Seaton, 3 Kaidi Hall; Irish Jig: 1 Elyayne Seaton, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Duncan Sinclair, 4 New Gilston.
Heavy Athletics
 56lbwt over Bar: 1 G Edmunds, 2 A Neighbour, 3 J Johnston & S Rider; 2 16lb Hammer: 1 G Edmunds, 2 L Colthart, 3 S Rider; 22lb Hammer: 1 G Edmunds, 2 B Robb, 3 S Rider; 28lbwt-

HELP for Heroes held a stand during Mull Highland Games.
 It was manned by troopers of 569 Squadron, Earl Kitchen-er's Own Scottish and Borders Regiment Frontiersmen Yeomanry Scottish Command.
 The title is a new one brought by the amalgamation with The Volunteer Corps Troopers.
 Pictured are Peter Campbell, Ken Walker, Donna Hutchinson, Jim Simpson, James McWilliam and Peter Smith.

Distance: 1 S Rider, 2 G Edmunds, 3 N Elliott; Putting Ball: 1 S Rider, 2 A Neighbour, 3 G Edmunds; Tossing Caber: 1 B Robb, G Edmunds & N Elliott; Dr

Clegg's Clach: 1 S Rider, 2 G Edmunds, 3 J Johnston.
Light Athletics
 Long Leap: 1 David Watson, 2 Tony Daffurn, 3 Gary Turner, 4 Craig Tomison, 5 Ulva Ferry.

bridge, 3 Fraser Davidson, Aberdeen;
 High Leap: 1 Tony Daffurn, 2 David Watson, 3 Ian MacDowell; Half Mile Handicap: 1 Fraser Davidson, 2 Garret Corner, Inveraray, 3 Mathew Turner, Campbelltown;
 Hop Step Leap: 1 David Watson, 2 Tony Daffurn, 3 Fraser Davidson; 100 yards Race: 1 Tony Daffurn, 2 David Watson, 3 Jamie Sinclair, Glasgow; 100yards Handicap: 1 Bruce Scott, Earlston, 2 Lee Goodfellow, Earlston, 3 Ron Sutherland, Inverleithen; 220 yards Race: 1 Lee Goodfellow, 2 Fraser Davidson, 3 Graeme Scott; 440 yards Race: 1 Fraser Davidson, 2 Lee Goodfellow, 3 Jamie Sinclair; Half Mile Race: Mathew Turner; One Mile Race: 1 Mathew Turner, 2 Gary Turner, 3 Craig Tomison, 4 Ulva Ferry.

Local Piping
 Pibroch: 1 Angus MacColl, 2 Euan Dewar, 3 Struan Thorpe; March: 1 Angus MacColl, 2 Struan Thorpe, 3 Euan Dewar; Strathspey & Reel: 1 Angus MacColl, 2 Struan Thorpe, 3 Euan Dewar; Beginners' Chanter: 1 Robyn Horsburgh, 2 Zoe Johnston; Highland Fling: 1 Robyn Horsburgh, 2 Zoe Johnston; Swords: 1 Gina Murchy, Campbelltown, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Rothesay, 4 Megan Poole, 5 Rothesay; Highland Fling: 1 Kirsty Barrett, 2 Megan Poole, 3 Gina Murchy.
Heavy Athletics
 Throwing Hammer: 1 L Colthart, 2 N Elliott, 3 D Colthart; Putting Ball: 1 N Elliott, 2 L Colthart, 3 D

Colthart; Tossing Caber: 1 N Elliott, 2 L Colthart, 3 D Colthart; 28lbwt-Distance: 1 N Elliott, 2 L Colthart, 3 J Campbell; 42lbwt over the Bar: 1 N Elliott & L Colthart, 3 J Campbell.
Light Athletics
 Long Leap: 1 D Colthart, 2 M Turner, 3 D Black, 4 Salen; Hop Step and Leap: 1 M Turner, 2 D Black, 3 D Colthart; 100yards Race: 1 B MacKay, 2 M Turner, 3 D Black; 220yards Race: 1 M Turner, 2 G Turner, 3 I MacDowell; 440yards Race: 1 M Turner, 2 C Tomison, 3 G Turner; One Mile Race: 1 M Turner, 2 G Turner, 3 C Tomison; High Jump: 1 I MacDowell, 2 D Black, 3 T Corner; Cross Country Race Confined to Mull Comps: 1 C Tomison, 2 J MacFadyen, 3 C Whyte.
Local: Confined to Mull Children

Dancing:
 Primary: Iona MacKay, Craignure; Pas de Basque & Highcuts: Iona MacKay.
Youth Events:
 100 yards Race- Male: 1 T Corner, 2 T Duffy, 3 C MacDougall; 100yards Race-Female: 1 S Henderson, 2 F Corner, 3 C Peacock; 600 yards Race- Male: 1 T Corner, 2 C Whyte, 3 R MacCron; 600 yards-Race: 1 F Corner, 2 C Peacock, 3 S Henderson; High Jump- Male: 1 T Corner, 2 C Whyte, 3 R MacCron; High Jump-Female: 1 F Corner, 2 S Henderson, 3 C Peacock; LongJump-Male: 1 C Whyte, 2 T Corner, 3 I Kerr; Long Jump-Female: 1 S Henderson, 2 F Corner, 3 C Peacock; Shot Putt-Male: 1 C Whyte, 2 T Corner, 3 S MacLean; Shot Putt-Female: 1 N MacDowell, 2 S Henderson, 3 R Corner.

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MAMAS AND PAPAS LOTTYLADYBIRD luxury padded velour activity playmat and gym.

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BIRTHS



BRESLIN - Craig and Karen are delighted to announce the exciting arrival of their daughter Mara Catherine, born on June 8, 2010. Special thanks to the midwives in Oban Maternity Unit.

BRUCE - Mike and Sandra are delighted to announce that Finlay MacCormick Bruce, born 3½ months early on December 11, 2009, is now home after 202 days in hospital. Thanks to all the staff in the ITU/SCBU and Ward 15 at the Royal Alexandra Hospital and NICU at Yorkhill Hospital.

MACKELLAR - Walter and Ann (née MacKenzie) are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their daughter, Anna Mariah on July 2, 2010, at the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow.



ROBERTSON SHAW - Lorne and Suzy are delighted to announce the birth of their son Alfie Arthur, on June 21, 2010. Second grandchild for Billy and the late Mary, Oban and for James, Ayrshire and the late Cathleen, Oban. Thank you to everyone for the many cards and gifts received.



STIBBS - Lynsey (née Brown) and Gary are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful wee boy, Stuart Alexander, born on July 9, 2010 at The Glasgow Royal. First grandchild for Jan and Fred Stibbs, Cambuslang and Donald and Wendy Brown, Tobermory.

MARRIAGES

BLUE - MACLEAN - On Saturday July 17, 2010, in Belfast, Robert Andrew, elder son of Bobby and Joan, 6 Pulpit Drive, Oban, to Roisin, daughter of Laurence and Mairi. A wonderful day was had by all.



MACGILLIVRAY - McPHAIL - On Saturday, July 17, 2010 at Esplanade Church, Oban, by the Rev Catherine Knott, Ewen, only son of Ewen and Linda, Home Farm, Barcaldine, to Susan, only daughter of Malcolm and Frances, Glencruitten Rise, Oban. A wonderful day - Congratulations.

DEATH NOTICES

ALLAN - Peacefully at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley on July 23, 2010, Margaret nee Kelly, dearly loved wife of the late Ian Allan, much loved mum of Maureen and Catriona, mother in law of Tam and Tommy, granny to Barry, Scott, Paul and Craig and a dear sister and aunt. Funeral will take place at Ardchattan Church on Monday August 2 at 1 pm, thereafter to Achnaba Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection / donation if desired for Oban Hospice Ltd.

MACLENNAN - Peacefully in the care of Highview House Care Home, Inverness, on July 24, 2010, Donald Angus MacLennan (Donnie), formerly of Norland, Perth Road, Abernethy, Perthshire, also Caol and Invergloyle Halt from Achendaul, Spean Bridge, beloved husband of the late Joyce Kettle, loving father of Carol Ann, Ian, Lynn and Ethel, also a devoted grandpa and great-grandpa. Sadly missed, always remembered. Funeral service tomorrow, Friday, July 30, at 11.30am in Inverness Crematorium. All friends respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Chest, Heart & Stroke Scotland may be given at the service or forwarded to D Chisholm and Sons, Huntly Street, Inverness IV3 5HP.

WILKINS - Tragically as the result of an accident, on July 20, 2010, Iain Cameron Wilkins, aged 40 years, of 7 Torran Mhor, Ford, by Lochgilphead. Beloved son of Mick and Elaine, and cherished brother of Graeme and Lorraine. Adored Uncle of Zara and Tyler. A dear nephew and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral Service will take

place in Ford Village Hall, on Monday August 2, at 2pm. Family flowers only please. A retiring collection will be offered at the service. No Black Ties please - please come 'casual and colourful' **YOUNG** - Peacefully after a long illness bravely borne, at home in Kinlochleven on July 24, 2010, Catherine Campbell Young (nee MacInnes), 85 years. Wife of the late Sidney Young and beloved sister and aunt. Special thanks to Dr Ellis and Dr Headden, nursing staff and home carers of Kinlochleven.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BARKER - All the family of the late Helen Fraser McLellan Barker would like to give their thanks and appreciation to the following:- Firstly to our brilliant neighbours Richard and Florence for their sterling efforts; to all friends and relatives for their flowers, wreaths, kind messages of sympathy, by card, by word and telephone; overwhelming offers of help and gifts of home baking, soup and meals; also to the ambulance boys who fought so hard to save her, to Drs Abel and Knowles for their attendance, to Policeman Jim for his sensitive help, to Jean and Craig MacAffer for their unfailing and dedicated funeral arrangements. A special thanks to Rev Rob Barlow and Rev Angus Morrison for their comfort and counselling and giving such a touching funeral service, to organist Jean Campbell for her beautiful playing, to Andrew and Lindsay, sterling pipers who played all the way in the rain. A huge thank you to the Islay Lifeboat crew who were her pall bearers steadfastly carrying her on such a miserable wet day. Finally thanks to all who attended at St Johns and at the graveside.

MACARTHUR - "Extended family" of Islay and beyond thank you everyone. You've been our sunshine in the morning and each night our setting sun. We thank you for your comfort, warm wishes, gifts, embrace. You've helped us through our darkest hour with love and joy and grace. Rena, Angela and Karen thank you for being so kind and for the love you show each wee darling - the legacy - Helen's left behind. Greig, Scanaidh, Fraser, Danni our little lights that just now glow will in the days ahead shine brightly because we All love them so. Tha Gaol Mora gum oirdh!! - Rena, Angela, Karen and families.

MACKENZIE - Allan and family wish to thank most sincerely all relatives, friends and neighbours, for the kind expressions of sympathy, cards, phone calls, letters and floral tributes received following the recent passing of Sandra. Special thanks to Bob and Dot for their huge support throughout. Also to the doctors and nurses of Tobermory Surgery, Dunaros Hospital and Lorn District General Hospital, Oban, during her long illnesses. Thanks also to homecare for huge support over the years. Special mention to Lifeboat crew. Grateful thanks to Donald MacKinnon and Dougie MacNeilage for such a comforting and fitting service. Thank you also to Billy McClymont for his efficient funeral arrangements and to Suzanne Hall for the catering. The retiring collection raised the sum of £962.71 for Cancer Research UK.

MACLEAN - Donald. Nellie and family would like to thank all the people involved in his excellent care and for their tremendous support.

MACLEAN - The family of the late Violet wish to thank all relatives and friends for their prayers and support during her illness and for their kindness and sympathy on their bereavement. Thanks are also due to the staff of ward 15 of the Victoria Infirmary and of Mearnskirch House for their care of Violet and their consideration for the family. We should like to thank the special group of friends who assisted with the care of our sister at home, in hospital and in the hospice, all the others who provided comfort and neighbours who gave practical help at her home. Our thanks go to the Rev. Kenneth Stewart, and all who assisted, for the beautiful, heart-warming service in Downvale Free Church, to the ladies of the congregation for catering and to Mr. John Murray, and others who took part, for the funeral service in Lismore - we are most grateful for all who travelled to both services. Finally, we should like to thank Mr. A. MacGillivray for the excellent funeral arrangements in Lismore, the Co-op for earlier services and Beth Campbell for her expert catering. "So to the haven He them brings".

MACLEAN - Allan and Fiona would like to thank friends, relatives, neighbours and colleagues, for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and floral tributes following the death of their father Allan. Grateful thanks go to Lynn of Lorne care Home, Dr Davies and Ward B staff at Lorn and Islands Hospital for their excellent care and attention. Thanks also to Catriona, Owen and Daniel Hoey for their professional and caring funeral arrangements. A final special thanks to those who attended the service at Caddross Crematorium.

MEMORIAMS

BARRY - In loving memory of my dear husband, our dad and granddad, John, who passed away August 1, 2002. Time may hide the sadness Like the smile that hides the tears

But the loving memories keep you near Despite the passing years Loved and missed always. - Rachel, Alan, Katie and grandchildren.xxx

KERMODE - 24 May 1940 - 31 July 06. In memory of John a devoted husband, father and papa. So sorely missed. For those that we love But no longer see Let light perpetual shine upon them And grant that in good time We will meet again in peace and love - Lilian and family.

LIVINGSTONE - Treasured memories of Duncan, dearly loved husband, dad and father in law, who passed away July 30, 2009. Sorely missed. -Mary and family.

MACCOLL - Annie (Nan) Treasured memories of my darling wife. - June Anne xx Gentle Jesus up above bring to granny all our love. - Archie, Jessie, Katie and Freddie. xxxxx

MACCOLL - In loving memory of Ronnie, who passed away on July 30, 2009. Sadly missed and ever in our thoughts From Margaret and all the family.

MACCUISH - Remembering Uncle Angus, died August 1, 2005, also my beloved parents Morag and Duncan Gillies and all relatives and friends. Loved and remembered always. - Maureen.

MACKAY - In loving memory of Eilidh MacKay, tragically taken from us July 30, 2003. Sorely missed Always remembered With fondest love - Mum and girls. Gus am faic sinn thu a'ris a ghraidh.

MACKAY - Eilidh If tears could build a stairway and thoughts a memory lane I'd walk right up to heaven and bring you home again No Farewell words were spoken No time to say good-bye You were gone before I knew it And only God knows why.

In loving memory of a dear sister Julia and David, Southampton

MACPHEE - In memory of my beloved grandson Scott who died suddenly on August 1, 1993. Also my wife Ethel passed away on August 13, 2009. Sadly missed. - John Larbert.

MARTIN - In loving memory of my much loved partner, John, who was sadly taken from me on July 31, 2009. If loved could have saved you You would not have died If tears could bring you back You'd be here by my side I will love and miss you forever John.xxx - From Sharon and family.

MARTIN - In loving memory of our dear dad and grandpa, John, who died suddenly on July 31, 2009. We hold memories that will last forever Loving thoughts of our times together. - From Janie, Claire, John, Poppy and family.

MATHESON - In Loving Memory of John George (Ian) our dear husband, father, grandpa and father-in-law who passed away on July 31, 2009. Sadly missed -Elizabeth and family

McCOMBIE - In loving memory of a dear wife, mother, mother in law and granny, Cathie, who died July 27, 1990. Always in our thoughts - Bert and family.

McLACHLAN - In loving memory of my darling daughter, Maria, passed away August 2, 2008. Dearly

loved sister of Colin and Angela, Aunt to Billy. Remembered with a smile our silent Angel Sadly missed. - Mum, Colin, Angela, Julie, Ross and Billy. Forever in our thoughts.xxx.

MORRISON - In loving memory of Don, died July 30, 2005. I hold you close within my heart And there you will remain To walk with me throughout my life Until we meet again. - Loving wife Mo.

POWER - In loving memory of Sally Paver 10/03/1940 - 04/08/2006 If roses grow in Heaven Lorn Please pick a bunch for me. Place them in my Mother's arms and tell her I'm from me. Tell her I love her and miss her, and when she turns to smile, Place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while. Because remembering her is easy. I do it every day, But there is an ache within my heart That will never go away.

PRYCE - Treasured and loving memories of Jim, a dearly loved husband and dad, who passed away August 1, 2003. Memory lane is a beautiful place Where thoughts of love are true Again and again we travel there Just to be with you If memories brings us closer You are always with us Jim Forever in our hearts. - Anne, Emma and Ailsa.

ROBERTSON - In loving memory of Marie, loving wife, mother and granny, who died on July 29, 2007. A special person Someone we love and can't replace Never selfish, always kind These are the memories you left behind. Love Chris, Kenneth, Marie Claire, Denise, Lesley and Ryan and grand daughters Dawn, Sarah and Nyah.

SHAW - In loving memory of a dear mother and granny Cathleen, who passed away on July 27, 2009. Loved and remembered everyday Suzy, Lorne and Alfie.

SHAW - In loving memory of our mum and granny Cathleen. A year has passed so quickly And life gets harder without you everyday We miss and love you so much. Love Lynette, Callum, Jodi and Ali x

SHAW / SHEVLIN - In loving memory of our beloved sister Cathleen, who was taken away from us so suddenly on July 27, 2009. If tears could build a stairway Memories a lane I'd walk right up to heaven And bring you home again. Love always your brothers, sisters and uncle John.x

SHAW - In loving memory of a dear sister and aunt, Cathleen, who died July 27, 2009. Sadly missed and always in our hearts. - Marie, Patrick, Paul and Daniel.

STEWART - In loving memory of Alistair a loving husband, devoted father and grandfather, who passed away August 1, 2008. A special smile A special face A special person we can't replace. - Christine and family.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION Sunday 1 August 2010 Trinity 9 St John's Cathedral, Oban

Holy Communion 08.00 Sung Eucharist..... 10.15 Loop System Large Print Hymn Books All Welcome Norman MacCallum, Provost. (01631) 562323

Kilbrandon Kirk No Service **St James, Ardbrecknish, Cladich** No Service **St Columba, Gruline, Mull** Mattins..... 11.00

St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona Holy Eucharist..... 08.00 Evensong..... 20.00

ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN Campbell Street Church

Sunday 1st August 2010 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Phone-In 'Worship Link' available **Rev. Archie McPhail MA, MTh** (01631) 567076 All welcome

WEDDINGS



Lee Ann Stewart and Keith Duncan, both of Caol, Fort William, were married on July 8th in Ayia Napa, Cyprus.

CHARITY DONATIONS

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GRADUATIONS



Greg Raymond Sage graduated from Dundee University as a Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours in Geography and Environmental Science. Greg is the son of Raymond and Tracey Sage now of Fearnoch, nr Taynuilt.



Laura Joanne Sage BA (Hons) graduated from Glasgow University with Post Graduate Diploma in Education. Laura is the daughter of Raymond and Tracey Sage now of Fearnoch nr Taynuilt.



LEANNE HARRIS Graduated from The University of Glasgow with a BSc Honours Degree in Physiology and Sports Science. Leanne is the daughter of Alan and Katie Harris, North Connell and the granddaughter of Janet and the late Bill Stephen, formerly of North Connell, and Alison Harris and the late Iain Harris, North Connell. Leanne is a former pupil of Lochnell Primary School and Oban High School.



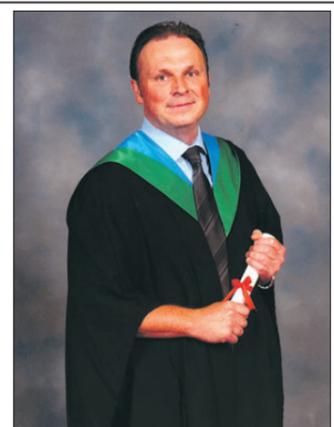
Maria Clark, has graduated from the University of Glasgow as Bachelor of Science with Honours in Earth Science. A former pupil of Oban High School, she is the daughter of Iain and Elena Clark, and the granddaughter of Albina Denisova, Moscow, and Annie Clark, Glenshellach Farm, Oban.



Morven Hislop BMSc (Hons) graduated Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) from the University of Dundee. Morven is the younger daughter of Ian and Doreen Hislop, North Ballachulish and grand-daughter of the late John and Margaret Gillies, Kilmichael-Glassary. A former pupil of St Brides Primary and Lochaber High School, Morven is now a Foundation Doctor at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary.



Stacy MacQueen (née Smith) graduated from Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh as Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences. Stacy is the wife of Richard and mum to Caillean, North Connell. She is also the daughter of Allison and John MacLeod and the late Christopher Smith and granddaughter of Joe and Maureen Barr, Oban.



Pictured following his graduation at Glasgow Caledonian University in July 8, 2010 is Tony Casci who graduated with 1st Class Honours, BSc in Building Surveying (Building Control).



Fiona Marion Wilson graduated with a BEd (Hons) in Primary teaching from Aberdeen University. Fiona is the daughter of Catherine MacKay, Corpach and grand daughter of Nora and Donald MacKay, Caol and the late Eileen and Donald Wilson, Corpach. She is a former pupil of Banavie Primary and Lochaber High Schools.



Alison Caroline MacFadden graduated BSc (with first class honours) in Immunology and Microbiology from the University of Strathclyde. She was also awarded The Chivas Prize for merit in Microbiology. Educated at Loch Nell Primary and Oban High schools, Alison is the daughter of Neil and Carole, Connell and granddaughter of Irene and the late Jack Craig, Oban and Mary and the late John MacFadden, Dunbeg. She is now studying for a PhD.



Ann Dods only daughter of the late Cyril and Nora Tomlinson of Osprey, Glencruitten, recently graduated at Edinburgh Napier University, Bsc (Hons) Animal Health. Ann is continuing her studies at The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Medicine, Edinburgh.

John so close to a place in the Olympic Games

MOIDART shotgun ace John MacDonald won the Scottish Open Olympic Trap Championships in a dramatic shoot-off at Loch Ness Gun Club on Saturday. The champion marksman just pipped Ireland's David Beattie by one target, breaking a perfect 50 to Beattie's 49 to take the title. After two days of competition the Irishman had gone into the six man shoot-off two targets ahead, having brought down 142 out of 150 to his rival's 140, but MacDonald posted a flawless performance to shoot a perfect 25 to Beattie's

By Stephen Norris

23 to level the scores. In the second shoot-off, once again the Acharacle man produced a perfect 25 to Beattie's 24 to ensure the title remained in Scotland. MacDonald and Scotland's Shona Marshall, who won the ladies' title at Loch Ness, are very much in the mix for nomination for the Commonwealth Games in Delhi in October. Both have met the qualifying mark along with Ossie Maclean. Scottish selectors will announce next week the

finish at Munich would book his qualifying place in the two-man British team for London 2012.

One step away from Olympic competition, MacDonald knows the importance of the Munich championships but is relishing the challenge.

He told The Oban Times: 'It is the biggest shoot of my career. I have already competed at two world events this year, but this is the pinnacle. This is another step up for me, but I have been shooting well and I'm confident because in competitions I am hard to beat.'

'I can definitely do it, the way I have been shooting and the form I have been showing.'

MacDonald has already established an all time record by winning the Scottish, English and British open championships all in the same year.

Olympic Trap shooters who will represent Scotland at the Commonwealth games in Delhi this October.

Equally importantly, MacDonald's victory is perfect preparation for his bid for glory at the 2010 ISSF World Shooting Championship in Munich, a vital qualifier for the 2012 Olympics.

Distributed

Some 2,400 athletes from over 90 countries will compete in the July 30 to August 11 event, with the first of 69 Olympic quota places for London 2012 distributed to the best performers in the 15 Olympic events of rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting. MacDonald currently lies second in the British shotgun rankings after a series of fine performances at top ranking Olympic trap competitions across the world. A top five



Shotgun ace John MacDonald: on the verge of Commonwealth and Olympic selection.

Youth talent programme starts this Sunday

SCOTTISH rugby's youth talent identification programme starts this Sunday in Oban at Oban Lorne RFC from 10am until 3pm.

RUGBY

The programme consists of a series of training sessions and games aimed at identifying the best young players at each age group in the region. These players are then prepared as Argyll and Bute teams to play against other Pathway regions.

The games are monitored by Scottish Rugby Union-appointed coaches who are seeking out the best talent to further develop up the youth rugby representative ladder and even as possible future professional players.

Argyll and Bute Youth Rugby Pathway 2010/2011: U14 (s1/2) and U15 Player Pathway: August 1 in

Oban 10am - 3pm; August 15, Oban; August 22, Oban. August 29 in Cumbernauld.

U16 Player Pathway: August 1, Oban (10am - 3pm). Argyll and Bute Tigers U16 selection match v Hurricanes at Helensburgh on August 8. Tigers U16 to attend Glasgow Pathway Festival at Cartha QP on August 15.

Selection

Selected (nominated) Argyll and Bute players to attend at GHA for final selection process (Central Festival) on August 22. Glasgow U16 Squad (35 players) selected after August 22.

U17 and U18 Player Pathway: August 1 at Oban, 10am - 3pm; August 15 at Oban, 12-3pm; August 22 at Oban, 12-3pm.

Winning tour for Hydro National Select squad

THERE was a winning feeling to the Scottish Hydro National District Select Squad's Irish tour, which took place this week.

The under-17 squad travelled to Dublin for the tour in which they took on their hurling counterparts, The Offaly Under 17 Squad and The Dublin U17 Development Squad.

On Monday the squad defeated the Offaly under-17s by 15 points to 10, however Fort William's Josh McGhee suffered a broken nose in the encounter.

The following evening the team beat Dublin Under-17 Development Squad 22-12.

SHINTY

The tour has been taking place for more than 20 years and the under-17 squad is made up of the elite shinty players from the previous year's Scottish Hydro National Player Development Camp.

Squad leader, Ronald Ross, said, 'The Scottish Hydro National District Select Under 17 squad, and the tour itself, is an integral part of shinty's player pathway; it is the last opportunity for players to test themselves before preparing to step up to under 21 and senior level.'



The winning Tarbert team receives their gallon-bottle prizes from Ardbeg Distillery Vicor Centre manager Jackie Thomson.

WINNERS of the recent Ardbeg Open Bowls Competition were rewarded with a unique and valuable prize - but it wasn't a trophy or shield that caught everyone's attention.

The winning team from Tarbert, skipped by John

BOWLS

Martin, were each presented with a gallon bottle of Ardbeg whisky, courtesy of the distillery that sponsored the event.

On top of that each player was presented with £50.



Driving for success: young golfers Alastair Ross, Michael Lawrie and Craig Brown.

Junior golfers return with the silverware

THREE FORT William Golf Club juniors have excelled in recent regional competitions to boost Lochaber's standing in the sport.

Alastair Ross and Craig Brown took on 40 rivals at the Nairn Golf Club Junior Open in horrendous conditions on July 15 - and returned home with the silverware.

Alastair, who plays off five, shot 77 on the tough par 72 course to win the under 18 trophy while Craig, who also plays off five, shot 78 to win the under 16 trophy.

The boys' scores were also good enough to win them the under-19 and under-16 scratch competitions, respectively.

Alastair, who took up golf at the age of eight and has been playing competition golf for four years, was more nervous at the presentation afterwards than he had been on the golf course.

'It felt really scary because I had to make a speech,' he told the Oban Times. 'I was more scared about that than making the putt on the last green.'

Meanwhile, 14 year-old Michael Lawrie won the Anderson Shaw and Gilbert Junior Open at Inverness for 18 to 36 handicap golfers with a net score of 64, which saw his handicap cut from 22 to 17.

Regional

Michael also finished in the top eight in the regional heats of the Dunfermline Junior Masters at Newtonmore and now goes forward to the national final at the Renaissance Golf Club near Edinburgh.

Junior convenor at Fort William, Alastair's dad John Ross said: 'We have a very good junior set at Fort William Golf Club. There's a lot of boys with real potential here.'

James wins endurance downhill at Nevis Range

A LOCHABER rider came out on top of the Hope Endurance Downhill mountain bike race at Nevis Range on Saturday.

The race attracted 140 entrants from all over the UK, who attempted as many laps of the 2.82 km course as they could in six hours. James Shirley, 21, of Roy Bridge finished in first place after managing 14 laps of the course in a time of 1 hour 23 minutes and 19 seconds.

Fort William's Jessie Wigman grabbed fourth place after completing 13 laps in 1 hour 27 minutes and 17 seconds. Nineteen-year-old Scott Clark from Spean Bridge managed five laps in a time of 35 minutes and 30 seconds.

Fort William rider Alastair McLennan pulled out of the race after injuring himself on Friday night.



(Left to right) Local riders Jessie Wigman, James Shirley and Scott Clark before the Hope Endurance Downhill race at Nevis Range.

Hoops go through in extra time

CELTIC are one game away from adding the MacDonald Cup to their trophy haul for this season, which already includes the League Championship and the John Baird Cup. The Hoops beat Lundavra 3-2 in a tense semi final at the BA Club on Tuesday evening. Extra time was needed to sort out a winner after the game finished 2-2 at fulltime.

Graham Mackenzie opened the scoring in the first half to put Lundavra ahead. League champions Celtic were awarded a free kick 25 yards from goal, which Norman McInnes took and put in the top corner to level the score. Celtic then took the lead, with Adam Watson scoring with a shot from the edge of the box.

Mackenzie grabbed his second goal of the game ten minutes from time to send the match into extra time. But Celtic proved to strong for Lundavra, and John Paul McCormack scored to only goal in extra time to put the Hoops into the final.

Mallaig will be the team trying to stop Celtic winning the cup, after they beat Rangers 6-2 in the other semi final on Wednesday.

Mallaig's goals came from Cameron Muir, Jamie McGregor and braces from Neil Cameron and Ross Douglas.

Rangers scored through

Robert MacGillivray and Kevin Mathers, but the home side proved to strong. Mallaig will now look forward to the final against Celtic at the BA Club on Friday August 6.

Ballachulish had to settle for a 1-1 draw against ten-man Ardnamurchan in Strontian last Monday. The away side, playing their last game of the season, took the lead in the first half through a Sandy Hazelton free kick. But Ardnamurchan equalised before halftime when Herbie Ferguson netted.

Second Yellow

Ardnamurchan went down to ten men on the hour mark when David Wright received his second yellow of the game for kicking out at a Ballachulish player. Ballachulish were given a great chance to take all three points when the referee pointed to the penalty spot with ten minutes to go. Jono Cooper stepped up to take it but his shot was saved by keeper Sean Olsen.

Fort William's match against Ardnamurchan on Thursday was cancelled, as Fort William did not have enough players for a team. Ardnamurchan were awarded a 4-0 victory.

Lundavra could not get enough players for their match against Mallaig on Friday, so Mallaig were awarded a 4-0 win.

Lochaber Welfare League as of Monday July 26

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Celtic | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 60 | 34 | 33 |
| Ballachulish | 14 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 42 | 34 | 24 |
| Mallaig | 13 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 45 | 39 | 24 |
| Ardnamurchan | 13 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 30 | 23 | 19 |
| Lundavra | 14 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 35 | 41 | 19 |
| Fort William Under 17s | 13 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 39 | 40 | 17 |
| Rangers | 13 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 37 | 44 | 14 |
| Caol United | 14 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 29 | 60 | 5 |

Fort Augustus Golf Club returns

RETURNS from Fort Augustus Golf Club for July 24.

RNLI Spoon - 1, Gordon MacDonald 76-8=68; 2, Alec MacDonald 91-20=71; 3, Andrew Gilchrist 79-6=73.

GOLF

Fairways senior trophy - 1, Douglas Porter 99-24=75; 2, Bob Lee 111-28=83. Ladies McConnachie - 1, Mary Clemow 90-18=72; 2, Karen Callow 102-26=76.

Fort lose out to Auchinleck

FOOTBALL

FORT William fell to a 6-0 defeat in their pre-season friendly against junior side Auchinleck Talbot on Saturday.

And there was more bad news for Fort when goalkeeper John Campbell was taken off after ten minutes of the game with a facial injury.

Fort manager Calum MacLean told The Oban Times: 'It was a big blow losing our keeper so early, but it was a good pre-season run out and we were playing a first class team. We had a few players missing, and hopefully we'll have them back before our next game.'

Fort were looking to bounce back from this defeat when they took on Muir of Ord in the first round of the North of Scotland Cup on Tuesday.

Fort open their league campaign away to Inverurie Loco Works on Saturday.

Fort William GC

GOLF

RETURNS from Fort William Golf Club for weekend July 24 and 25.

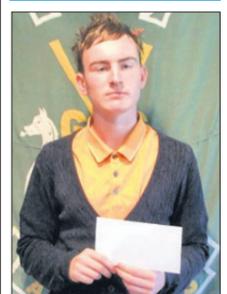
Saturday July 24: Letterfinlay Lodge Hotel Singles - 1, Neil Feggans 77-12=64; 2, Brian Gillespie 81-16=65; 3, Steven Jameson 71-4=67

Sunday July 25: Letterfinlay Lodge Hotel Texas scramble - 1, Ian Rodger, Duncan Rodger, Michael Rodger 62-5.5=56.5; 2, David Lane, John McPhee, John Drummond 65-8.3=56.7; 3, Joe Sweeney, Frank Sweeney, Dale Monk 65-7.7=57.3.

Ladies Letterfinlay Lodge Hotel Texas scramble - Winners - Gail Anderson, Linda Gillespie, Rosemary McIntyre 71-8.8=62.2

Andrew wins Fort Augustus Open

GOLF



Winner of the Fort Augustus Open Andrew Gilchrist.

FORT AUGUSTUS Golf Club held their annual Open competition on Sunday, with 18-year-old Andrew Gilchrist emerging as the winner.

Vice Captain Andrew won his second open with a gross score of 72. His first win came two years ago, when he became the youngest winner of the Fort Augustus Open.

Gordon MacDonald finished as runner up after carding a gross 77.

In the 0-13 handicap category, Fort Augustus Golf Club captain Jonathon Seymour won with a net score of 61. Peter Macdonald from Torvean Golf Club was runner up.

The 14-28 handicap winner was Campbell Burnett with a net 70, with Finlay Nicolson finishing second with a net 73.

Club secretary Karen Callow presented the prizes, which were donated by Kathryn and Ned Ross from the Bothy Bar in Fort Augustus.

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SHINTY

Fixtures

Saturday, July 31 2010
all throw-ups at 2.30pm unless otherwise stated

Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup Final
Lovat v Glenurquhart
Ron Kennedy
at The Eilean, Newtonmore
4pm

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Bute v Fort William
Duncan Kerr
GMA v Inveraray
Ted McDonald
Kingussie v Lovat
John MacPhee 1pm
Kyles v Oban Camanachd
Billy Witherspoon

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Beaully v Lochaber
John MacLeod
Inverness v Caberfeidh
Graham Cameron
Kinlochshiel v Strathglass
Ronnie Campbell
Skye v Kilmallie
Innes Wood

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Inveraray v Lochside Rvrs
David Mitchell
Oban Celtic v Ballachulish
Robert Baxter Jnr
Taynuilt v Glenorchy
Colin MacDonald

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Beaully v Kingussie
Charles Young 12 noon
Glengarry v Skye
Daniel MacRae
Kilmallie v Fort William
Donald MacRae

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Bute v Glasgow Mid Argyll
George O'Rourke
Kyles Athletic v Tayforth
Jim Innes

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Ardnarnach v Aberdeen U
Deck Cameron
Lochaber v Strathglass
John Sloggie
Lochbroom v Lochcarron
Russell Ross

MacDougall double gives Lochside victory

SHINTY

TWO goals from Craig MacDougall earned Lochside Rovers full South Division One points against Taynuilt.
Taynuilt's Willie Neilson was also sent off and will not be available for this Saturday's local derby against Glenorchy.

Premier title challenge become tighter as relegation looms for two

KYLES ATHLETIC ensured that the Premier title challenge will go right to the wire again this season when they took a point off Newtonmore's bid to win the league crown.
Heavy drizzle made for uncomfortable conditions at Tighnabraich, with slack defending allowing Colin MacColl to open the scoring for the home side after 17 minutes.

Newtonmore were then denied what looked like an equaliser when Evan Menzies shot squirmed behind keeper Kenny MacDonald - but the 'goal' was disallowed and the visitors had to wait until a 25th minute half-volley from David Cheyne to level the scores.

With the balance of play in midfield, it took until 13 minutes into the second-half for the deadlock to be broken when Thomas Whyte reacted to half clearance to smash the ball passed Ritchie from 12 yards.

Newtonmore had the chance to level from the penalty spot but Cheyne's spot hit went wide. However, the same player salvaged what could yet prove a valuable point for Newtonmore when he snatched an equaliser with five minutes remaining.

There were plenty of early goals at Peterson Park where visitor's Lovat were 4-2 ahead after only 14 minutes.

Mid Argyll's Mark Bain opened the scoring in the third minute but Jamie Matheson equalised two minutes later. Jamie Matheson, Greg Matheson and Jamie MacPherson had Lovat 4-1 ahead before the 10th minute but the lead was reduced when Ben Simmister pulled a goal back for GMA in the 14th minute.

Jamie Matheson found the net for Lovat again after 22

SHINTY

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Kyles 2 Newtonmore 2

GMA 4 Lovat 6

Glenurquhart 5 Oban Camanachd 2

minutes and then followed a lull in the scoring until three minutes into the second-half when Bain was on target for the home side again.

The second 45 minutes failed to live-up to the frantic first-half but two goals came in the closing two minutes as Greg Matheson netted Lovat's sixth and Andy Mathie drew a goal back for Glasgow Mid Argyll.

Mid Argyll were also dealt another blow when defender Iain Murray broke his collar bone and will miss the rest of the season.

Oban Camanachd's relegation woes deepened on Saturday when they went down 5-2 to a well organised Glenurquhart at Drumnadrochit.

Although Oban started in dominant fashion they failed to convert chances into goals and their defence was found wanting as Lewis MacLennan and Eddie Tembo had the Glen two ahead by the half-hour.

Neil Reid added a third in the 32nd minute, with John Barr netting Glen's fourth before Aiden MacIntyre pulled a goal back on the stroke of half-time.

Oban saw more of the ball at the start of the second period but went further behind when Calum Fraser scored Glen's fifth in the 67th minute. Camanachd, who had young midfielder Gary Lord sent off, pulled a goal back through Ian MacMillan in the final minutes



Inveraray's Grant Griffen aims to turn Bute defender Graham Fisher at Mossfield on Saturday Picture John MacTavish

Inveraray and Kingussie to meet in repeat of last year's Macaulay Final

INVERARAY and Kingussie will contest this season's Macaulay Cup Final at Oban on Saturday, August 29 - a repeat of last year's final from which Inveraray emerged victorious thanks to a 4-3 scoreline.

Last Saturday, at Mossfield Park, Oban, the cup holders swept aside the challenge of a depleted Bute side which had no answer to the Royal Burgh's quick movement and clinical finishing.

Neil Andrew netted four times, with Grant Griffen bagging a double and Garry MacPherson, Euan McMurdo and Lewis MacNicol one-a-piece as Inveraray dominated the tie from the opening whistle.

SHINTY

Artemis Macaulay Cup Semi-finals
Kingussie 3 Fort William 0
Inveraray 9 Bute 0

Inveraray midfielder Ruairidh Graham was awarded the man of the match title for his energetic performance over the 90 minutes.

At Inverness, Kingussie sprung a surprise in their semi-final tie against Fort William when they fielded former Strathglass forward Lee Bain in a defensive role to counter the threat of James Clark.

Bain's performance against

the Fort William talisman earned him the man of the match award as Kingussie moved into the final thanks to a 3-0 scoreline.
Fort's Bryan Simpson had a goal disallowed for off-side before Ronald Ross finally broke the deadlock just before the half-time whistle.

Fort William failed to find their rhythm throughout the 90 minutes and Ross added a second Kingussie goal 10

minutes into the second-half before he was then involved in a confrontation with Fort William's Steven Stewart which saw Ross struck in the face and young Stewart sent from the field of play by referee Duncan Kelly.

Despite being a man down, Fort William held out for the majority of the second period until three minutes off the final whistle, when a Paul Gow goal ensured that Kingussie would take their place in a repeat of last year's Macaulay Cup Final in Oban.

Kingussie now remain the only team which could still achieve a Grand Slam of shinty's top trophy's this season.

Lochcarron produce four second-half goals to stun Kilmallie

SHINTY

Marine Harvest North Division One
Lochcarron 4
Kilmallie 3

LOCHCARRON came back from two goals down in the first-half to win 4-3 against Kilmallie at Battery Park on Saturday.

Michael Rodgers had Kilmallie ahead on the half-hour, with Martin Stewart putting the visitors two goals ahead approaching the interval.

However, Lochcarron came out strongly at the start of the second period and pulled a goal back through Gregor Cushnie after only three minutes.

In the 65th minute Mark Sproule equalised - and when Alan MacKenzie put the home side ahead five minutes later, then Criosdain Finlayson added Lochcarron's fourth goal three minutes later, Kilmallie's chances were gone.

Martin Stewart converted a penalty on the stroke of full-time to bring the scores closer but it was too late to alter the final result.

SHINTY

Results

- Artemis Macaulay Cup Semi Final**
Kingussie 3 Fort William 0
Inveraray 9 Bute 0
- Scottish Hydro Premier Division**
GMA 4 Lovat 6
Glenurquhart 5 Oban Cam 2
Kyles 2 Newtonmore 2
- Marine Harvest North Division 1**
Kinlochshiel 4 Caberfeidh 3
Lochaber 4 Inverness 0
Lochcarron 4 Kilmallie 3
Skye 2 Beaully 0
- Marine Harvest South Division 1**
Glenorchy 5 Oban Celtic 0
Inveraray 4 Kilmory 2
Lochside Rrs 2 Taynuilt 0
- Marine Harvest North Division 2**
Beaully 1 Lovat 3
Kingussie 3 Fort William 1
Kilmallie 2 Skye 1
Newtonmore P Glen/uhart P
- Marine Harvest South Division 2**
Bute 0 Aberdeen 4
Tayforth 4 GMA 2
- Marine Harvest North Division 3**
Boleskine 3 Lochbroom 3
Caberfeidh P Lochcarron P
Lochaber 5 Aberdeen Uni 2

Glenorchy win promotion as Mart Park surface called into question

SHINTY

Marine Harvest South Division One
Glenorchy 5
Oban Celtic 0

SATURDAY'S league clash at the Mart Park, Dalmally saw both squads suffering from the lack of matchplay after a long lay-off, but, more crucially, the influence of a pitch surface that bordered on being unplayable due to the length of the grass.
The home side, not

unexpectedly, adapted better to the conditions while Oban Celtic struggled throughout, on a surface that severely curtailed their natural style.

In the first exchanges it was obvious that this was a game where controlling the ball and hitting it forward in the air was the only sensible tactic - dribbling, ground passes and attempting to beat players was to prove a fruitless task.

Oban Celtic faltered first and paid the ultimate price for not clearing their lines after only 7 minutes when

Kieran Mackay was on hand to pounce on a ball lying loose in the area and making a simple task of stroking it into the net.

The same player was on hand after 32 minutes to pressure Celtic keeper McNab who could do nothing to stop the Glenorchy forward bundling the ball over the line.

At this point, the visitors had not had a single shot to trouble Glenorchy's No. 1 Smith - nor did they for the rest of the half.

Celtic were increasingly relying on the experience

of veterans Turnbull and MacCormack at the heart of their defence to break up the relentless waves of Glenorchy pressure.

In contrast the home centerline of Sartain, Ross and Ronald began to dominate midfield, no more so than at the beginning of the second period, when Celtic's forwards seemed unable to gather and hold the ball. This meant that the Celtic backline had no sooner cleared their lines than the ball was heading back in their direction. Something had to give and on 52

minutes Alex MacPherson effectively sealed the league championship for Glenorchy, again capitalising on a ball that remained unclaimed in the Celtic box.

The same player hit the target on 72 minutes with the best strike of the game, a long range shot from out on the right - there was nothing the Oban defence could do about that one!

By this time, the energy sapping effect of the long grass was beginning to take its toll and despite their willingness to battle on,

Oban Celtic never managed to get a meaningful shot on target and, to rub salt in the wound, Glenorchy got their fifth goal on 87 minutes via Grant MacPherson.

Duncan Cameron, President of the Camanachd Association, was on hand to oversee the presentation of the league trophy to Glenorchy captain, John Sartain, after a campaign that has seen his team undefeated over 10 matches.

It was a shame that the state of the pitch prevented both sides from delivering a more fitting spectacle.

Spot the SHINTY BALL Competition



All you have to do

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. 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 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

Congratulations to Ena MacDonald, McIntyre Terrace, Lochgilphead who has one last week's jackpot of £700

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Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, comp slips

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Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

Matthew is Scottish Open Water champ

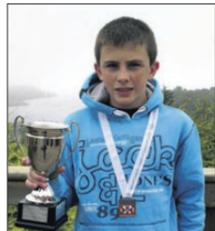
A YOUNG Oban swimmer has won a Scottish title in his first ever open water championship swim.

Matthew Anderson, aged 14, won the 13-14 age group at the Scottish Open Water 2K on Saturday at Lochore in Fife.

The race is regarded as one of the toughest events for young competitors, as wetsuits are not permitted.

Several competitors were affected by cold conditions and had to be pulled out by supervisors.

Matthew's father, Graham, said: 'He has never done an open water championship before. He did do the



Matthew Anderson with his open water championship trophy.

SWIMMING

Kerrera Swim when he had just turned 11 and was first across by some distance.'

Now the ambitious youngster has set his sights on the Welsh National Championships next week, where he hopes to clock up two more qualifying times needed to be considered for the Scottish Youth Squad. He has already recorded two of the four times required at 400m Freestyle and 400 Individual Medley.

Graham added: 'He's obviously delighted to have won the open water championship, but he would consider making the two times he needs for the youth squad a bigger achievement if he can do it next week in Wales.'

Matthew is currently ranked fifth over 800 metres and sixth over 1,500 metres for his age group in Scotland.

Matthew will travel to Wales as part of Warrender Swimming Club from Edinburgh's Junior National Squad.

Robert wins Argyll and Bute title



Glencruitten Golf Club's Robert MacIntyre. 17_1310b001

GOLF

ROBERT MacIntyre from Glencruitten Golf Club, Oban scored an emphatic victory in last Saturday's Argyll and Bute Boys Championship held at Cowal Golf Club.

The 13-year-old was eligible for both the Under 18s and 16s championships and his round of 72 trounced his 42 older rivals by a massive six shots.

Robert left Oban on Sunday to play in the fifth-annual Teen World Championship and Teen World Cup at the world famous Pinehurst Golf Club in the USA, featuring 500 male and female golfers from across the world between ages 13 and 18.

Reward

This is Robert's reward for winning the European title in June at Gullane.

In second place in the Argyll and Bute Boys Championship was Scott Turnbull of Millport with a 78. Last year's winner

Craig Pirie was tied for third with Alistair McVicar of Glencruitten Golf Club.

In the handicap event Sean Dunstaffnage of Glencruitten Golf Club secured a clean sweep for the Oban club with a net 71, playing off a handicap of nine.

The next county action is the Area Strokeplay Championship to be held at Millport on Saturday 21st August. Entry sheets should be on club noticeboards.

Argyll and Bute Boys Championship:

- Results Under 18s
- 1 Robert MacIntyre 72
- 2 Scott Turnbull 78
- 3= Alistair MacVicar 80
- 3= Craig Pirie 80
- Under 16s
- 1 Robert MacIntyre 72
- Handicap
- 1 Sean Dunstaffnage
- 2 John Sinclair

Three-in-a-row for Oban Cricket Club

CRICKET

OBAN secured the 2010 Argyll Cricket League title for the third year in a row with a comprehensive win over Mid Argyll at Taynuilt on Sunday.

Batting first, Oban were made to work hard for their runs against a consistent Mid Argyll bowling attack.

Allan Laycock with 30 and Oban captain Isaac Forster with 60, rescued the Oban innings and helped take the score to a competitive 154 after the allotted 40 overs.

In reply, Mid Argyll were always struggling to keep up with the required run rate and wickets fell regularly against some fine bowling from the Oban side.

Gordon Lyburn looked well set for Mid Argyll until he was brilliantly caught by Reino Devilliers at square leg off Isaac Forster and this was the beginning of the end for Mid Argyll as Tristan Carre finished their innings off, taking the last four wickets as Mid Argyll were all out for 70.

Oban's next fixture is away to Falkland in Fife on August 8.

Scores - Oban 154 (Forster 60, Laycock 30); Mid Argyll 70 (Carre 4-14).

The Stig outruns The Laddie

MOTOR RACING



Oban's Alasdair Aitken gets some 'air time'.

Picture courtesy of Sandy Eccles.

THE Portuguese round of the Le Man Series endurance race saw Team Bruichladdich on the podium for the first time.

In the 1,000 kilometres of Algarve at Portimao the Bruichladdich Distillery-sponsored car came second in the Le Mans Prototype 2 (LMP2) class, and fifth overall in the latest round of the endurance event.

Motorsport Magazine reported: 'To say that Team Bruichladdich sprang a major surprise in Portugal is an understatement.'

After 215 laps around the newly created 2.8 mile (4.6 kms) circuit, opened in 2008, the race was won by Panis' Peugeot 908 of the LMP1 class, with the LMP2 class won by the RML Lola driven by Mike Newton, Thomas Erdos and Ben Collins - aka 'The Stig'.

Islay Golf Club

GOLF

THE 19th Challenge Trophy was won by Alexander Peters with 40pts.

Runner-up was Neil Johnston 39pts, followed by John Boyle on 38pts (Css 70).

Hunter Trophy result: 1 Lachlan Gairns 42pts; 2 Alexander Peters 38pts; 3 Ian Beck 36pts (Ccss 71).

Lifeboat Spoon result: 1 Robert Shaw 88 less 18 net 70; 2 Arthur Holyoake 79 less 7 net 72; 3 Andrew Bauld 87 less 15 net 72 (Ccss 71).

Oban Bowling Club

BOWLS

ON Sunday July 25 the men from Kirm and Hunters Quay in Dunoon visited Oban to play the Argyll and Bute Bowling Association top ten.

Oban's Billy Hay had a quick singles game winning 21 shots to 3. The Oban pairs also had a good win but the fours and the triples lost their games.

It meant that Oban had four points and 63 shots and Dunoon also had four points but only 56 shots therefore Oban go through to the next round.

Argyll riders selected to represent Scotland

THREE members of the Argyll endurance riding team have been selected to compete for Scotland at the Home International on August 28 and 29.

The Scottish Endurance Riding Club this week announced the team of horses and riders to represent Scotland at the competition in Burghie, near Forres.

The Argyll branch is one of nine in Scotland and said it was proud to have three members in the national team: Marion MacDonald from Spean Bridge with her Conemara 'Blue' (her third year in succession), Liz Paul from Appin with her Arab 'Mollie' and Suzanne Taylor from Seil Island with her Part-bred Arab 'Caramel'.

Fortunate

Suzanne said: 'We are so fortunate to have such a beautiful part of the world to train, the hills are a definite bonus when training your horse.'

'We are probably the smallest club in Scotland, so to have three riders in a team

of 12 is pretty good.'

The Scots and the Irish are usually battling for first place in the Home International and Suzanne, who was second in the Scottish Championship's two-day 60 kilometres event recently, believes the Scottish team is strong enough to win.

The team's selectors have been watching the riders and their horses over three 'viewing rides' this season. Horses selected must be fit enough to finish the gruelling



Seil's Suzanne Taylor, on Caramel, will compete for Scotland at the forthcoming Home International.

HORSE RIDING

races and have low heart rates. To win an endurance race, horses must finish the race in a good time but in this highly tactical sport, a low heart rate also counts towards the final result.

The Argyll riders thanked Hazel Macorkindale, Ewan Ross (Farrier), Eleanor Taylor (Dressage trainer), Tristan Carre (Vet) and fellow Argyll members.

New track welcomes riders

A BRAND new racetrack greeted the Scottish Twinshock riders at Achnashelloch Farm, Lochgilphead on July 18 for round six of the 2010 championship, where a number of home-based riders gained placings.

In the Over 50s category Oban man Alasdair Aitken deserved his runner up spot as he rode superbly over the three legs and took his just rewards.

Argyll carded another

MOTOCROSS

second place when Stewart Thomson from Strachur finished runner-up in the Evolution class.

Campbeltown's Lachie Black was fourth in the Monoshock B class and finished third in the Grand National, the final race of the day.

The championship organisers said they hoped to return to Mid Argyll in the not-too-distant future.



The Oban Saints and Southend players face the camera before last Saturday's game at Daliburgh.

Saints enjoy pre-season trip to Uist

LAST weekend a party of players, coaches and committee from Oban Saints travelled to Uist to take part in Southend Football Club's 50th anniversary celebrations.

The Oban side played two games: On Saturday they took on Southend for the Friendship Cup and on Sunday they played against a Uist Select.

The first game against Southend was played at Daliburgh and although it took the Oban side a while to get going they turned in a superb performance beating the local side 12-0 thanks to goals from Allan MacKay (3), Donald Campbell (3),

Innes Paterson (2), Sean Ford, Chris Graham, Ross Maitland and probably the best goal of the game netted by former skipper Pele MacCallum, who came on as a late substitute.

Pele only kicked the ball once, but it ended up in the back of the net, what more can you ask?

On Saturday night both teams and supporters retired to St Peter's Hall where a ceilidh and dance was held.

On Sunday it was a very tired and emotional Saints outfit that left the Uist Bunkhouse, to travel to Liniolate Sports Centre to take on a Uist Select. Credit is due to the players

FOOTBALL

who actually managed to play as they fought back from 2-0 down to earn a 2-2 draw. Netting for Saints were Donald Campbell and Keith Millar.

The Oban side would like to thank sponsor Angus MacPhee of AMP Electrical Services for organising the trip and to everybody on Uist for their hospitality.

This Saturday Saints continue their pre-season preparations with a home game against East Kilbride. The match will be played at Glencruitten rugby pitch with a 1.30pm kick-off



Keith Millar hold aloft the Friendship Cup watched by his team mates.

Tides

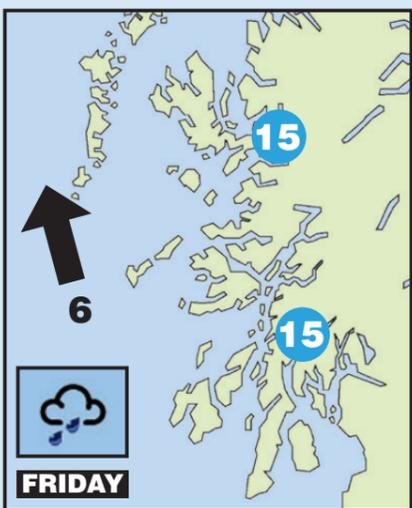
Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday, July 29, 2010 are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

| Date | am | pm |
|------|---|----|
| Thur | 01.42 1.1 07.26 3.7 13.51 1.0 19.47 3.9 | |
| Fri | 02.14 1.2 07.54 3.6 14.19 1.2 20.16 3.8 | |
| Sat | 02.44 1.3 08.21 3.5 14.45 1.3 20.45 3.6 | |
| Sun | 03.14 1.5 08.50 3.4 15.12 1.5 21.15 3.5 | |
| Mon | 03.47 1.6 09.24 3.2 15.47 1.7 21.52 3.3 | |
| Tues | 04.35 1.7 10.07 3.1 16.36 1.8 22.42 3.1 | |
| Wed | 05.41 1.8 11.05 2.9 19.21 1.9 **** ** | |

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 |

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the weather

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Thursday

Light rain showers and drizzle throughout the day. Winds light west to south-westerly. Temperatures 13°C to 17°C

Friday

Expect heavy rain all day. Winds light south to south easterly. Temperatures 13°C to 16°C.

Weekend Outlook

Light rain throughout. Winds light to moderate westerly. Temperatures 11°C to 17°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist - Calm to moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree - As above
Kennacraig to Islay - As above

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