

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8312

Thursday 28 July, 2016

www.obantimes.co.uk

85 pence



WEST HIGHLAND YACHTING WEEK
SIX-PAGE PREVIEW
2016



Tiree Agricultural Show round-up and results
See our farming section



Three-day trip takes more than three weeks to finish

LOUISE GLEN
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TRYING to deliver an eco-friendly heating unit to Tobermory High School on Mull has turned into a marathon beset by problems.

The unit ended up on a long and winding road that took around three weeks because of a series of stumbling blocks on its way.

After 21 days on the road from Ireland to Mull, it still hadn't reached its destination despite the best efforts of the lorry driver, the police and local farmers.

The Irish driver had to call on local residents for help more than once to get it out of some deep holes - literally.

Police were called into help last Friday afternoon after the lorry carrying the four-metre-wide load was refused passage on the CalMac ferry for being too large.

After being refused at the quayside from boarding both the *MV Coruisk* and the *MV Isle of Mull* ferries, CalMac staff found a solution.

They loaded the lorry onto the Colonsay ferry, *The Lord of the Isles*, and asked the captain to make an extra stop at Craignure to off-load the heating unit.

After difficulty getting the load off the boat at Craignure, with only inches to spare on the pier, the load took more than four hours to travel north to Tobermory. A car journey between Craignure and Tobermory usually takes around 45 minutes.

Finally arriving in village, the lorry went off the Glengorm Road and had to be dragged out by a farmer using a tractor.

On the final leg of the journey, and within sight of the school, the vehicle got stuck again and had to be dragged out of a garden.

Plans are now being made to bring cranes to the island to take the eco-heating unit to its final resting place at the high school.

A Police Scotland spokesman said that all permission for the movement of the vehicle had been granted and it had an escort for the entire trip.

He said: 'We are doing all we can to get the cargo to its destination.'

'It must be exceptionally frustrating for the driver, who thought this would be a three-day journey.'

The *Oban Times* was unable to contact the company which was delivering the vehicle.

Ladies make history with Mull to Oban swim



For the first time in recorded history, a swim from Mull to Oban has been completed. Gemma Stewart, 34, and Gill Spink, 41, swam the 15-kilometre distance in just under seven hours. The pair took the plunge on behalf of the Roses Charitable Trust, which each year takes groups of young people from disadvantaged areas on holiday. So far they have raised £1,500. Gemma said: 'The swim was excellent. We have been training for it for about six months. We started off really early in the morning and it was calm and beautiful.' Gemma and Gill, who both suffered from jellyfish stings, started swimming at 7am hoping to arrive at the war memorial in Oban by noon. However, after they got stuck in a current near Kerrera and ended up swimming for 90 minutes without moving, they didn't arrive into Oban until 1.50pm. To donate, visit <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/4920#/donationdetails>.

TIMESLINE



Mark Beaumont cuts the tape to officially open the café.

Endurance athlete opens new café

A CAFÉ that showcases local produce was officially opened on Tuesday by a world record breaker.

Food From Argyll at the Pier, in Oban's CalMac ferry terminal, welcomed Mark Beaumont to open the establishment.

The opening coincides with his 'Wild About Argyll' challenge, a 12-day adventure across Argyll and the Isles.

Mark, who has broken a number of records, said: 'The café at the pier is a great initiative from Food From Argyll and I am delighted to be officially opening this gem.'

1,700 supporters for A85 petition

MORE than 1,700 people have signed a petition demanding the upgrade of the A85 Oban to Dunbeg road.

The petition asks for more double white lines along the road and for the speed limit to be assessed.

It was signed by 885 online supporters and by 821 people on one of the various hard copies positioned around town.

Sean MacIntyre, chairman of Dunbeg Community Council, who started the petition, said he was overwhelmed with the support and will now be handing it in to Transport Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council.



It must be frustrating for the driver, who thought it would be a three-day journey

A spokesman for Police Scotland

Oban to host prestigious festival

OBAN's Festival of Architecture opens this weekend when the Rockfield Centre hosts the Scottish premiere of the Prospect North exhibition, after its first show at the Venice Biennale.

Residents and visitors are invited to 'Say Hello to Architecture' with two more exhibitions called Best of the Best and Scotstyle, as part of Scotland's Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design and the Festival of Architecture.

There is also a fringe programme of architectural talks and workshops, a heritage trail looking at the stories behind significant buildings in Oban

and a display featuring ideas for the redevelopment of the Rockfield Centre and its site.

The festival will be officially launched by Fiona Hyslop MSP, Culture Secretary, at a preview tomorrow (Friday), before opening to the public on Saturday.

The Prospect North exhibition features the stories of 15 communities across Scotland who used design and architecture to make a difference. The display uses a sculptural map of Scotland paired with cutting edge 'augmented reality' to bring the stories to life.

Karen Anderson, chairwoman of Architecture and Design

Scotland, explained: 'Scotland has an important story to tell of how, over recent years, communities have worked with architects and others to improve their rural and urban areas. In May and June this year, Lateral North - with Dunalchas Architects and Soluis - brought individual Scottish community stories and examples of successful projects to Venice to provide inspiration for the countries represented at La Biennale Architettura 2016. We are now delighted to be able to bring these stories to the inspiring Rockfield Centre in Oban for the exhibition's Scottish premiere.'

Alison Chadwick, a director of Oban Communities Trust which runs the Rockfield Centre, added: 'It's very prestigious for the Rockfield Centre. The exhibition has never been this far north.'

'It's also exciting because this is the first time we've used an old part of the school for an exhibition.'

The exhibitions run at the Rockfield Centre until August 7, while Prospect North runs until August 21, open daily from 1pm to 6pm except Tuesdays. For information or bookings, visit the Oban Communities Trust Facebook page or website www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk.

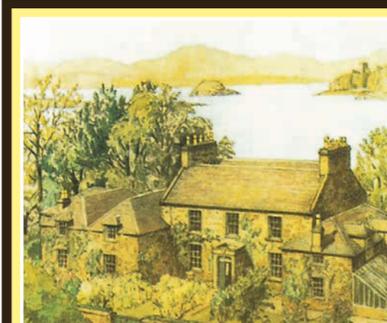


MARK BEAUMONT
AROUND THE WORLD AND BACK TO ARGYLL

Corran Halls, Oban
3rd August 2016, 7pm for 7.30pm

He cycled the world. He cycled the Americas. He cycled Africa. And on 3rd August, straight after a 10-day epic adventure across Argyll & The Isles, Mark will be hosting an evening of short films, photography and stories.

Tickets £15 (concession £13) available from the Corran Halls Box Office. 01631 567333 or Corranhalls@argyll-bute.gov.uk



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Sheep and cattle classes
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Dog show starts at 12.30pm
OHS Pipe band
Highland dancing
Trade stands and side shows
Tossing the sheaf

TIMESLINE

Lifestyle draws medics to region

NINE out of 10 consultants employed by NHS Highland say taking a job with the health board was a lifestyle choice.

More than half say they were attracted by NHS Highland's clinical reputation, having heard it was 'a good place to work'.

NHS Highland recently surveyed its consultants to get views and data to help inform future recruitment.

The board has long had a problem recruiting and retaining staff, particularly in some of its more remote and rural areas.

Asked what attracted them to working for NHS Highland, 88.9 per cent said it was definitely or probably a lifestyle choice.

Three-quarters said it was a matter of timing – they were looking for a consultant post and one came up in Highland – and 56.3 per cent cited the board's clinical reputation.

Search for mental health champions

PEOPLE in Argyll are being encouraged to join a national programme to improve mental health and tackle discrimination.

See Me, the national programme to end mental health discrimination, wants to train people to be leaders in changing attitudes around mental health.

The Community Champions programme will enable people from Argyll to make positive changes in their own community, with the support of See Me.

Champions receive three, one-and-a-half day training sessions, held over six months in Perth. The deadline for applications is August 17 at 5pm. Find out more and apply at www.seemescotland.org.

Council leads way in IT cost efficiency

ARGYLL and Bute Council has been recognised for its value-for-money approach to storing electronic data.

As part of a Digital Scotland project to reduce IT costs across the Scottish public sector, a tool was launched to work out the total cost of data centres and compare this to the cost of operating in the 'Cloud' or moving to a large commercial data centre.

At a national seminar for best practice, Argyll and Bute Council's two data centres, in Kilmory and Helensburgh, were showcased as top class.

Grants available for traditional arts

ORGANISATIONS and individuals involved in Scottish traditional arts could receive a grant of up to £1,000 from the Tasgadh Traditional Arts Fund.

Guidelines and application forms are available at www.feisean.org/tasgadh.

Mull wants to keep £1.6m pier fees windfall money

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'GIVE us the money from the pier' was the call from Mull Community Council to Argyll and Bute Council after it learned the increase in passenger pier dues would mean more than £1.6

million landing in council coffers. Under government legislation the group feels it is entitled to take over the running of the pier to put more back into supporting the residents' and tourists' infrastructure on the island.

The community council's ferry representative Neil Goldsmith

said there were 'murky waters' over whether or not the group could have the responsibility.

He said: 'This is the biggest area for ferries and whoever runs the pier would have to do so in a professional manner.'

Mull Community Council chairman Billy McClymont said he believed it was up to

the community to put a bid to the council and to gather the support required to take the asset from the local authority.

Mr McClymont said: 'If they are not funding the upgrade of the pier to the standard we need, and while our road surface is not coping with the increase in vehicles, we should

be able to take over the pier and the associated dues to make things work on Mull.

'We need to keep the money where it needs to be spent.

'It is high time we approached the council to keep the £1.1 million and the extra £500,000 due to Mull from pier dues this year alone.'

Pennies from members help charities cash in on fund



Lyney MacAllister of Yorkshire Building Society, Margo Marr and Catherine Cakebread of Crossroads, Sue Pagan of Oban Dementia Resource Centre, Andy Henderson and Bill Kersel of ABCD Trust and Sally Jackson of Yorkshire Building Society.

SMALL change is making a big difference to three Oban charities.

Over two weeks, Yorkshire Building Society members were asked to vote on which charity they wanted to receive a share of £1,000.

Oban Dementia Resource Centre came first to secure £500.

Crossroads North Argyll Care

Attendant Scheme came second and won £300. And the Argyll Beats Cardiovascular Disease (ABCD) Trust came third to collect £200.

The £1,000 fund was raised through Yorkshire Building Society members donating pennies from the interest they receive on their accounts to help charities and good causes in their communities.

Sally Jackson, manager of the Yorkshire's Oban branch, said: 'We had a brilliant response to the campaign from our members, local shoppers and residents but, of course, the real winners here are the charities – all of which do a fantastic job providing invaluable support in our local community.'

'Because each and every vote helped

secure pounds for the charities, it felt right that the decision of splitting the money was put in the hands of our members and local people.

'I can't thank everyone enough for coming in to our branch to make their vote count.'

'The money will make a real difference locally.'

Book tells of author's journey to isolation



Anne Cholawo has written a book about Soay.

ONE OF Soay's three inhabitants has written a book documenting three decades of island life.

Island on the Edge: A Life on Soay by Anne Cholawo, due to be published in August, describes the history of Soay and its unique wildlife.

As well as telling the author's own story, it features the island's offbeat and colourful characters including the celebrated writer, naturalist and basking shark hunter Gavin Maxwell.

'Anne Cholawo was a typical 1980s career girl working in a busy London advertising agency when, holidaying in the Hebrides for the first time in 1989, she noticed an advert for a property on the isle of

Soay – access by courtesy of fishing boat,' explained the book's publisher, Birlinn.

'She had never heard of Soay before, let alone visited it, but an inexplicable impulse drew her there. Within 10 minutes of stepping off that fishing boat, she had fallen under the spell of the island nestling under the majestic protection of Skye's Cuillin mountains. A few months later she had moved there to live. She is still there.'

'When she arrived on Soay there were only 17 inhabitants. Today, including Anne and her husband Robert, only three remain.'

'This book is a first-person account of her extraordinary transition from

a hectic urban life to one of isolated self-sufficiency.'

Her piano was airlifted onto the island by a Sea King helicopter courtesy of the Royal Marines Commando on summer exercises and this was the fateful event that introduced her to her husband.

She also received fishing lessons from legendary Hebridean sharkerman Tex Geddes and became a stalwart of the island's sheep chase: the periodic round-up of the roaming herd and its subsequent ceillidh. Birlinn continued: 'Cholawo has experienced and recorded Soay's story during decades that saw the ebb and flow of populations and enterprises transform life on Scotland's islands.'

Driver fined and banned

AN OBAN man has been fined £450 and disqualified from driving after causing a car crash on the A85 near Pennyfuir Farm, Dunbeg.

Calum MacLellan, of 62 Pulpit Road, Oban, pleaded guilty to dangerous driving at Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday.

The court heard the 24-year-old labourer was driving a Ford Focus half-a-mile west of the Halfway House filling station around 7pm on April 5 2016, when he attempted to overtake approaching a bend and collided with an oncoming vehicle.

'The other vehicle spun and landed on its roof,' procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said before describing how the driver then confronted Mr MacLellan, saying: 'You're the driver? You're an idiot.'

A 42-year-old Oban man was airlifted to hospital in Glasgow with non-life-threatening injuries and the road was closed to traffic for two-and-a-half hours.

Mr MacLellan later told police: 'It's my fault. I didn't see him.'

Sheriff John Herald fined MacLellan £450, reduced from £700 because of his guilty plea, and added six penalty points to his driving licence, taking him over the limit for disqualification. 'This was an error of judgment', Sheriff Herald said: 'You will be off the road for quite some time.'

RNLI helps unwell diver

OBAN lifeboat was called out in the early hours of Monday to help an unwell diver.

Oban RNLI launched at 12.59am to meet a 40ft motorboat near Loch Aline, after a crew member reported feeling unwell.

The volunteer crew arrived on scene at 1.46am and assessed the diver before transporting the casualty to a waiting ambulance.



Clarification

IN LAST week's Oban Times (July 21), we published the Lismore Agricultural Show prize list as sent to us by the organisers. We have been asked to clarify that Tamsin McVean won the first prize for the purebred tup, showed the champion purebred sheep and won the overall reserve sheep championship. Tamsin is pictured with her champion sheep.

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MULL lines

RET's 'dire' results for Lochaline

MULL Community Council heard the Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) scheme has seen a 'dire situation' at Lochaline as the number of vehicles using the service has fallen dramatically since reduced fares came into force last October.

Neil Goldsmith, a member of the island's ferry user group, said a few factors, including the 'reduction in the price of campervans', has meant a huge increase on all the other routes – but not the Lochaline to Fishnish service.

The Lochaline to Fishnish service, the community council heard, was at one time popular because of the reduced cost of the sailing – particularly for larger vehicles. The short crossing was also the preferred route of farmers.

The route means sailing across on the Corran Ferry, near Fort William, then driving 30 miles to Lochaline to make the trip. For many passengers, it is now as simple to travel from Oban because the increased capacity on the route, community councillors were told.

They heard the Tobermory to Kilchoan route had increased by 98 per cent with many entrepreneurs



RET has had consequences, Mull Community Council was told.

on the Kilchoan side springing up to meet the rising demand of visitors to the area.

Mr Goldsmith said: 'They [Kilchoan] are trying to get an all-day service for Sundays to meet the demand for passengers on the route.'

The Oban to Craignure route, Mr Goldsmith said, was showing a 48 per cent increase, although a reduction in the number of larger

campervans using the service. Community councillors said the increase in traffic was not adversely affecting the movement of traffic on the island.

Police Constable Sharon Carr, who was at the meeting on Tuesday July 12, said she was not aware of any significant rise in criminal activity with the increased number of people on the islands.

Islanders urged to use 999 number

MULL and Iona residents should always call 999, rather than use the NHS 24 Scotland service, members of Mull Community Council heard at its July meeting.

Councillors were told the story of one woman who dialled NHS 24 for her daughter and was told to meet the doctor in the community hospital in Java, Craignure.

It turned out the doctor and patient each had to make the 90-minute round trip when they only lived five minutes apart in Tobermory.

Community council chairman Billy McClymont said: 'NHS 24 doesn't work here. I would advise anyone who needs to see a doctor out of hours to call 999. The more people who phone and use the service, the higher the likelihood is that we will get the service to meet our demands.'

Tax proposal

MULLEIACHS have been discussing a tax of £1 on every visitor to the island. The money, Mull Community Council said, could be used to keep toilets and other services for residents and tourists in good condition.

Duo deny stealing in shops

TWO LOTHIAN men have denied a spate of shoplifting in Tyndrum and Oban.

Kevin Magee, 45, of 30 Deerhill, Broxburn, pleaded not guilty to stealing three bottles of whisky from the Green Welly Stop in Tyndrum on July 3 when he appeared in Oban Sheriff Court heard on Monday.

Magee and Iain Arthurs, also of 30 Deerhill, Broxburn, further denied shoplifting alcohol, groceries and a TV from Oban's Tesco store on July 9 and July 23.

Magee denied a fourth charge of possessing a wire-cutter in the supermarket's car park on July 23 with the intention of committing a theft.

Depute procurator fiscal Jenny Sapiano opposed bail in both cases, pointing to the pair's previous record of high-value shoplifting far from their home address.

Laura McManus, defending Magee, an unemployed father who suffers from type one diabetes, argued that with his level of care he would be better at liberty than in custody. The court also heard he was concerned custody would prevent him going on a holiday he'd planned with his children in Blackpool.

Ms McManus added that Arthurs, an unemployed 42-year-old, was currently subject to a drug treatment and testing order for heroin addiction.

Honorary Sheriff Muriel Frances Lanos set a trial date for August 17, and granted bail to Magee on medical grounds, and on the condition he does not enter Oban. Arthurs was refused bail.

Driver is to await sentence

A DRIVER who crashed a car on the A816 has denied leaving the scene of the accident which sparked a search by emergency services.

At Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday, Lukasz Siwinski, of 110 George Street, Oban, pleaded guilty to careless driving near Kilmore on the A816 Oban to Lochgilphead Road.

The 32-year-old lost control of his vehicle, which mounted an embankment and rolled onto its side across the southbound carriageway at around 1.20pm on January 9, 2016. A search and rescue mission was then launched to find the driver, who was missing.

Mr Siwinski denies leaving the scene of the accident without making any attempt to contact the authorities, with an intent to pervert the course of justice.

He has admitted three further charges of driving without insurance, an MOT certificate and without the keeper's name and address recorded in the register. Sheriff John Herald deferred sentencing until August 16 to await reports on the scale of the search, which he described as a 'tremendous waste of public money'.

Band set to tour islands

ONE OF the most dynamic and engaging traditional Celtic music acts, The Outside Track, will be touring the Highlands and islands this summer.

Popular for their marriage of Celtic music, song and dance, The Outside Track has won many fans.

The band has been recognised with several industry awards, including Group of the Year in the Live Ireland Awards, Ensemble of the Year in the Tradition in Review awards as well as nominations for Best Live Act and Folk Band of the Year.

Hailing from Scotland, Ireland and Cape Breton, the band is united by a love of traditional music. Among their dates are July 30 - The Ceilidh House and Heritage Centre, Corran, Arnisdale; August 1 - Astley Hall, Arisaig; August 2 - Isle of Colonsay, Village Hall; and August 3 - Atlantic Islands Centre, Isle of Luing.

Hope springs eternal as generous people donate in droves



Manager Lorraine King and volunteers Pat Barkley and Lyndsay Ross with the donated food. 17_t31HopeKitchen01

AN OBAN food bank will put donations to good use after demand has 'more than doubled' in recent weeks.

Hope Kitchen raised £978.83 in cash and received three trolleys of food when volunteers packed bags and set up a collection point in Tesco last weekend.

Lorraine King, manager of Oban's Hope Kitchen, said: 'We are busy because of the school holidays.

'Children are at home all day, so they eat more. In the past couple of weeks, the demand for food parcels has more than doubled so the food collected will go a long way.

'People are so generous. It was ordinary, everyday folk that were putting it in. I think we will do it once a year, or more, if Tesco lets us.

'We are very grateful for the food and

money that was raised. We can't thank the people of Oban and beyond enough for their generosity. Every penny and every item of food collected will go directly to the people we support.'

Lyndsay Ross, who volunteers at Hope Kitchen, added: 'We did a collection in Tesco on Friday and on Saturday we were packing bags.

'We have about £500 to £600 worth

in food, probably more, and about the same in cash.

'People have been so supportive - they have gone and bought stuff and put it on our collection table.

'It's amazing. It's all non-perishable, so we can give it away in food parcels. 'When you think about all the people we can feed, it's amazing.'

Safety fears close Argyll's only mental health ward

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THE ONLY intensive mental health ward in Argyll has been temporarily closed to new admissions following concerns over staffing and safety.

The news, revealed in a press release by NHS Highland on Friday July 22, comes on the back of shock news in *The Oban Times* last week of further cuts to beds and staffing at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban.

A spokesman for Argyll and

Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) said: 'Following a recent review of inpatient mental health services within Argyll and Bute Hospital in Lochgilphead, the Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit (IPCU) has been temporarily closed to new admissions.

'Succoth ward [where longer-term patients are based], however, will not be affected and will remain open to new admissions.'

The IPCU is used to support people with acute mental health distress. Patients are generally

admitted to IPCU under the Mental Health Care and Treatment Act (2003) and are referred through emergency care practitioners, police officers and social workers.

Dr Michael Hall, medical director for Argyll and Bute HSCP, said: 'We recently carried out a review of inpatient mental health services within Argyll and Bute Hospital and a number of challenges were identified, including the provision of a safe care environment and the availability of trained nursing staff.

'The Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit within the hospital has therefore been temporarily closed to new admissions but it can still be used on an interim basis as a place of safety for up to 72 hours to allow patients to be clinically assessed.

'If patients require a more prolonged period of intensive care treatment, they will be transferred to an appropriate facility outwith Argyll and Bute. 'In reaching this decision, patient safety and well-being have been our priority.

'It is also our intention to

continue with plans to relocate inpatient mental health services from Argyll and Bute Hospital to the lower ground floor of Mid Argyll Community Hospital and Integrated Care Centre.

'This requires some alteration works to ensure the area meets the necessary requirements and it is anticipated this work will be completed by December 2016.

'This planned relocation is an interim measure pending further engagement prior to a final decision about where the service will be provided in the longer term.'

Oban road works nearly complete

ROAD works in Oban town centre are still not finished five weeks after the scheduled completion date.

The works have now been going on for 31 weeks when they were originally forecast to be a 26-week project.

Visitors to the area have written to *The Oban Times* to complain the works are not yet finished.

Argyll and Bute Council has come in for some criticism from the political leader in Nairn, Michael Green, who said the plans for the works to be taking place in the height of the season are 'ridiculous'.

But Argyll and Bute Council defended the situation saying the extra works being undertaken by the contractors makes the extended time worthwhile.

Two weeks ago a council spokeswoman told *The Oban Times*: 'You will note from our previous press release that we took the opportunity to add a few things into the scheme, hence the extended completion date.

'The contractor has, and is focusing on, making as much space as possible available to public access while they continue to work in the background to complete all the finishing items.

'As per the press release issued on June 24, some of the big additions to the scheme include: three extra bus shelters at Station Square; enhanced street lighting; additional seating along the low wall next to the Whisky Shop



Not finished: the road works in Oban's Station Square on Tuesday.

on Stafford Street as well as paving over the planting area on the upper terrace, which was becoming increasingly difficult to maintain; widening and extending the dropped kerbs to disabled parking bays; extending the paving into Argyll Street; additional strengthening work to the lighting columns along the sea wall; real time information (RTI) display boards in all five bus shelters at Station Square; foundation and

infrastructure for a large RTI board to be located at Station Square which will provide real time information for train, ferry and bus services.'

While the original press release from the local authority stated there was no additional cost to the taxpayer for these works, the spokeswoman now said: 'With regard to costs for additional works, these will be fairly assessed in accordance with the contract process.'

Bulgarian refuses to give name in court

A HOMELESS man accused of attempted theft has had his case continued without plea.

Nasko Hristov Angelov, of no fixed abode, is charged with being found in a house at Whinbank, Ardfern, without lawful authority and with intent to commit theft.

Speaking through an interpreter, the Bulgarian national told Oban Sher-

iff Court on Monday July 25 he did not understand the charge and so did not make a plea.

The 48-year-old also refused a solicitor and to give his name and date of birth.

He told the court: 'I have dignity. I am not a monkey. You have my passport.

'I have not come here to be homeless. I have skills.

'Whatever I have been accused of is not the truth. I just want to pay a bill, even though I do not agree with it.

'If you have proof, I will pay the fine. I am not joking.'

Sheriff Muriel Frances Lanos continued the case without plea, and, since Angelov has no fixed address, she held him in custody until his trial date set for Tuesday August 2.

POLICE FILES

Thieves target high-end bikes

A NUMBER of high-value bikes worth thousands of pounds have been stolen in a series of thefts.

Holidaymakers at North Ledaig Caravan Park unlocked their bikes to go cycling but when they returned from their caravan the bikes were nowhere to be seen.

The incident took place between 4pm and 4.20pm on Monday July 25.

One of the bikes is a Norco Faze, full suspension mountain bike, black with lime-coloured writing with a retail value of £1,300.

The other is a blue GT bicycle with a red seat which costs around £1,500.

Similar thefts have been carried out in Crianlarich.

Police say it is possible a team of people could be travelling from place to place, targeting bikes.

Constable Andrew Simpson is the officer dealing with the case.

Another bike was stolen from outside Kebabish Curry House, Oban, between 1am and 4pm on Sunday July 24.

The highly distinctive Muddy Fox bike was red and black with white metal pedals and a red paw print on the saddle.

And between 8am on Thursday July 21 and 4.30pm on Friday July 22, a blue mountain bike was stolen from the Scottish Association for Marine Science at Dunstaffnage Marina.

Officers try to trace dangerous driver

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following reports of dangerous overtaking on the A85.

The incident, at 9.15pm on Tuesday July 19, involved a blue Subaru overtaking near the Halfway House filling station at Dunbeg.

Constable Andrew Hogg wants to trace a number of drivers who may have witnessed the incident, in particular a dark-coloured vehicle that turned in to Rowan Road, Oban.

Anyone with information about any incident is asked to call police on 101 or anonymously on 0800 555111.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT www.kebabishcurryhouse.com



The march from the hotel to the games field was well attended. 17_131taynuilt07



Tim MacIntyre presents the MacIntyre Shield to Kieron, a pupil at Oban's Gaelic Medium Unit, for his Gaelic writing. 17_131taynuilt09



Local and visiting children take part in the junior heavyweight events, won by Calum MacDonald of Taynuilt. 17_131taynuilt03

Caroline does her 100th games proud



Caroline Jamieson is presented with flowers by dancer Miss MacDonald. 17_131taynuilt08

IN FRONT of one of the event's biggest crowds, Caroline Jamieson attended her 100th Taynuilt Highland Games, this time as chieftain, writes Louise Glen.

The facts might be a little blurry for the village's oldest resident – but her mind and her love for the community was clear.

'Have a great day everyone. Enjoy yourselves,' she told a full crowd over the tannoy.

Caroline knows the games are full of fun events including the pillow fight, climbing the pole, the hill race, the bungee rope, races for all ages and, of course, the more serious matter of the heavyweight challenges and the tug of war where the endurance and skill of men and women are pitted against each other.

The team of volunteers who put together Taynuilt Highland Games should be praised. It was a great day for everyone.

The small and hard-working group provided a day for people to get together, to catch up on news and, of course, to enjoy a wee bit gossip.

Highland dancing results: Primary 5 Years and Under: 16 Pas-De-Basque: 1 Amber McEwan, Bute, 2 Erin McCrae, Tarbert Loch Fyne, 3 Grace MacDonald, Taynuilt; Pas-De-Basque and Highcuts: 1 Amber McEwan, 2 Erin McCrae, 3 Grace MacDonald; Highland Fling: 1 Amber McEwan; Sword Dance: 1 Amber McEwan;

Primay 6 Years: 16 Pas-De-Basque: 1 Jess Tulloch, Orkney, 2 Jessica McNab, Lochgilphead, 3 Amelia Whitelaw, Bute; Pas-De-Basque and Highcuts: 1 Jess Tulloch, 2 Jessica McNab, 3 Anna Telfer, Oban; Highland Fling: 1 Jessica McNab, 2 Jess Tulloch, 3 Amelia Whitelaw; Sword Dance: 1 Jessica McNab, 2 Jess Tulloch; Beginners 8 Years and Under: Highland Fling: 1 Molly Tulloch, Orkney, 2 Hannah McIvor, Oban, 3 Eilidh McTaggart, Bute; Sword Dance: 1 Eilidh McTaggart, Bute, 2 = Molly Tulloch and Cassidy Woat, Cumbernauld; Sean Truibhas: 1 Eilidh McTaggart, 2 Molly Tulloch, 3 Amy Jardine, Rothesay; Hullachan: 1 Summer Learmond, Rothesay, 2 Molly Tulloch, 3 Eilidh McTaggart; Flora: 1 Eilidh McTaggart, 2 Molly Tulloch, 3 Summer Learmond; Lilt: 1 Eilidh McTaggart, 2 Summer Learmond, 3 Amy Jardine; 2016 Winner Overall Highland: The Munro Shield: Molly Tulloch, Kirkwall, Orkney. Beginners 9 years and Over: Highland Fling: 1 Jessica Baxter, Lauder, 2 Jena Elliot, Lauder; 3 Neve McKay, Oban; Sword Dance: 1 Hannah Edminston, Paisley, 2 Jessica Baxter, 3 Jena Elliot; Sean Truibhas: 1 Neve McKay, 2 Jessica Baxter, 3 Lucy Cameron, Rothesay; Hullachan: 1 Lucy Cameron, 2 = Neve McKay, and Jessica Baxter; Flora: 1 Hannah Edminston, 2 Lucy Cameron, 3 Neve McKay; Lilt: 1 Jessica Baxter, 2 Rachel Anderson, USA, 3 Lucy Cameron; 2016 Winner Overall Highland: The Sinclair Shield: Jessica

Baxter, Lauder, Scottish Borders. Novice: Highland Fling: 1 Eva McKay, Stornoway, 2 Emma Bancks, Dunoon, 3 Erin Dawson, Dumbarton; Sword Dance: 1 Emma Bancks, 2 Zara O'Hare, Erskine, 3 Erin Dawson; Sean Truibhas: 1 Erin Dawson, 2 Zara O'Hare, 3 Eva Mckay; Hullachan: 1 Erin Dawson, 2 Emma Bancks, 3 Eva Mckay; Flora: 1 Emma Bancks, 2 Erin Dawson, 3 Zara O'Hare; Lilt: 1 Erin Dawson, 2 Christina Linden, 3 Niamh Cameron, Oban; 2016 Winner Overall Highland: The Taynuilt Hotel Quaiach: Erin Dawson, Dumbarton. Intermediate: Highland Fling: 1 Eva MacColl, Appin, 2 Katie Anderson, Garlochhead, 3 Lily Ahern, USA; Sword Dance: 1 Katie Anderson, 2 Iona McKay, Dalmally, 3 Eva MacColl; Sean Truibhas: 1 Eva MacColl, 2 Lily Ahern, 3 Katie Anderson; Hullachan: 1 Eva MacColl, 2 Katie Anderson, 3 Iona McKay; Barracks Johnnie: 1 Iona McKay, 2 Eva MacColl, 3 Lily Ahern; Sailors' Hornpipe: 1 Katie Anderson, 2 Lily Ahern, 3 Eva MacColl, 2016 Winner Overall Highland: Eva MacColl, Appin. Premier 12 Years and Under: Highland Fling: 1 Hannah Bloomfield, Peterhead, 2 Stephanie Laidlaw, Dunoon, 3 Sophie MacPherson, Oban; Sword Dance: 1 Hannah Bloomfield, 2 Sophie MacPherson, 3 Renee Johnstone, Erskine; Sean Truibhas: 1 Hannah Bloomfield, 2 Renee Johnstone, 3 Stephanie Laidlaw, Dunoon; Hullachan: 1 Hannah Bloomfield, 2 Sophie MacPherson, 3 Stephanie

Laidlaw; Barracks Johnnie: 1 Hannah Bloomfield, 2 Sophie MacPherson, 3 Jodie Cook, Alexandria; Sailors' Hornpipe: 1 Hannah Bloomfield, 2 Jodie Cook, 3 Sophie MacPherson; 2016 Winner Overall Highland: Hannah Bloomfield, Maud, Peterhead. Premier 15 Years and Under: Highland Fling: 1 Lisa McGillivray, Dunoon, 2 Emma Brown, Oban, 3 Fiona Armstrong, Falkirk; Sword Dance: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Fiona Armstrong, 3 Emma Brown; Sean Truibhas: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Fiona Armstrong, 3 Ailie Munro, Connel; Hullachan: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Ailie Munro, 3 Fiona Armstrong; Barracks Johnnie: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Emma Brown, 3 Ailie Munro; Sailors' Hornpipe: 1 Lisa McGillivray, 2 Fiona Armstrong, 3 Emma Brown; 2016 Winner Overall Highland: Lisa McGillivray, Kirn, Dunoon. Premier 16 Years and Over: Highland Fling: 1 Rachael Walker, Fettercairn, 2 Claire McLaughlin, East Kilbride, 3 Katie Macpherson, Oban; Sword Dance: 1 Rachael Walker, 2 Rebecca Sproat, Bonhill, 3 Claire McLaughlin; Sean Truibhas: 1 Claire McLaughlin, 2 Rachael Walker, 3 Rebecca Sproat; Hullachan 1 Claire McLaughlin, 2 Rachael Walker, 3 Rebecca Sproat; Barracks Johnnie: 1 Rachael Walker, 2 Claire McLaughlin, 3 Rebecca Sproat; Sailors' Hornpipe: 1 Claire McLaughlin, 2 Rachael Walker, 3 Rebecca Sproat; 2016 Winner Overall Highland: Rachael Walker, Fettercairn, Aberdeenshire.

Summer snacks for active kids.



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Funszie Easy Peelers

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600g

Mini Cheddar Sticks

89p
120g



Nick Charlton makes an attempt at the caber. 17_131taynuilt02



Ladies who lunch: Taynuilt women enjoyed the show. 17_131taynuilt06

Argyll to get money from EU

IN THE wake of the Brexit result, *The Oban Times* asked Argyll and Bute Council how many agreed projects would receive European funding.

A Freedom of Information officer said four projects were in the offing.

A Business Gateway Local Growth Accelerator Programme was awarded £272,100 from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and covers all of Argyll and Bute Council area.

Argyll and the Islands LEADER was awarded £4,886,126 and covers all of Argyll and Bute as well as Arran and the Cumbraes.

The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund was awarded £985,000 covering all of Argyll and Ayrshire.

Lastly, the Big Lottery Fund has started the procurement process for Delivering Financial Inclusion, supported by the European Social Fund.

The total contract value for Argyll and Bute is £3.77 million.

Procurement opened on May 13 and closed to initial responses on July 11 2016.

The council intends to submit a bid in conjunction with a number of other local agencies.

Invitations to tender will be issued in August to the highest scoring bidders in each of the lots and the deadline for submissions of responses is Tuesday September 20.

Energy minister backs islands

THE UK's new energy minister has expressed his support for island renewables, where the wind is 'the best in the world', Western Isles' MP Angus MacNeil said after meeting him.

George, 70, heads for the hills in charity campaign



George Houston training for his night hike.

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

A 70-YEAR-OLD carer is planning a night hike up Ben Nevis next month to raise funds for the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society.

George Houston will be taking on the challenge overnight from August 26 to 27 to raise funds for the charity that supports him and his partner Barbara who has MS.

George is aiming to raise at least £1,200 for research into the condition and support for people affected by MS.

Barbara's daughter also has MS, as do three members of George's extended family,

including a 15-year-old girl, who has recently had the diagnosis confirmed.

Barbara and George have lived together for 18 years, during which her MS has progressed.

George, who recently turned 70, said: 'Training for the challenge is going well so far.'

'I have climbed Ben Lora three times in succession in daylight, which is a greater distance and almost the same amount of climbing as Ben Nevis. It will be more of a challenge at night with a head torch.'

'I am most grateful for all the donations that have been generously received from relatives, friends and residents of Seil,

Oban, the USA and others.'

Speaking about his partner, he added: 'Barbara was an active, talkative person and we did much together, including being involved with the local Riding for the Disabled Carriage Driving Group from its start.'

'After getting pneumonia in 2009, Barbara is now confined to a wheelchair or bed and has to communicate letter by letter using eye blinks.'

'All the money raised from the Ben Nevis night hike will be going to the MS Society - the leading UK charity for people with MS.'

There are more than 11,000 people living with MS in Scot-

land and more than 100,000 people living with MS in the UK. MS is an unpredictable condition that strikes without warning - one day you can be fine, the next you might lose your sight or be unable to move. People typically start experiencing symptoms in their 20s or 30s. These can include sight loss, pain, fatigue, incontinence and disability.

You can sponsor George's effort at www.justgiving.com/George-Houston. You can find out more information about MS or the MS Society on its website, and there is also a free helpline on 08088 008000.

TIMESLINE

Pipe band receives £2,000 cash boost

OBAN Pipe Band has received £2,000 from the Scottish Sea Farms Heart of the Community Trust.

The donation was used to buy sheepskin pipe bags and chanters. The money also allowed the band, which was established in 1920, to equip eight young members who recently joined from Oban High School and an addition two members from Bencdula and Ardgour.

Arthur Gillies, band president, said: 'We have had a lot of success in recent years which brings publicity and recognition for Oban and Lorn and we are all really looking forward to this summer.'

Families grant fund now open

A £2 MILLION fund that aims to help children, young people and families is open for applications.

The fund, provided by Lloyds TSB Foundation Scotland in partnership with the Scottish Government, will focus on promoting parenting and family skills, reducing the educational attainment gap, improving life chances for looked-after children and improving the safety of children and young people.

For information or to apply, visit www.ltsbfoundation-forscotland.org.uk/grant-programmes/cypfeif-alec-fund.

Take care hunting for Pokemon

POKEMON Go fans have been warned about the dangers of searching for the elusive creatures in the mountains.

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland issued the alert after hearing some of the virtual Pokemon characters have been placed in the hills.



The Rotary Club of Oban has donated £635 to Dalmally-based charity Mary's Meals. The money was raised through a raffle at the 31st golf charities day hosted by Rotary last month at Glencruitten, Oban. The event, which attracted 45 teams of four, made in excess of £10,000 which will be given to local good causes.

Hoist gives children a lift

A HOIST that allows people living with a disability to ride horses was unveiled last week.

Oban and Lorn Riding for the Disabled revealed the new equipment at an open day at Achnalarig Riding Stables.

Susan Jones, of Riding for the Disabled, said: 'We were told 18 months ago we had to have a hoist instead of lifting the children or they wouldn't be able to ride, so we had to raise money for it.'

The hoist, costing £6,000, was paid for by the Bank of Scotland Foundation, Scottish Sea Farms, West Highland Housing Association and many other firms.

Mrs Jones continued: 'They were marvellous and very supportive.'

'It has been up and running for two to three months but we



Dougie Cruikshank is helped off the horse with the hoist.

decided to have an open day to raise awareness. The benefits for the children are absolutely fantastic.'

Dougie Cruikshank, eight, comes to ride every Friday. His helper Heather MacPherson said: 'He just loves it. He gets

loads out of it. It helps his core and helps him with his movement.'

Dougie's mum, Laura, added: 'He's been coming for more than five years. It's brilliant. I would like to thank everyone for making it possible.'

ADVERTORIAL

Enjoy a fire free summer

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service summer safety advice



WE ALL want to enjoy outdoor activities and have fun in the sun, but summer is also a time when we see an increase in fires.

During the 2015 summer holiday season, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service fought thousands of needless fires across Scotland.

We want you to have fun and stay safe by following these top safety tips:

- Don't smoke or light candles inside tents.
- Never cook near long grass or flammable materials.
- Avoid alcohol if you are in charge of a barbecue.
- Never use petrol or paraffin to light your barbecue.
- Never take a portable barbecue into an enclosed space like a tent or caravan.
- Make sure recreational fires are made in a fire-safe pit or a container and are fully extinguished before leaving them.
- Only dispose of ashes from camp fires or barbecues when they are cold to the touch.
- Keep gas cylinders outside. Never store petrol, diesel or gas containers under your caravan.
- Don't discard lit cigarette ends in the countryside - make sure they are completely extinguished.

For more summer safety advice, including barbecues, camping, boat safety, water safety and wildfires, visit www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/safer-summer.

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Long lasting memorial benches from Fusion Marine

ADVERTORIAL



Losing a loved one is always a tremendously sad and difficult time and finding a way of ensuring a suitable remembrance is often top of people's minds.

Memorial benches are one of the most popular ways of doing this, and as well as forming an appropriate remembrance, they also serve the community well as a place to sit and relax.

Barcaldine based Fusion Marine supply a range of memorial benches made from recycled plastic. They make ideal memorial benches because of their long-life and low maintenance. Engraved metal plates are easily mounted onto the benches.

The appeal of such benches lie in their attractive appearance combined with the fact that they are environmentally friendly and last much longer than wooden alternatives.

Fusion Marine, through its subsidiary Fusion Recycled Plastic, has been supplying memorial benches to both private customers and local councils for several years now and has received tremendous feedback on their sleek design and appearance, as well as their longevity.

'These benches are a marvellous way of paying tribute to a loved one and for giving something back to the community,' says Stephen Divers of Fusion Marine.



The Fusion Marine range of benches and picnic tables made from recycled plastic is also ideal for caravan and holiday parks, nature reserves, town centres, urban areas, visitor centres and many other recreational uses. They are available in colours that blend in naturally with the environment.

Fusion Marine also supplies garden decking, walkways, fences, bridges, waymarking posts and other related products made from tough recycled plastic.

Colonsay

THE BELFRY on Colonsay Parish Church has been refurbished and reinstated thanks to extraordinary support from far and wide.

The structure on the listed building had to be dismantled at an estimated cost of £60,000 as it was in a dangerous condition.

Kevin Byrne from Colonsay said: 'Fundraising began in December 2015 and to the astonishment of parishioners extraordinary support was received from far and wide. In addition to private donations, grants and sponsorship were gratefully received from Allchurches Trust; Baird Trust; Colonsay Estate; Garfield Weston Foundation; J Murray Napier Fund of St Columba's Church London; National Churches Trust; and Purdie's Scottish Soaps in association with Royal Scottish Shipping Line Ltd.

'The work was undertaken by conservation architect Rebecca Cadie of ARPL Architects working with Colin Rowan of Rowan Stoneworks of Argyll and was completed on July 15.'



Colin Rowan beside the completed belfry.

Stornoway

THE FIRST Syrian families to resettle in the Outer Hebrides under a UK government-funded scheme have arrived and are settling into their new accommodation in Stornoway.

The two related families, eight people in total, including young children, are now undertaking the range of appointments and processes required to enable them to become part of the island community.

A priority will be an intensive course of English language classes. Volunteers, who registered on the website set up to allow the public to offer assistance, will now be engaged where required.

Benbecula

A BENBECULA technological solutions company is supporting a scheme to ensure there is a sufficient level of filtering on public wi-fi services.

Voove is a Friendly Wi-Fi-approved provider meaning the company's public wi-fi meets the required level of filtering to block access to pornographic and child abuse websites.

The scheme was created by the UK Council for Child Internet Safety, supported by the government and wi-fi providers after concerns were raised by child safety charities that youngsters were being put at risk of accessing and viewing inappropriate material when using public wi-fi.

A Friendly Wi-Fi symbol can be displayed onsite or online by any accredited company or venue providing public wi-fi which is committed to supporting the need to safeguard against online content.

Barra and Vatersay

AIR MO Chuaire, the classic account of life on Barra and Vatersay that was first published in 1982, has now been translated into English.

The Gaelic original, which details what life was like growing up on the islands after World War One, was written by school teacher Ealasaid Chaimbeul and has now been translated by Mary Flora, also a school teacher.

Benderloch girl's spirits lifted by photo competition award



Graham Fraser, Rotary Club of Oban president, Charlotte Jackson-Stark and Bill Campbell, Rotary district governor.

16_t31YoungPhotographer01

AN 11-YEAR-OLD girl from Benderloch has had her spirits lifted after winning an award for photography.

Charlotte Jackson-Stark, whose dad was scheduled to undergo an operation, was successful in the Rotary National Young Photographer competition.

The theme of the competition was titled Our World is Beautiful. Charlotte said: 'I was happy with the results and I learned a lot about how to use the camera. I was extremely pleased to hear I had won this competition. It was a good thing to happen to me this week as my dad was having an operation. Winning cheered me up.'

Charlotte was a pupil at Lochnell Primary School when she entered the competition but will attend Oban High School after the summer holidays.

She added: 'I have loved photography since I was three years old. My passion grew when I went to America on holiday where I always took the camera and took my own pictures and it was great. I was nine when I entered the local horticultural show and I got prizes for the pictures I entered and that made me want a better camera. I asked for a better one for Christmas and my grandparents got me a really great camera. Six weeks later my school told me about this competition and I was excited to take part.'

Annat

SKIES lit up last week during a summer storm but more than 140 houses in Annat were left in the dark.

A total of 145 customers had a power cut when lightning struck an overhead cable near Corpach following one of the hottest days of the year.

The blackout occurred at 2.48am during a period of sustained thunder and lightning which lasted almost two hours.

SSE technicians attended the scene and power was restored in less than an hour and a half.

Duncan MacDonald from SSE said: 'The service coped very well with the weather.'

'There was just one incident where a power outage occurred when lightning struck an overhead cable. Much like the trip switch in your home, when the system recognises something which might be dangerous it shuts down and that's what happened here. Our engineers went out to area and power was back on after an hour and 26 minutes.'

'We would like to apologise to those customers but would like assure them we did everything we could to make sure the power was back as quickly and as safely as possible.'

SSE said it is a matter of all hands on deck when such weather is forecast.

The spokesman added: 'We monitor the weather five days in advance and when we see something which might cause challenges we get as many personnel in as possible. Whether it be tree cutters or extra drivers, we do our best to pre-empt any difficulties.'

Fort William

SUPER-LIGHTWEIGHT boxing champion Ricky Burns walked the West Highland Way between Milnburn and Fort William in three days to raise money for charity.

Having met Royal Marine veterans at various boxing nights, Ricky, 33, from Arbroath, completed the walk with five friends.

Ricky decided to raise money for their 45 Commando Rehabilitation Centre and memorial garden in Arbroath.

He will also be donating some of the funds raised to the Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity.

On finishing the walk, he tweeted: 'What a three days. Our legs and feet are in bits but we had some laugh and met some great lads. Already planning the next adventure.'



Mary-Jae Khalid, chairwoman of Headway Glasgow, receives the cheque from Heather Robertson, left, and Mary McLean.

Inveraray

STAFF at the Inveraray branch of the Bank of Scotland have raised £1,157 for a brain injury charity.

Heather Robertson and her co-workers decided to raise money for Headway after a colleague, Mary McLean, suffered a brain aneurysm.

The team initially raised £907 through raffles and games and Heather ran a muddy obstacle race.

Heather said: 'We were glad to raise the money for the charity, especially one so close to our hearts and the community. Our work also added another £250 on top of this amazing total.'

Mary-Jane Khalid, chairwoman of Headway Glasgow, thanked everyone involved. She said: 'This was a great effort from all the team at Inveraray. We will put the money to good use in providing information, support and services to people with a brain injury and their families.'

There currently isn't a Headway group in Argyll. Anyone looking for information or anyone interested in being involved in a group should contact Gaillie Gray on 07795 551232.

MORVERN
lines

Vanishing wild birds

NEWS that a pair of rare hen harriers in the Grampians have bred successfully and produced four chicks is welcome.

So many of our native birds seem to be disappearing too quickly these days without any apparent reason other than when man has interfered. It seems only yesterday, one could drive through the glens and across the high moors and passes of Argyll and catch a glimpse of any number of male hen harriers flying, usually very low, gliding buoyantly with black tipped wings held in a shallow 'V' emitting their high chattering 'ke-ke-ke' and long wailing 'pee-e' calls.

One reason for their demise is, undoubtedly, loss of habitat through blanket afforestation encroaching on their traditional breeding and hunting grounds. If hen harriers are to make a comeback in Scotland, a great deal more thought needs to be put into planning forestry blocks. Some years ago the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds used to pay landowners a bounty for every pair of golden eagles which bred successfully on their property. In these enlightened times, this should not be necessary but, if it would help towards getting the hen harrier population back up to what it was 20 years ago, so be it.



A golden plover on the high moors.

Golden plovers and curlews were also common on the west coast, but curlews have now almost gone from Morvern. Loch Aline and its hinterland used to be home to at least a dozen breeding pairs. Now they are seldom seen or heard, likewise the golden plover.

Their sad, mournful calls on the high plateaux between Glencripesdale and Kinlocheteacuis, Achranich and the table of Lorn and the big knolls around Crosben in the Black Glen heralded the spring but this year their breeding grounds have been silent. Records for the 1880s show they were common enough in Glen Sligachan and above Camusunary on Skye and around Lairg, but by the turn of the 20th century naturalists were beginning to complain of their unaccountable disappearance.

Osgood Hanbury Mackenzie, 1842-1922, Highland landowner and creator of the famous Inverewe garden near Poolewe in Wester Ross, writing in the early 1830s, said: 'Such is the entire change in the habits of the golden plover, which is now a migrant only, or almost so, only a very few come to breed here, and leave for good in August, whereas they used to breed and remain even in the hardest winter and to be in hundreds.'

Despite his popularity today as a gardener and plantsman and the author of *A Hundred Years in the Highlands*, Mackenzie was a notorious slaughterer of wild birds but was in denial about the long-term effect of his sporting proclivities.

Likewise, Henry Davenport Graham, author of *The Birds of Iona and Mull 1852-70*. His book, printed in 1890, is a valuable record of the feathered inhabitants of the Inner Hebrides and their breeding habits. Of the golden plover, he wrote: 'Remains with us all the year round, but in winter alone is ordinarily met with in small parties on the seashore.'

'In more than ordinary hard frosts they assemble in very large flocks and, at such times, are not only void of their usual shyness, but seem absolutely without consciousness of danger and I have lain down close to a flock, stringing as many as possible at a shot, when they would run past the muzzle of the gun.'

He went on to say: 'The sandy-grass-grown levels of the island of Tiree abound with golden plover in autumn and winter.' Thankfully his readers were spared yet another graphic account of how he successfully blasted dozens of these lovely little birds and many other winged species into kingdom come.

The Gaelic name for the golden plover is 'feideag' although in some parts of the Hebrides it is also called 'fuisleach' or 'peatag', supposed to be from the Latin, 'pluvia', rain; original root 'plu', to swim - a wading bird. It was said in days gone by that if heard at night, it meant the near approach of death, or some other evil which helped to keep inquisitive people away from secret stills. In Aberdeen, among the farming community, the cry or the whistle was translated into 'plough weel (well), shaave (sow) weel, harrow weel. Its slowly-flapping flight is fast giving rise to a once familiar saying 'Cho luath ris na feadag' - as swift as the plovers or whistlers. Golden plovers are round-headed, short-billed birds with long narrow, pointed wings. They have amazing powers of flight and are unlikely to be confused with any other moorland bird. The back and wings are mottled black and yellow, the tail is barred, as is its stomach. Its overall length is around 11 inches and the wing-span 18 or so. Golden plovers stay up on the moors from March until September, though the adults will often move down to the low ground rather earlier. A wary bird is the golden plover, the ever watchful male warning his mate of man's approach long before she can be spotted among the vegetation of the moors. She rises quietly and runs some distance before taking flight.

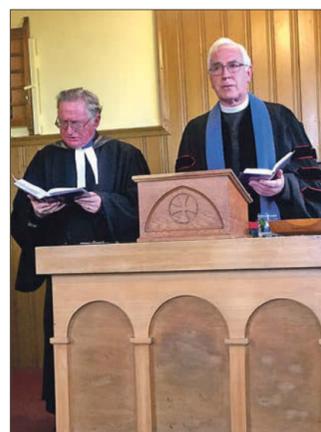
Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com

Final mass at Lochfyneside Church

PEOPLE from all over the world came to mark the end of an era as the final mass was said in Lochfyneside Church, Minard.

Among the congregation in the packed church on July 10 were David and Rose Fife-Jackson on holiday from Australia. They married in the church 48 years ago and had served in the church, David as an elder and Rosemary as a Sunday school teacher.

The service was led by Rev Roderick Campbell, the minister of West Lochfyneside church. The sermon was preached by Rev Roderick MacLeod who was minister of the church from 1985 until 2011. Although the church will no longer be occupied, plenty of the features have been moved and will continue to be used. The communion table of Austrian oak is now in Lochgair and the baptismal font has been used there.



Reverends Roddy McLeod and Roddy Campbell took the service.

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Talks sought on energy future

COMHAIRLE nan Eilean Siar wants talks with the new Secretary of State for Business and Energy, Greg Clark, to discuss renewable energy opportunities on the Western Isles.

Comhairle leader Angus Campbell said: 'The Western Isles have an unrivalled wind energy resource and the local community is keen to harness that energy to make a contribution to the UK's green energy targets and to stimulate new economic and social regen-

eration. With appropriate investment in grid infrastructure and generating assets, renewable energy development on the islands could grow rapidly by the early 2020s.'

Mr Campbell, speaking on behalf of the council, added: 'We look forward to a constructive working relationship with the new Secretary of State for Business and Energy and would be happy to meet with him here in the Western Isles or at Westminster.'



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Trust seeks ideas for how to win land buyout backing

MONICA GIBSON
mgibson@obantimes.co.uk

A TRUST embarking on the biggest community land buyout on record is looking for innovative and traditional suggestions on how best to get public support.

More than 500 people have become members of East Lochaber and Laggan Community Trust (ELLCT), which hopes to buy the estate currently owned by Rio Tinto. Measuring around 120,000 acres, the trust believes, if successful, the buyout would provide numerous opportunities for individuals and businesses with the goal of creating a better future for the younger generation.

There are 11,000 people on the electorate who are eligible to become members, with youngsters and those living outside the catchment area also able to sign up.

The trust has generated an online presence, including website and Twitter accounts, and has held various meetings to help spread the word as it believes having community backing is its best chance of success.

At one of the meetings, it was suggested a video campaign

could be a way of catching more attention. Meanwhile, on Facebook, the trust asked: 'What would you like to see happen on or around the Rio Tinto estate?'

Donald Morriss replied: 'A bilingual Gaelic and English language policy. Plots for housing. Reduction in deer numbers. More cycle routes. Renewable energy sources. The puggy line as a tourist attraction.'

Politicians have also shown their support. David Stewart, Rhoda Grant, Donald Cameron, Douglas Ross, Edward Mountain and John Finnie, who all represent the Highlands and Islands, have sent a letter to Rio Tinto.

The letter read: 'We welcome the move by ELLCT to investigate the potential for the community to purchase the estate, should it become available.'

'As the community trust rightly recognises, the priority must be securing the jobs at the smelter site with either Rio Tinto or a similar industrial employer.'

'However, we think the trust's ideas represent an exciting prospect for the people of Lochaber.'

'Ultimately, Rio Tinto has

the final say on what happens next, but we all believe that the company being rooted in Lochaber would be the best outcome.'

To further strengthen its hand, ELLCT has become a member of Community Land Scotland (CLS), which was established in 2010 to provide a collective voice for community landowners.

Lorne MacLeod, for CLS, said: 'To work with whoever may be the operator of the smelter, I think it has to be explored.'

'It [community land ownership] has worked elsewhere if you look at South Uist with 93,000 acres.'

'This would be 125,000, which is obviously huge but, in the modern-day, community ownership is the right route to take and I am confident they have a good shot at being successful here.'

He added: 'Everyone should see this very much as an exciting initiative.'

'It covers such a vast area from Spean Bridge and Kinlochleven and that will mean there is potential for lots of big ideas. Whether it be mini hydro, smallholdings, new crofts, there is so much potential here.'



Murdo Morrison, aged eight, gets a close look at some of the shellfish on show at Mallaig's Maritime Day.

Mallaig Maritime festival fun day

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and the Fishermen's Mission came up with a new winning formula for an event in Mallaig last Saturday. Similar events have been the highlight of the calendar in previous years but this is the first time the RNLI and the Fishermen's Mission have joined forces to host the Maritime Day festival. Throughout the event, Mallaig pier was transformed. Highlights included a parade, games, memorabilia and stalls selling fresh fish, sweets and hot food. See page 14 for full report and photographs.

TIMESLINE

MacFadyen's Contractors

THE OBAN Times would like to apologise without reservation for a photograph published in last week's Lochaber and Oban edition of the newspaper.

The paper published a picture of a haulage vehicle that had absolutely no connection with another company which was taking large loads through the centre of Fort William during peak hours.

Any connection to MacFadyen's hauliers was completely erroneous. The company has, in fact, received praise for its outstanding commitment to community consultation and negotiation in the movement of vehicles in the area.

Town volunteers praised at AGM

FORT William's Town Team volunteers have been commended for their achievements at the team's second annual general meeting.

Moir Robinson, town team chairwoman, ran through the achievements which included the toolshare project, the town centre heritage trail, the 'adopt a plot' project and the sponsored hanging baskets.

Secretary Sue Keen said: 'All 39 volunteers are highly valued and very much appreciated. Next year the team hopes to do more of the same and help to make Fort William even better.'



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CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

SOMETIMES people need extra help. The unexpected happens, or disability or illness strikes. And, as loved ones inevitably grow older, a bit of assistance is often needed. Without help and assistance at the right time, carers can find themselves facing financial hardship, health problems, emotional stress and relationship breakdown.

Asking for help is the first step, and easy to do with a wide selection of products and services available locally.

Seniors often need assistance with day to day chores, home maintenance or routines. They

take medications on a schedule. Dementia is especially troubling to deal with. Even when adult children are nearby to provide assistance, busy lives make it nearly impossible to keep up. Trained professional services and home carers are available to do this - allowing the elderly to stay in their own homes and adult children to get the professional assistance they need in caring for their loved ones - whether on a semi-regular basis or 24 hours a day.

Physically or mentally disabled children and adults can benefit from professional home care as well. Experienced carers can not only assist at home, they can take clients on outings and help them pursue their interests, whether it's bird

watching or music sessions.

Successful relationships are hard work. But sometimes even hard work isn't enough, when there are changes within the family, addiction issues, death or financial crisis. Counselling allows family members or couples to talk about their feelings and problems with a trained, neutral professional in a confidential environment. Counsellors can help people deal with negative thoughts and situations and help heal family rifts, so there is no need to suffer.

The statistics on domestic violence are sobering. A domestic violence incident is recorded every 10 minutes in Scotland. At least one in five women in Scotland will experience domestic abuse, and one

in three teenage girls suffer an unwanted sexual act. These things are nothing to be ashamed about or keep hidden.

Local organisations are there to listen and provide solutions, whether a victim needs to get safely out of a situation immediately or counselling for emotional trauma.

There doesn't have to be an emergency situation for a person to reach out. Clinical depression is a medical condition, not just feeling blue, and can be treated as such. Or sometimes life gets overwhelming and people just need someone to talk to. Whatever the case, suffering in silence is not the answer. One telephone call can be the first step to a happy, healthy life.

Marie Curie nursing service calls for support

Care and support through terminal illness



MARIE CURIE, the charity providing care and support for people living with a terminal illness and their families, is keen to hear from Islay residents eager to support their local service. The charity is looking for volunteers to set up a local fundraising group to raise money for the Marie Curie nursing service.

The service provides free one-to-one nursing care at home to people with all terminal illnesses, as well as support for family and friends. The care can either be for eight or nine hours overnight, during the day to provide respite for carers or visits at short notice in times of crisis. The charity is currently hiring for registered nurses and healthcare assistants in Argyll and Bute.

Rae Woodrow, a Marie Curie registered nurse, has provided this care on Islay for more than 20 years working closely with the district nurses. Rae combines her Marie Curie role with working part-time for the local hospital. Discussing her job, Rae explains:

'I feel being a Marie Curie nurse is an incredible privilege. To go into a family's home when they're perhaps at their lowest and give whatever help I can. You see families at high points and at their lowest. This can be especially true when you are caring for people over a number of weeks. You can have a very close relationship.'

'Many people don't realise the service is on the island until they need it. They're supportive to fundraising generally but they don't necessarily know it's local.'

Last year the 33 Marie Curie nursing team members in Argyll and Bute made 964 visits to people living with a terminal illness spending 7,683 hours providing care and support. Marie Curie estimates that of the 1,050 people who die each year in Argyll and Bute, 850 have a palliative care need.

Amanda Hillhouse is the local Marie Curie community fundraiser for Islay. She added: 'We receive around 50 per cent of the cost of our nursing service from NHS Highland Argyll and Bute so rely on generous public donations to fund the remaining amount. We're looking for volunteers who are able to support us and help raise money locally. This could be looking after collection tins in shops or organising small events like our current Blooming Great Tea Party campaign.'

'I'm keen to hear from anyone interested in finding out more and can be contacted on 07714 138348 or amanda.hillhouse@mariecurie.org.uk.'

To apply for the registered nurse or healthcare assistant vacancies in Argyll and Bute, visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/jobs.



Patron: Dame Judi Dench CH

We offer community services based at the Argyll Carers' Centre. The day hospice in Lynnside Day Centre is open on Mondays. Our services include the use of two patient beds and a separate relatives' room at Lorn and Islands Hospital.

For further information please contact chairman, David Entwistle on 01631 711 823 or 07582220648. www.obanhospice.org.uk; Facebook; @ObanHospice

Enhancing the quality of life

Oban Hospice - one couple's story

MR AND MRS Pearce were registered with Oban Hospice Community Service at crisis point. Mr Pearce had just been given a terminal cancer diagnosis and was told he had only three months to live. This was a young couple with two teenage children desperately needing counselling, support and advice for the whole family who were all in shock.

Oban Hospice's community services worker spoke to both Mr and Mrs Pearce together, listening and understanding what they were saying and reading between the lines about what they were wanting to say to each other. She then spoke to them separately and tried to communicate what they were both struggling to say. She mediated and made suggestions of what may make things more manageable following up with them a week later. This made such a

difference. Mrs Pearce said that things had been much better since the intervention. They weren't just talking at each other, they were talking to each other. Mrs Pearce said: 'I am overwhelmed from having nothing, no support, to all of this.' Practical support was given in therapies and counselling.

A roller-coaster of a time followed where they were given the news that the chemo seemed to have worked and the tumour had shrunk. They were both delighted and dared to look to the future. Six days after this news Mr Pearce died at home.

We supported Mr and Mrs Pearce intensely for just over a month and continued to support Mrs Pearce in her bereavement. They were very grateful.



CARE IN THE COMMUNITY



**SURVIVORS OF BEREAVEMENT
BY SUICIDE**

We know it happens.....So let's talk....

Those who are left behind after someone takes their own life can be helped by talking to others who have experienced the same. If you have been personally affected by a suicide and are looking for help and advice, we offer are now offering various support groups throughout Argyll and Lochaber.

For more information

**Contact: Anne on 07552 503118 or Joyce on
01397 700958**

Registered in Scotland Charity No. SC041397 Company Number 4754829



**Argyll & Bute
CARE & REPAIR**

**Are you, or someone who lives
with you...**

- ~ Over 60 and/or disabled; or
- ~ Suffering from a long term health problem or illness
- ~ A home owner or private sector tenant resident in Argyll & Bute

**We are an independent charity who help our elderly
and/or disabled clients to remain in safety and
comfort in their own homes by:**

- ~ Providing free confidential advice and assistance on disabled grants for major adaptations such as showers, wetrooms, ramps and access solutions, stairlifts and hoists.
- ~ Providing home safety and security through installation of items such as smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, security chains, key safes, light bulbs and thresholds.
- ~ Carrying out small repairs in your home such as minor plumbing, joinery and electrical work including flat pack assembly, erection of shelves, changing tap washers & plug fuses, installing curtain rails.
- ~ Installation of grab rails, bannisters and Tele-healthcare devices on referral from NHS Occupational Therapists and Council Telecare workers.

To find out more please contact us on 01631 567780 or email us at enquiries@abcarerepair.co.uk
You can also visit our website www.abcr.org.uk or write to us at the following office address
Argyll and Bute Care and Repair, 5 Stafford Street, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5NJ
(Scottish Charity No. SC033875)

Trust Housing Association – Cathie Stevenson

CATHIE Stevenson, aged 75, recently moved into Trust Housing's sheltered development at Port Ellen.

Cathie was born in Neriby Cottage, Bridgend, and left school at 15 to work on Ballmartin Farm for two years. She left Islay and went to work in a hotel in Tarbert where she met her husband. They came back to Islay six months later and married the following year, she has lived on the island ever since.

Before moving to Leodamus Place, Cathie found she was getting lonely and depressed. Her husband sadly passed away 17 years ago and, although her family visit often, they have their own lives to live, so Cathie didn't have company on a daily basis. She also started to feel the house she lived in was too big to manage.

Cathie moved in with Trust Housing just over six months ago and, although reluctant at first, she now says: 'I'm as happy as a sand boy, as the saying goes. I am really glad I moved into Leodamus Place. My flat is lovely and so easy to keep and I've always got someone visiting me between

staff, family and friends. The day is not so long and I've even started knitting again, a thing I haven't done for two years. I just couldn't be bothered before.'

A full-time onsite staff presence is part of the service Trust provides, which gives peace of mind to Cathie. She enjoys the company and knows she is safe and secure. 'If I need help I just need to pull the emergency cord or use my pendant and help is there.'

All Trust tenants have the choice of as much or as little support as they need. For Cathie, this is two visits a day, but she also knows if she needs help the staff are always there.

Moving to Leodamus Place has improved Cathie's quality of life significantly. She explains: 'I'm not so stressed out sitting worrying about silly things. When you have people around you all the time, or just knowing they are there makes a difference. I regularly meet up with old friends who live here and am getting to know new people as we meet up in the lounge for tea and light lunches. It is really nice – everyone here is just so friendly.'

Lorne Campbell Court, Campbeltown

CAIRN Housing Association invites you to view our retirement housing in Campbeltown, one of the largest towns in Argyll situated on the beautiful peninsula of Kintyre. It is within easy reach of shops, post office and transport and is a great base for exploring many scenic attractions.

Retirement housing provides independent living, with the added benefit of 24-hour support and a lively social life, with a variety of events and outings arranged by the social committee.

We currently have a number of studio flats available, ideally sized for a single person, which consist of:

- A good size living/bedroom area
- A new fitted kitchen

The heating system is provided by a communal gas boiler, allowing a constant supply of hot water to the property, the cost of which is included in the rent.

Other features include:

- Double glazing throughout
- A modern reliable emergency alarm system which is linked to a 24-hour call system, providing assistance 365 days per year
- Easy access to entrance with automatic door and secure door entry system
- Communal gardens with seating areas
- Residents' lounge with kitchen facilities
- Furnished guest room for use of guests and relatives of residents in the development
- Private laundry facilities with dryers and outdoor drying facilities
- Communal TV aerial
- Car parking
- Regular organised social events including coffee afternoon, bingo, quiz nights, bus trips etc.

Trust your home & more

Independent living on Islay

Trust Housing Association has social housing for rent at Port Ellen and Bowmore on the Isle of Islay.

We are currently offering 6 months free heating or free carpets to all new tenants who move in before the 30th September 2016.

Our picturesque developments are designed for the over 50s with on-site staff for peace of mind.

If you would like to come and have a look around or for more information call or email us on:

0131 444 1200
info@trustha.org.uk



CAIRN
HOUSING ASSOCIATION



Retirement Housing for Rent Lorne Campbell Court, Campbeltown

Cairn Housing Association has studio and one person flats for rent within its retirement housing development at Lorne Campbell Court, Millknowe Road, Campbeltown.

One person flats are self-contained with a combined living room/bedroom, entrance hall, separate kitchen & bathroom and additional storage.

Features Include:

- Court Co-ordinator • Lift • Community Alarm
- Residents' Lounge • Laundry Facilities
- Gas Central Heating • New modern fitted kitchen

The current rent for these properties is £358.28 per month for a one person flat (this includes all service and heating charges).

Housing Benefit is available for those who are eligible.

If you would like more information or an application pack, please contact:

Cairn Housing Association 0800 990 3405

Transport forum's train service appeal

LOCHABER Transport Forum is calling for an improvement in West Highland line train services.

The forum wrote to Scottish Transport Minister Humza Yousaf last week following growing frustration over problems with the rail service.

The letter highlighted current issues with the service, including poor connecting train services with ferries arriving in Mallaig, as well as trains still being cancelled at the last minute, despite ScotRail taking on additional staff.

The letter stated: 'Trains are still being cancelled at short notice. For instance, four trains, half the scheduled services, were cancelled on July 2 between Fort William and Mallaig. No notices are provided at small/unmanned stations to let passengers know about cancellations.'

'Real-time travel information on screen or a PA system would seem to be essential on the West Highland line with its sparse services from unstaffed stations in remote locations.'

An issue arising with news of the upgraded 158 trains which will soon be used on the West Highland line, is the reduced capacity to carry passengers and bicycles.

The letter read: 'We've seen a big increase in ferry journeys along the west coast leading to an interest in cycling holidays so anything to improve this is welcomed. Surely we should be encouraging this type of tourism.'

The forum pointed out that increased services had been successful on the Oban section of the line, saying: 'It's time improvements were put in place for Lochaber. Everyone agrees this is such an iconic popular journey and services should match the significance of this.'

Speaking to *The Oban Times*, forum chairman and Fort William councillor Brian Murphy said: 'We are getting really angry and frustrated with the situation.'

'We have been writing to ministers for several years now and we keep getting fobbed off to Transport Scotland and given the run around.'

'Now we want to put pressure on ministers to do their job and get the West Highland line sorted.'

Court hears Lochaber man left wife feeling 'suffocated'

A LOCHABER man left his wife feeling 'suffocated' after he tried to control her by banning her from nights out and hiding her phone, a court heard.

Ewen MacKenzie, 41, has pleaded not guilty to acting in a way which caused Linda MacKenzie, his wife, fear or alarm over a five-month period starting in January this year.

The charges against MacKenzie, from Donald Row, Gleannan Cross, Morar, near Mallaig, include stopping

Ms Mackenzie from wearing makeup and shouting and swearing at her.

MacKenzie previously pleaded not guilty to assaulting his wife by seizing her and dragging to her injury on May 7 and May 21 and assaulting her friend Jody Dempster by pushing them and placing them in a headlock on May 23.

The trial against MacKenzie began last Friday in Fort William Sheriff Court where his solicitor, Gerry Sweeney, lodged a defence of self-defence.

Ms Mackenzie, who works during the week as a waitress, told the court the couple had been together for 15 years and married for five years.

The 39-year-old said: 'He used to take the phones all the time and hide them. The kids used to pick up the phone and hide it but they didn't know what they were doing.'

She added: 'Any messages, anything I got on it, he was trying to see who it was from.'

Ms Mackenzie discussed three separate incidents, telling the court on May 7

her now estranged husband grabbed her arms, dragged her outside and put her on the floor where she scraped her back on the doorstep. She added: 'I was covered in bruises. I remember because there was a period of hot weather and I couldn't wear a vest top.'

The court heard Ms Mackenzie had started texting a male friend, whom she knew from the school run, that had led to accusations of infidelity on her part, which she claimed to be false.

During cross-examination

Mr Sweeney outlined: 'A friendship intensified involving communication via text in the evening. Then there's the discovery of the texts, some months of tension which eventually leads to an argument and that's when the incidents start.' When asked why she didn't call the police after the initial alleged assault Ms Mackenzie said: 'I didn't want to have to explain myself to people ... I didn't want my kids to go through all of this.'

The trial is set to continue on Wednesday August 17.

POLICE FILES

THE FRONT door of Meall na Mara, Alma Road, Fort William, was damaged sometime between 4pm on Friday July 8 and 6.30pm on Saturday July 9. Anyone with information on how this damage was caused should contact police.

THREE brown fingerpost signs were removed from two locations between Monday July 18 and Thursday July 21.

The first was taken from the A82 at the north side of the junction with the B863. The other two signs were back to back, directly opposite the junction with the B863.

THE WINDSCREEN of a vehicle parked outside Plantation park at around 4.15pm on Monday July 22 was damaged.

Anyone with information should contact Fort William police station on 101.

A MAN was assaulted on Fort William High Street, near William Hill, at around 12.05am on Sunday July 10.

Anyone with information as to the identity of the suspect should contact Fort William police station on 101.

A WING mirror on a vehicle parked on Treig Road, Inverloch, was damaged sometime between 8.30pm on Thursday July 14 and 9am on Friday July 15.

Anyone with information should contact Fort William police station on 101.

Newsdesks

01397 703003

01631 568000



Left to right: staff midwife Jane Elliot, Alexander, Megan and Alan Mackenzie.

Family thanks baby care unit with £3,230 donation

STAFF from Raigmore Hospital's Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) received a visit on Monday (July 25) from a little boy who wanted to say thank you to them for looking after him two years ago.

Alexander Mackenzie, two, along with his parents Alan and Megan also brought the staff at the unit a donation of £3,230.

The family, who are from Skye, held a ceilidh and raffle to fundraise for the unit where Alexander was cared for after being born two months early.

They raised a total of £4,230, donating the other £1,000 to

Ronald McDonald House in Glasgow where they spent two weeks while Alexander had shunt surgery.

Staff midwife Jane Elliot accepted the donation and she remembers the family from their time in SCBU.

She said: 'It was great to see Alexander again. We are so fortunate as a unit that so many of our former patients come by to say hello.'

'This is a fantastic sum of money which has been donated to the unit. We are very grateful to them for thinking of us and we really can't thank them enough.'

Public urged to leave TV reality show stars alone

'IT'S UP to you, but please leave them to it' is the message from the producer of a new television show.

KEO films, the maker of reality programme Eden currently being filmed on Ardnamurchan, has asked members of the public to stay away to protect the 'integrity' of the experiment.

The London-based outfit applied for and was granted a land order restricting access to the 600-acre 'set' to film the show in which 23 individuals or 'contributors' attempt to build a community from scratch.

The show was first aired on July 18 on Channel 4

attracting 1.8 million viewers, and in the second episode last Monday, members of the public were shown sailing into Cul na Croise Bay and leaving treats for the contestants.

While there are no tasks on the show, Monday's hour-long programme showed tensions building among sugar deprived community members as they struggle to live off the land. Therefore, the surprise delivery was met with much excitement and celebration.

And while KEO says it doesn't know what is going to happen as the show progresses, it has said how the group fares is up to the members and therefore asked that the

restrictions to be respected. A spokeswoman for the company said: 'For the safety of contributors Keo Films applied for a Section 11 statute which would temporarily suspend the public right to roam on the private land where the community are living.'

'The order is in effect from March 23, 2016, to midnight on March 20, 2017.'

She added: 'It is up to the community if they wish to interact with the outside world. However, for the integrity of what the group hopes to achieve in this remote location, we would hope that people leave them to it and observe the section 11.'

Fèis Nan Garbh Chriochan hailed a success



Mike Bryan, seated centre, from Ullapool, with some of the pupils who took part in the guitar group. Photo by Anthony MacMillan.

THE 26TH Fèis Nan Garbh Chriochan has been hailed a 'huge success' with numbers up and pupils showing incredible talent.

Acharacle Primary School hosted the fèis on Thursday July 21. Fifty-eight youngsters took part in the main fèis, for 9-18 year-olds, while 22 children participated in the Fèis Bheag for 5-8 year-olds.

Events included lessons in clarsach, guitar, fiddle, chanter, step dance, drama, accordion, keyboard, shinty, percussion, and Gaelic song. Eighteen tutors came from all over Lochaber to help with the day. Mike Bryan, who took guitar lessons, came from Ullapool, Alannah Beaton travelled from Skye to host drama seasons and Gaelic song teacher, Linda MacLeod, came from North Uist. Others travelled from Fort William, Mallaig and Glenfinnan.

Lesley MacMasters, administrator of Fèis Nan Garbh Chriochan for 11 years, told *The Oban Times*: 'It has been a huge success with incredibly talented tutors and pupils who have all worked really hard and had lots of fun. The community is hugely supportive of the fèis. Huge thanks to everyone for their support in donating prizes, attending the events and giving their time to help.'

Gemma dedicates years to help Kenya's abandoned children

KATIE CARABINE
kcarabine@obantimes.co.uk

SOUTH Uist woman Gemma Steele has worked tirelessly since 2009 to provide a much-needed place of safety and education for orphaned and abandoned children in Kenya.

She is the founder and director of registered charity St Jerome's Centre in Nakuru.

After finishing school, Gemma decided to take a year out and travel. 'I wanted to see different parts of the world, see how different cultures deal with life,' she said.

She volunteered at a children's home in Nakuru, Kenya, and worked in a school there.

When the rent for the children's home was raised, the owner asked Gemma to pay the increased rate for them.

As a 17-year-old, just finished high school, she wasn't financially able to do this and the children she had worked with for six months had to be abandoned by the home owner. 'I couldn't have that on my conscience,' said Gemma, who returned to Scotland and started fundraising to buy a plot of land on which she hoped a new home could be built.

Word spread around her community and further afield and Gemma was offered a plot at the back of a school to build a new centre on if she agreed to build a nursery there as well. This meant the money she had raised could go straight to building the centre.

St Jerome's was opened in January



Gemma with a couple of St Jerome's residents in Kenya.

2012, providing a home to eight children at first.

There was an attack on St Jerome's in 2014 when Gemma was threatened by a gang with machetes who were trying to take over the centre.

'I naively didn't realise the difficulties with building on land that I didn't own. There was bribery over electricity and water which led to blackmail and the gang trying to get us out. They wanted to take over the building for their own use.'

'It backfired on them though because it only made me more determined to fulfil my promise I'd made to the kids to help them.'

Fortunately, news of the attack only served to increase the sup-

port the centre received. 'It was one of the best things that could possibly happen,' said Gemma. 'We managed to buy a one-acre plot and started from scratch again.'

'It was difficult but necessary to get the kids into a less violent community.'

There are 33 children currently being looked after at the centre and a team of nine staff members. There are outreach programmes as well as nursery education, adult and special needs education and rehab programmes run from the centre.

In 2014 Gemma won a Young Scot Unsung Hero award.

She also had dinner with Alex Salmond in Bute House when he was first minister and received a donation from the proceeds of an

auction of gifts he had received in office.

A BBC Alba documentary about her work in Kenya was broadcast in 2015.

Gemma was nominated by Alasdair Allan MSP as a local hero, meaning she was invited to participate in the Riding procession to officially open the Scottish Parliament at the start of July.

Speaking about when she found this out, Gemma said: 'I was quite shocked. I was sent the message directly and I didn't know anything about it but I was quite pleased.'

'The day itself was really interesting, to get an insight about the parliament building and behind the scenes. It was mainly a celebration though, there wasn't much politics.'

Gemma, who is 25 now, went on to study occupational therapy at Glasgow Caledonian University but she still tries to visit Kenya at least once a year.

Her role is less hands on these days. 'It's more staff management now. There's a team of nine staff and a committee of six,' she says.

Thinking about the future, Gemma says she wants to take what she has learned in Kenya back to Scotland.

'The issues the kids in Kenya face are not unique - they also exist in Scotland. Kids here need help too, in our West Highland communities and across Scotland.'

St Jerome's relies on donations and fundraising. To donate visit www.stjermescentre.org.uk/ donate.

ADVERTORIAL

Oban Festival of Architecture

30 July - 21 August 2016

Featuring:
Prospect North exhibition
First shown at the 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale

Festival Fringe Programme
at The Rockfield Centre

plus
Best of the Best & Scotstyle

Oban's Built Heritage	Guided walk 1.5 hours approx.	1 August, 6pm 3 August, 6pm 6 August, 11am 7 August, 11am
Galley Castles of the Sound of Mull	Illustrated talk in English	2 August, 7pm
Building Stories	Fiction writing workshop	4 August, 7pm
Scratch Choir Night	Music workshop	5 August, 7pm
Create a Crate	Family craft workshop	6 August, 10am-1
Last Nights of Summer	Argyll Youth Arts showcase night	14 August, 7pm
"The Room"	Craft interiors exhibition	19 - 21 August

Form more info and to book tickets please visit
www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk
SC483489 | SC045503

Festival of Architecture comes to Oban

Oban Communities Trust is delighted to be hosting the Oban Festival of Architecture from 30 July to 21 August at The Rockfield Centre.

The Centre will welcome three exhibitions, including the Scottish Premiere of the Prospect North exhibition, which was first on show at the prestigious Venice Architecture Biennale.

You can also take part in our programme of fringe events, featuring talks and workshops with an architectural theme as well as a heritage trail looking at the stories behind significant buildings in Oban. In addition, there will be a display featuring ideas for the redevelopment of the main building and the

Rockfield Centre site.

For further details or to book on to our fringe events, visit the Oban Communities Trust Facebook page or see our website: www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk

In partnership with Architecture and Design Scotland, part of the Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design 2016 and the Festival of Architecture across Scotland.

Viewpoint

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB
email: editor@obantimes.co.ukThe Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

THE ROAD works in the centre of Oban are, at long last, nearing completion. However, they have taken considerably longer than originally intended and remain a hot topic of debate around the town.

The fact the project is still under way during the height of the tourist season remains a matter for considerable disappointment. And West Highland Yachting Week is imminent.

The works which have been finished have made a material difference to the cosmetic face of Oban and have delivered substantial improvements.

Argyll and Bute Council, in its own defence, says the decision was taken to add extra elements as the disruption was already in place and it wanted to complete the job. That is a valid point and we can only hope the project concludes as soon as possible.



Days gone by – Bowmore School

This week's flashback photo was submitted by Sarah Macaffer of Kilbarchan, Johnstone, and features pupils of Bowmore School, Islay, in days gone by. Back: Duncan Grey; Hughie Henderson; Neil McIntyre; Neil McNiven; Lachie McIntyre; Douglas Bruce; Robert McEachern and Donnie McDougall. Middle: Duncan MacKay; Nettie McIntyre; Sarah McKerrill; Cathie McPherson; Cath Livingston; Mary MacIndeor; Margaret Shand and Donald Shaw. Front: Elsie Mitchell; Ruby Campbell; Margaret Shand; MacLellan. Digital versions of flashback photos for *The Oban Times* can be sent to editor@obantimes.co.uk or prints sent to The Editor, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB. Anyone who wishes a print returned should include a stamped-addressed envelope.

Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON
robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk

New book documents Gaelic friendship

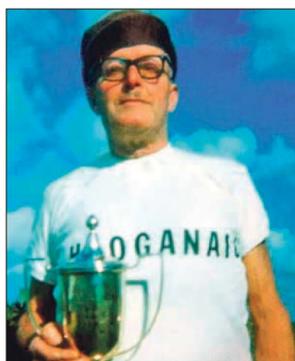
THIS Friday, July 29, Ceòl 's Craic will present a new project as part of Fèis Bhaile nam Marsantach – the Merchant City Festival.

Le Màirn, With Affection, a book by Catriona Murray documenting the friendship of poet Murdo Macfarlane, Bàrd Mhealboist, and Margaret McLeod of famous Gaelic band Na h-Òganaich, will be launched alongside an art exhibition and an anthology of photographs connected to the book.

This special friendship and creative relationship had a massive effect on Gaelic music and many people, myself included, consider Na h-Òganaich a vital catalyst to the wonderful progression Gaelic music has seen through recent generations until the present day – both at home and on the world stage.

From 6pm until 7pm there will be music and drinks followed by a short speech and the launch of the book and exhibition.

At 7pm, a question and answer session will begin with Margaret MacLeod from Na h-Òganaich, the author Catriona Murray and the artists commissioned to create artwork



Murdo Macfarlane, whose creative friendship with Na h-Òganaich's Margaret MacLeod is documented in a new book.

inspired by the songs featured in the publication.

The evening will close at 8pm with a song from Mairead. The event will take place in Briggait, 141 Bridgegate, Glasgow. More information is available on the Ceòl 's Craic website www.ceolsraic.org.

West Coast World Cup

WHEN thinking of big sporting events this summer, one's mind might turn to Portugal's historic victory at

Euro 2016, Andy Murray's second Wimbledon triumph or the forthcoming Olympics in Rio.

From what I hear, however, the greatest sporting extravaganza of this season took place recently in Scotland. It was the West Coast World Cup five-a-side football tournament, featuring teams from Islay, Lewis, Uist and the Rest of the West battling not only each other but also age and injury.

After a stunning festival of football, Uist and Lewis made it through to an all Outer Hebridean final.

The match had everything, except good defending, and finished 11-11 as Lewis came back from three down to level the match with virtually the last kick. Even the first round of penalties could not separate the teams – with Uist eventually victorious after sudden-death.

While fiercely competitive, the competition was played in the right spirit. And speaking of spirits, as soon as the final whistle blew, the players turned their attention to their own safety, and (in particular) the need to avoid dehydration after physical exercise and made haste to the famous Snaffle Bit in Finnieston to rehydrate with immediate effect. And who can blame them? Thanks to Donald 'Maroot' MacLeod for regaling me with tales of this shining example of the beautiful game in his usual humorous fashion.



Social media

There was anger at the news 11 clinical staff posts at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, are to go as part of a cost-cutting measure.

Gillian Munro fumed: 'At a hospital that is currently short-staffed? Ridiculous! The doctors, nurses and health care assistants are under enough pressure as it is!'

Danni Hay praised the hospital: 'I was in Lorn and Isles as a patient two weeks ago and the staff are brilliant. But they were running around everywhere because they were one nurse down on that shift. To lose more is just putting

too much on them. I really feel for the nurses who have to carry the load of these cuts. There are other ways to cut costs that don't threaten lives.'

Laura Wathey wrote: 'You can be sure that the pen pushing, suit-wearing big chiefs won't be getting a cut in their wages. At the very least, this is absolutely disgusting, it really is.'

Donald Morris said: 'But don't worry we have nuclear weapons. Really useful when you are ill.'

Carolyn Seggie: Oh yeah! Spending all that money on Trident when it would be better spent on NHS!
Willie Reid blasted: 'Crazy! I think

also that we can find a better use for £31bn when the biggest threat to us is a misguided fool wearing a suicide vest, or more recently, driving a truck.'

Sarah Johnson posted: 'Personally for me, a nurse, the issue isn't so much money that is spent elsewhere out with the NHS. But more what money we waste inside it.'

'There are too many layers of management who get paid ridiculous amounts of money for doing not very much.'

'These positions are never cut. When it's a case of having to make cuts it's always front line staff.'

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines.

We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

Untried alternative is dangerous and risky

Sir,
I was interested to read *The Oban Times*' reports on July 7 and 14 regarding the proposed community interest buyout of Rio Tinto's Lochaber Estate.

If the group which is putting together a bid maintains it has no interest in the smelter, why does it suggest in its press releases and presentations that by voting for the buyout the 150 jobs at stake may somehow be saved?

Rio Tinto's large estate, encompassing the town of Fort William and many surrounding villages, is not Eigg, Knoydart or any other isolated community on the edge and in single ownership.

Lying at its heart is an already vibrant commercial centre enjoying stable economic links with the UK and beyond. It should not be played around with by a few individuals to help one particular political party achieve its target of getting a million acres of land into community ownership.

This is not a game. Anyone considering signing up to this scheme, especially in the business community, should think carefully before doing so because if this bid wins, Fort William could well be dragged back into the past century with the loss of a great many more jobs.

The Highland Council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise are responsible for promoting the best interests of everyone who lives and works in Lochaber.

They should be left alone to get on with the task. Opting for an untried alternative in the current financial climate is dangerous and no less risky than leaving the EU – and we all know the uncertainty that Brexit has brought about.

Iain Thorber, Morvern.

Spread hospital cuts over all areas

Sir,
I was shocked to read in *The Oban Times* last week that the powers-that-be are cutting 11 clinical posts and eight beds at Lorn and Islands Hospital in Oban.

Why must this area take the brunt of these cuts? If cuts must be made in hospitals, I would like to see fairness to all areas.

Currently people who live on the islands are already making a trek just to get to Lorn and Islands Hospital and recently have had to make more journeys to hospitals in Glasgow. The cuts will just make it worse.

The Vale of Leven Hospital in Alexandria, one which many of us went to, is also being downgraded, particularly its maternity unit. Now we must travel further and go right into Glasgow to get to a hospital.

Fort William's hospital, similar in size to Oban and serving an area the same size, is better staffed and equipped. What makes it really unfair is that if you live there and need a bigger hospital, your journey to Inverness is only 90 minutes. Our

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
ailean@obantimes.co.uk

AIR AIS aig an t-seann dachaigh san Eilean Sgitheanach air an t-seachdain seo chaidh, bha mi a' beachdachadh a-rithist air tearainteachd na h-obrach a dh'fhàg ginealaichean a chaidh romhainn.

Tha an taigh againn fhìn na dheagh eisimpleir. Cho fad 's is aithne dhomh chaidh a thogail le fear Alasdair MacIIEathain, neo mac Choinnich Ruaidh mar a b' eolaiche daoine air, agus saoilidh mi gur ann às dèidh a' Chogaidh Mhòir a rinn e sin.

Cha robh ann ach togalach beag an toiseach le dà sheòmar ach a rèir sgeulachd a bhiodh m' athair ag innse, bha e na annas mòr anns a' bhaile gun do chuir Alasdair doras ann an cùl an taighe cho math ri doras-aghaidh.

Nuair a dh'fhaighnich nàbaidh carson a rinn e sin, tha e coltach gun robh freagairt gu math sgiobalta aig Alasdair: 'Nuair a nochdas fear nam fiach aig an doras-aghaidh, bidh mac Choinnich Ruaidh a-mach an doras-cùil!'

Mar a tha fìor ann an sgìrean feadh na Gàidhealtachd an-diugh, tha

journey to Glasgow is three hours, assuming no hold-ups. And journeys are even longer for islanders. Argyll needs a good hospital to stop the population decreasing. The area attracts tourists, especially in the summer, which puts more pressure on hospitals.

I often see appreciative letters from grateful visitors who have had to use the Oban hospital. They would not be so happy or grateful if they had to go to Glasgow for simple procedures.

Sarah Swain-Nisbet, Oban.

Bicentenary of modern Highland Games

Sir,
Your July 7 report on this year's Glengarry Highland Games states they have 'history going back to the events held by the 15th chieftain of the Clan MacDonnell in the late 18th and early 19th century'.

In fact, this year marks the bicentenary of modern, organised, annually-repeated Highland Games, the world's first instance of which was held in Glengarry on Saturday September 14, 1816.

As reported at the time, that day's events began at 10am with the firing of cannon at Invergarry, followed by a march down on 'Straidan', the field of sports, where tents had been previously pitched and 'the martial toned bagpipe announced the opening of each game'.

The competitions included 'sharp shooting', a foot race over 'nearly five miles', 'lifting of the stone', then, after 'a feast consisting chiefly of beef, mutton, venison, broth and haggis, there followed 'putting the stone' and 'heaving the sledge hammer'.

Other competitions, such as 'wrestling, pulling the stick, tossing the bar of iron, pitching the cabber and several others' had to be omitted because of the 'shortness of a most joyous and harmonious day'.

Alasdair Ranaldson Macdonell of Glengarry, 1773 to 1828, the prime promoter of the games, continued them annually in Glengarry until transferring them to Inverness in 1822. News of their popularity having spread, they were copied in Perthshire in and after 1820 and later in Aberdeenshire and widely elsewhere.

The present-day popularity of Highland Games virtually worldwide should surely, for Scotland's sake, justify celebrating their exact bicentenary on September 14, 2016, a mere two months ahead.

George Dixon, Ronald Place, Stirling.

Not bad going for a 'silly little party'

Sir,
For years we have been told that UKIP is a 'silly little party' without power or influence and why would anyone support it?



Ailean Caimbeul

mòran thaighean ùra air nochdadh ann an Caileabost cuideachd, agus chuir e smaointinn shònraichte orm a bhith a' faicinn bàthaich mo sheanar ga deasachadh airson làrach taighe eile. Sin far an robh dachaigh mo shinn-seanar Alasdair Dhòmhnail chun an deach an taigh geal ùr aige a thogail còrr air naoch bliadhna air ais.

Tha e duilich gun bheil an taigh is am fearann sin air a dhol a-mach às an teaghlach a-nise agus an eachdraidh a bha nan cois an impis a call.

Nuair a bha e ann an sunnd bhiodh mo sheanair a' buain mhònach air a' mhonadh os cionn an taighe, a' dreachadh a' Chadha suas aghaidh a' bhearraidh gach dàrna latha le cliabh gun a toirt dhachaigh.

Bha na puill-mhònach aige air iomall Loch Buaille an Dùin, fo sgàile Dhùn Chaileaboist.

Aig aon àm tha e coltach gun robh an loch meadhanach mòr agus gur ann an sin a bhiodh mnathan a' bhaile a' dèanamh nigheadaireachd aodach-leapa, ach chaidh an t-uisge a thràghadh an ìre mhath is eagal air

Having now caused several major political figures to resign, including the former Prime Minister David Cameron, it has led to the major political earthquake long promised by Nigel Farage. With the Labour Party torn apart; political panic across the EU with many other countries demanding their own referendums to leave the EU; a reawakening of interests in, and by, the Commonwealth; proposed trade deals the like of which we have never known in the past near 50 years, a general feeling of euphoria in the country as we see, at last, the end of the nightmare which is the EU and much more, we can reflect that, for a silly little party with just one MP, it punches well above its weight.

What it is not responsible for are the terrible events in Nice and elsewhere in Europe, the upsets in Turkey, the upsurge in racial attacks in the UK, a travel company which was not part of ABTA going bankrupt and all the other false accusations the desperate remainers who refuse to accept the democratic voice of the people are throwing at it. In the past I have likened UKIP to Cassandra, the Greek prophetess destined always to warn of danger but never to be believed until the trouble arrived. These terrorist attacks are just one more example. By blaming UKIP and Brexit for all the troubles in the world, people are blaming the messenger, not the cause.

Philipp A Anderson, Fortrose.

Move forward now ties are broken

Sir,
I would like to write in support of Donald Morrison's letter of last week headlined 'Faith will bring an end to confusion'.

I have also been reading Psalm 33 recently and 'Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord'. If only we would do that, and especially now that we have at last broken with those supposed alliances that in fact only entangled us with regulations and laws not of our own making.

Rev Bob Shepton, Appin.

Generous customers thanked for support

Sir,
On behalf of the board and staff of Lochaber Women's Aid, I would like to say a big thank you to the customers of Morrisons, Fort William, for their generosity at our bag packing.

Thanks to the generous customers we raised £707. The money will go towards our hardship fund and activities programmes. Please accept our sincere thanks on behalf of the families who will benefit from the kind support of Lochaber residents and visitors.

Deirdre Coull, Lochaber Women's Aid.



Ailean Caimbeul

muintir a' bhaile mun chunnart dha clann agus ainmhidhean a bh' air an tarraigh thuite.

A rèir beachd eòlaichean, tha faisg air dà mhìle gu leth bliadhna bho chaidh an Dùn a thogail is tha cnap math dhith an siud fhathast. Bha sinne riamh den beachd gur e iònan-adan-tèarmainn a bh' anns na Dùn ach tha àrc-eòlaichean a-nise a' cur teagamh an sin, ach tha iad ag aideachadh nach eil fiosrachadh gu leòr aca airson cùisean a dhearbhadh.

'S dòcha gun tig leasachadh air an t-suidheachadh sin is fàilte ga chur air plana gun rannsachadh arceòlach a dhèanamh aig Dùn Chaileaboist thar chòig bliadhna romhainn.

SOME questions on the function of Scotland's ancient brochs could be answered if a four-year community archaeological project proposed for Skye's Dun Colbost can be realised.

At a public meeting last Friday Glendale Trust was given unanimous support to take the project forward.

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

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WE AT The Oban Times endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@obantimes.co.uk; telephoning the editor on 01631 568046; writing to the Editor at The Oban Times,

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We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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.



Mairi Hunter, left, presents the trophy to Nan MacLachlan for best cross breed sheep. All photographs by Ricky Clark, show secretary.

Sun shines for west Ardnamurchan show and sports day

ELLIE FORBES
eforb@obantimes.co.uk

THE SUN shone on Kilchoan on Friday July 22, making it the perfect venue for this year's West Ardnamurchan show and sports.

The show field was busy from the outset, with the sheep judging getting under way early. Entries were up on previous years, with some people showing their sheep for the first time.

Judge Iain MacKay from Mull awarded best in the show to Hughie MacLachlan's blackface sheep.

Iain said: 'Overall the quality and presentation of the sheep has been very good, so deciding on the best was not an easy task.'

'We have had a great day in Kilchoan. This is such a friendly show, I hope they ask us back.'

There were also more entries than usual in the baking, craft, gardening and children's competitions, which were judged by Penny Horner and Sine Ferguson.

They said their particular highlights were the iced carrot cakes, the vegetable baskets and the items children had made with shells and seaweed they had found on the beach.

For the first time this year, the show included a display of Highland dancing by Connie MacLennan, as well as piping by members

of Tobermory High School Pipe Band. There was plenty to keep everyone entertained throughout the day with children's amusements, stalls and a barbecue.

One Dutch visitor said: 'This has been a special day, in a special place. I guess this must be what Highland hospitality is all about.'

A visitor from Mull said: 'I don't know how they do it over here in Kilchoan, but the sun always seems to shine on their show.'

In the afternoon there were the children's races, the hill race and the heavy events.

Show regular James Campbell of Mull took the overall title in the adult heavy events for the eighth year running.

The day ended with a pet parade, tug-of-war and the prize-giving.

This year the show committee's former secretary, Mairi Hunter, did the honours at the ceremony.

There was also a family ceilidh in the evening, featuring Ceol an Aire.

Rosie Curtis, show committee chairwoman, said: 'The committee did a fantastic job, as usual, and I want to say thank you to them as well as to our sponsors Marine Harvest, Agrimony Consulting, Watson's Seeds, Harbro and all the other local businesses and individuals who donated prizes. It's everyone working together that makes our annual show such a success.'

France honours D-Day hero with legion medal

A RESIDENT of Abbeyfield Ballachulish has been honoured for his role as a flying officer in the RAF in the Normandy landings on D-Day during the Second World War.

Alexander MacLachlan, 95, received a Legion D'Honneur medal from Emmanuel Cocher, the Consul General for France in Scotland, on Friday July 22 at Abbeyfield.

This is one of the highest honours the French government can present and gives Mr MacLachlan the title of Chevalier or Knight of the Legion d'Honneur.

Mark McCann, for whom Mr MacLachlan worked as a collector salesman, visits Abbeyfield regularly and was there to see Mr MacLachlan receive his medal.

He said: 'He stuck to me like glue when he was getting the medal.'

'He was a bit overawed and didn't really know what was going on but it was good for him.'

Members of the British Legion of Lochaber were among the guests present at the celebration, along with Abbeyfield

staff and residents and local councillor Thomas MacLennan. Bruce James, who is a member of the Lochaber branch of the British Legion, made the application for Mr MacLachlan to be honoured as all surviving veterans involved in the D-Day landings and the liberation of France are now entitled to be.

Mr McCann added: 'In his speech he presented the medal, Mr Cocher apologised for the delay in giving these medals to the veterans. After all, D-Day was back in 1944.'



Members of the British Legion of Lochaber and guests with Alexander MacLachlan. Inset: Emmanuel Cocher, Consul General of France in Scotland, presents Alexander with his Legion d'Honneur medal. Photographs by Anthony MacMillan.

Entries sought for camera club show

ORGANISERS of an annual photo exhibition are appealing for entries.

The Great Glen Camera Club will hold its sixth show from Monday August 1 to Saturday August 13 at the Memorial Hall, Canalside, Fort Augustus.

Deirdre MacKinnon said: 'The exhibition is free to enter, we want you to enjoy it.'

'Donations are gratefully accepted and will go towards hosting next year's exhibition.'

The show will be open between 11am and 6pm each day.

Find out more by e-mailing gccc@greatglencameraclub.co.uk or visiting www.greatglencameraclub.co.uk

Bodach

In this series, The Oban Times' resident Bodach (Gaelic: old man and, by experience, often a storyteller) looks through archive material for articles and pictures that preserve moments from the past. There is always a back story – and sometimes a future one.



Get in touch with your stories at bodach@obantimes.co.uk

NEWS NEWS NEWS

I KNOW I am not the only person of a certain vintage that has noticed the decline in the quality and tenor of the television news. Richard Baker was a newsreader on BBC television news from 1954 to 1982. He read the news with a dependably serious demeanour when televised bulletins were at tea-time and bed-time and functioned as no-frills actualities briefings. His contemporaries were Robert Dougall and Kenneth Kendall, also serious men who read headlines, provided a little more in-depth coverage, then politely bid viewers a good evening after 25 minutes on air. That was the format for the years of my childhood: hard news, total professionalism without any hint of frivolity. If people wanted news in the mornings, they listened to the radio.

Their emotionless news delivery did not prevent them from having a laugh, but that did not happen during the day job. Richard Baker made cameo appearances in three episodes of *Monty Python's Flying Circus* and the 1977 *Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show*. He also narrated the children's programmes *Mary, Mungo and Midge* and *Teddy Edward*. He died in 2007. Kenneth Kendall was also capable of sending himself up, appearing in episodes of *Adam Adamant* and *Doctor Who*, as well as Stanley Kubrick's seminal science fiction epic *2001: A Space Odyssey*. He died in 2012. Robert Dougall was the first person to present the *BBC Nine O'Clock News*. He retired from the newsroom in 1973, but appeared as himself in episodes of comedy programmes *The Goodies* and *Yes, Minister*. He voiced a news announcement in the James Bond film *Thunderball*. He died in 1999.

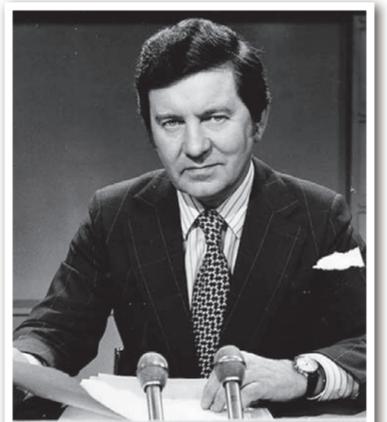
Nowadays morning television news broadcasts have more in common with entertainment. Apart from the sombre etiquette appropriate for bad news, today's presenters are pathologically cheerful and the studio sets look like the worst excesses of 1970s interior design. Bright colours on coffee tables and sofas assault viewers for what seems like hours, punctuated

with repeated headlines and human interest stories and guest appearances. Trivia and irrelevance are now daily broadcasting experiences, introduced by television production teams intent on celebrating show business.

These latter elements in particular demonstrate that even the serious business of news broadcasting has bowed to celebrity culture. It is not uncommon for singers, songwriters, actors and writers to appear as guests to promote their latest single, show, film or book; and often they offer their opinions on just about anything. This is not news. The opinions of celebrities matter no more than anyone else's, but some people are more influenced by the views of the famous than those of experts.

Modern news broadcasts also seem to require a great many more people. The need for editors and correspondents to report from far-flung places or in their area of expertise is understood, but there are now usually two main presenters who share the headline stories when they are not joking around. Periodically they cue two or three others in the studio who report on other matters, over and above any foreign correspondents linked from a trouble-spot by satellite. And that does not include weather forecasts, which have become ever more elaborate and ever more accurate over the years. Sometimes, you even get to see your town named on the map.

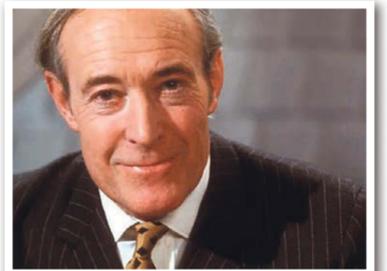
The format used by the BBC now is a half-hour of international and national headlines followed by regional news programmes (or national news if you live in Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales). It is tried and tested, but it would be interesting to test the impact of doing it the other way around. Whether you need to know about global or local events first will depend on who and where you are. In any case – and despite my enthusiasm for news in a news programme – I am very occasionally interested in and heartened by stories of human or animal endeavour, even at seven o'clock in the morning.



RICHARD BAKER



KENNETH KENDALL



Richard Baker, Kenneth Kendall and Robert Dougall were all serious newsreaders whose demeanour disguised a much lighter side and sense of humour, as evidenced by their cameo appearances elsewhere.

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Hot, hot, hot for Inveraray Games spectacular



Veteran heavy athlete Stephen King from Inveraray gives it his all putting the heavy stone for distance Inveraray Highland Games.
Picture Kevin McGlynn

UNDER a sweltering sun, Inveraray Highland Games once again proved that it is one of the best events on the circuit – and a jewel in the crown of Argyll.

A day of top-notch competition at Winterton Park climaxed with Scott Rider once again winning the World Caber Championship, but for organisers and the community this was a day tinged with poignancy.

Alasdair Chrystal, convener of the games for 10 years and a staunch supporter for many more before that, passed away in January. In a special tribute all competitions came to a halt at 3pm and the ground fell silent,

before Pipe Major Stuart Liddell, with some of Alasdair's family present, played a lament in his memory. A memorial plaque has also been placed overlooking the Winterton beside an earlier memorial to another great supporter of the games, Robert Stewart, who died in 2011.

This was a games that Alasdair Chrystal and Robert Stewart would have been proud of.

Just as the forecasters predicted, the heat built through the day, attracting an estimated 4,000 people to the games to enjoy a spectacle of Highland dancing, piping, heavy events and much more.

In front of the large and enthusiastic crowd, Scott Rider from Dartford in Kent won the George Hotel-sponsored World Caber Championship, a feat he also achieved in 2013 and 2014 before sharing last year's crown with

another previous winner, Poland's Sebastian Wenta.

This time around it was a rival from the USA who pushed him all the way, when it all came down to a final round between Scott Rider and Louisiana's Matt Vincent.

After securing his fourth title in a row, Scott said: 'I'm just delighted to come through a tough competition and win again. A lot of the top guys were here, including Sebastian and Matt, so it was hard. We came through three throw-offs, and I was just pleased to have managed three 12 o'clock throws in a row. The conditions out there, though, were ideal. In the end, it just came down to accuracy.'

There was consolation for Matt in another of the heavy events, however, as he threw a new games record distance in the 28lb weight com-

Scott Rider caber champion from Kent celebrates with the ground staff after winning the gold medal for World Caber Championship.
Picture Kevin McGlynn



With honorary vice-president Niall Iain MacLean looking on, games president, the Duke of Argyll and eldest son Lord Archie prepare to accept the salute from Pipe Major Stuart Liddell.



Highland dancers from Argyll with their trophy haul. Picture Kevin McGlynn



To mark more than 40 years of attending Inveraray Games to sell his ice-cream, the Duke of Argyll presents a bottle of whisky to Wilson Asher, from Stirling. 06_a30Invgames01



Piping Steward James Beaton, Inveraray tries to avoid the heat looking for competitors in the junior piping section.
Picture Kevin McGlynn

A bittersweet, light romantic comedy of love and loss set in the projection booth of a Glasgow cinema, during the Second World War

MOVIE TIME Mull & Argyll Tour!

- 15 July - Mull Theatre 7.30pm, Tickets 01688 302211/comar.co.uk
- 19 July - Tarbert Village Hall 7.30pm, 01880 820310/comar.co.uk
- 20 July - Carradale Village Hall 8pm, Tickets 01688 302211/comar.co.uk
- 21 July - Gigha Village Hall 8pm, Tickets 01688 302211/comar.co.uk
- 23 July - Scalasaig Village Hall 7.30pm, 01688 302211/comar.co.uk
- 26 July - Ballachulish Village Hall 7.30pm, 01688 302211/comar.co.uk
- 27 July - North Connel Hall 7.30pm, 01688 302211/comar.co.uk
- 28 July - Iona Hall 8pm, Tickets 01688 302211/comar.co.uk
- 29 July - Mull Theatre 7.30pm, 01688 302211/comar.co.uk

01688 302211/COMAR.CO.UK

Dolphins, music, pontoons and fine people - Chapter two

From Lochboisdale's harbour we left the next morning by minibus heading North through the Uists to Bernera, by ferry to Harris and then onwards to Stornoway.

Of all the festivals we have played at, Hebcelt is consistently the most stress free. Invariably when a band arrives at most festivals, the accommodation booking has been confused, the sound-check time has been changed, the tech team have mislaid the stage plan and channel list and the booking for food is ten minutes before you have to go on stage! Not so with Hebcelt where Caroline MacLennan and her superb team make the whole experience feel like an impeccably well-organised holiday, during which you play a few tunes to amazing audiences!

Highlights of our two gigs there were having Cathy Ann MacPhee and the Runrig boys in the audience. We left Stornoway early on Sunday morning and back-tracked our way down the Outer Hebridean archipel-

ago to Lochboisdale, Karlson (whom Ali had christened Tormod (MacLean) with reference to his great sense of humour) and his wife were still there as they had been weather bound for the weekend and they welcomed us back with enthusiasm expecting another party to commence, but it was off to TMF for us! We left the pontoons to the sound of Kyle and Ali on the bow playing the Tormod MacLean tune 'My Land' on the pipes.

Although the wind was down, there was still a fair amount

of residual surface motion and a ground swell from the previous days of bad weather, so it was no surprise that some green faces materialised! Norrie's commitment to his profession was impressively shown by the fact that in order to avoid being sick (which would have knackered his voice for the gig) he spent most of the voyage outside being soaked by the relentless beam sea! For anyone who is ever smug about not being seasick it is good to impart, as my father often did, that the only animals never to become seasick are pigs!

After an evening of recovery and some rehearsal with our bass player, we were ready to go on-stage to finish off TMF 2016. This is a similarly well-organised event and a firm favourite. The weather had been awful all weekend causing some campers to leave on the Sunday ferry, and the hardy "remainers" possibly tired, cold, wet and not as lively as they might be. It was also the first TMF performance with the new line-up, half of whom had hours before been giving culinary treats to the fish of the Southern Minch. So, we were rightfully nervous going on stage! We needn't have worried, as the audience were one of the best audiences we have ever experienced. They sang, clapped and screamed from start to finish and left us with a feeling of elation and relief when we walked off stage. Yet another TMF was finished and on the Monday, we celebrated with large amounts of tea and scones!:-)

THE OBAN TIMES GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

- Across**
- 1 Set a time and place to meet (4)
 - 3 Arrange near each other (5-3)
 - 9 Warm wear for water (3,4)
 - 10 Choker (5)
 - 11 A little impetuous with firing (7-5)
 - 14 Anguish (3)
 - 16 Bristle-like plumes on grass (5)
 - 17 More than one (3)
 - 18 Generous (12)
 - 21 Ado (3-2)
 - 22 Small shield (7)
 - 23 Rich beverage (5,3)
 - 24 Impose, as a tax (4)
- Down**
- 1 Business area (8)
 - 2 All together (5)
 - 4 Auction piece (3)
 - 5 Unnecessary fuss (4,3,5)
 - 6 Throwing event (4,3)
 - 7 Old you (4)
 - 8 Alerter (7,5)
 - 12 Type of farm (5)
 - 13 Thick fabric (8)
 - 15 For rings? (7)
 - 19 A diacritical mark (5)
 - 20 Stylish (4)
 - 22 Buzzer (3)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



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Friday 29th July – Thursday 4th August

GHOSTBUSTERS (2016) | 12A | 136 MIN

Fri, Sun, Mon, Wed Thurs: 7.30pm. Tues & Sat: 9pm

PARENT & BABY - GHOSTBUSTERS (2016)

Parent & Baby Screening! Lights will be left on at a dimmed level and baby changing available.

Tues: 11.30am

30 years after Ghostbusters took the world by storm, the beloved franchise makes its long-awaited return. Director Paul Feig brings his fresh take to the supernatural comedy, joined by some of the funniest actors working today.

ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE | U | 120 MIN

Fri, Mon, Wed, Thurs: 12.30pm, Sun: 5pm, Tues: 2pm. Not showing Sat.

Scrat's epic pursuit of the elusive acorn catapults him into the universe where he accidentally sets off a series of cosmic events that transform and threaten the Ice Age World. To save themselves, Sid, Manny, Diego, and the rest of the herd must leave their home and embark on a quest full of comedy and adventure, traveling to exotic new lands and encountering a host of colorful new characters.

KIDS CLUB: HOOK | U | 142 MIN

Sat: 11am

Children's Classic: When Captain Hook kidnaps his children, an adult Peter Pan must return to Neverland and reclaim his youthful spirit in order to challenge his old enemy.

SILVER SCREENING - CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE |

12A | 127 MIN

Sun: 2.35pm

Silver Screening - 'Last Chance to See' - Concessions (age 60+) entry just £2.50! Tea and cake £1.50 Dwayne Johnson and Kevin Hart star in the action comedy Central Intelligence, for New Line Cinema and Universal Pictures. The story follows a one-time bullied geek who grew up to be a lethal CIA agent (Johnson), coming home for his high-school reunion. Claiming to be on a top-secret case, he enlists the help of the former "big man on campus" (Hart), now an accountant who misses his glory days. But before the staid numbers-cruncher realizes what he's getting into, it's too late to get out, as his increasingly unpredictable new friend drags him through a world of shoot-outs, double-crosses and espionage that could get them both killed in more ways than he can do.

THE BFG | PG | 137 MIN

Fri: 12.30pm & 5.30pm (3pm and 8pm 3D), Sat: 11.30am & 4.30pm (2pm & 7pm 3D), Sun: 2.30pm & 5pm (12pm & 5pm 3D), Mon: 12.30pm & 5.30pm (3pm and 8pm 3D), Tues 1pm & 6pm (3.30pm & 8.30pm 3D), Wed 4pm (1.30pm & 6.30pm 3D), Thurs 1pm and 6pm (3.30pm & 8.30pm 3D)

A girl named Sophie encounters the Big Friendly Giant who, despite his intimidating appearance, turns out to be a kindhearted soul who is considered an outcast by the other giants because unlike his peers refuses to eat boys and girls. Based on the novel by Roald Dahl. Film directed by Steven Spielberg Stars Mark Rylance, Rebecca Hall, Bill Hader

THE LEGEND OF TARZAN | 12A | 130 MIN

Fri, Mon, Wed, Thurs: 5pm. Sat & Tues: 6.30pm. Not showing Sun.

Tarzan, having acclimated to life in London, is called back to his former home in the jungle to investigate the activities at a mining encampment.

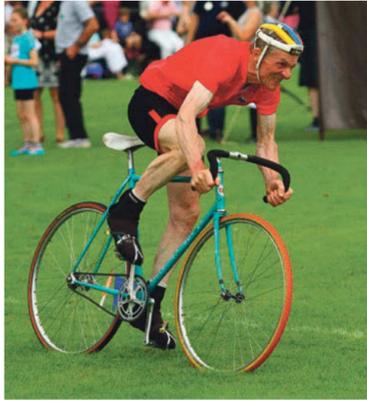
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS | U | 120 MIN

Fri, Mon, Wed, Thurs: 2.45pm. Sat & Tues: 4.15pm. Sun: 12.30pm

Taking place in a Manhattan apartment building, Max's life as a favorite pet is turned upside down, when his owner brings home a sloppy mongrel named Duke. They have to put their quarrels behind when they find out that an adorable white bunny named Snowball is building an army of abandoned pets determined to take revenge on all happy-owned pets and their owners.



The parade was one of the biggest in recent years, as the crowds flocked to Inveraray Games. 06_a30invgames11



The cycle race was hard going in the heat at Inveraray. Picture Kevin McGlynn

petition – extending the eight-year-old record of 76 feet, four inches by six inches.

Alasdair Chrystal's memory was further commemorated as his family presented the inaugural Alasdair Chrystal Memorial Trophy to best open piper, Connor Jardine from Airdrie.

Winner of the Leslie Craig kiltpin for Grade A senior piobaireachd was Glasgow's Finlay Johnston.

As the shadows lengthened on another successful games day, event secretary Margaret Mather said: "The weather has been amazingly

superb for us today and drew large crowds. We want to thank everyone who came along today and all our sponsors and supporters.

"Alasdair would have been so proud of the way things have gone today."

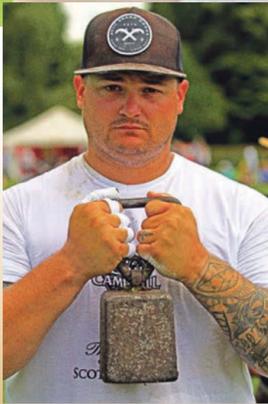
Below: The games committee stand in silence as piper Stuart Liddell plays the slow air Hills of Argyll in memory of games convener Alasdair Chrystal.

Picture Kevin McGlynn



Connor Jardine from Cairn Hill with the Alasdair Chrystal trophy for piping presented in memory of her father by Julie Hodgson.

Picture Kevin McGlynn



Matt Vincent from Louisiana who broke the ground record for the 28lb weight for distance. The record was 76ft 4inches, Matt threw 76ft 10 inches.

Picture Kevin McGlynn



A delighted Scott Rider, winner of the World Caber Championship. Scott won the title in 2014 shared the title in 2015 with Sebastian Wenta from Poland and retained his title again this year. Scott was involved in a tussle with his good friend and fellow heavy athlete Matt Vincent from Louisiana.

Picture Kevin McGlynn

What's on at The Nevis Centre

Superbowl
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Arts and Crafts, Lunches and Refreshments
Admission includes entry to Castle and Museum
£6 Children £3
Families £15, under 5's Free

Oban U3A
Tuesday 2nd August 2016 at 10.30am
Studio Theatre and cafe area, Corran Halls, Oban
This is our monthly meeting. Do come for a cup of coffee/tea and a chat. If you are interested in joining, this is a good opportunity to meet some members and find out about the USA.

Nicky Spence (tenor) & Joseph Middleton (piano)
As You Like It - Shakespeare Songs
6.30 pm Thursday 4 August
Creat. Kilberry, by Tarbert
Advance tickets only: £20
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Soup, cakes & sandwiches will be served
School children free entry
Visit www.creat.co.uk for more information

AnComunn Gàidhealach
CRUACHAN BRANCH SUMMER CEILIDH
Thursday 28th July 7.30 p.m.
Taynuilt Village Hall
Admission £4, Members £3, Children (5-16 yrs) £2

Ardchattan Priory Fete
Sunday 31st July 12 - 4pm
Entry £4.00 adults, Free under 16s
Lunches & Teas, Children's Activities, Stalls and games and Live Music

WIN

TWO GIN CONNOISSEUR TOURS AT THE EDINBURGH GIN DISTILLERY AND THREE BOTTLES OF THEIR GIN

From the modern-day capital of the gin renaissance, Edinburgh Gin presents a distinguished family of premium Scottish gins. Their classic juniper-forward Original Gin, marine botanicals infused Seaside Gin and navy-strength Cannonball Gin form the core range of London Dry style gins. These are joined by three luscious gin liqueurs.

To celebrate the return of The Edinburgh Gin Garden to St Andrew Square, we're offering our readers a true taste of summer. One lucky winner will win a trio of the core range of gins, perfect for G&Ts and a range of refreshing cocktails.

The juniper experience doesn't stop there; this prize also includes a Gin Connoisseur Tour at their highly-rated Edinburgh Gin distillery in Edinburgh's West End. Experience the history of gin, followed by an unforgettable tutored tasting. What are you waiting for? Raise a glass to summer with Edinburgh Gin.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question: How many gins make up Edinburgh Gin's core range?

To enter, send your answer, name, address, telephone number and email address to Scottish Field Competitions, Wyvex Media, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh, EH5 2DL. Closing date is August 31, 2016. Entrants must be 18 or over. The prize includes one 70cl bottle each of Original Gin, Cannonball Gin, Seaside Gin and two tickets for the Edinburgh Gin Connoisseur Tour at their distillery at 1A Rutland Place, Edinburgh. Dates for the tour subject to availability. Employees of Wyvex Media, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Promoter reserves the right to request post publicity. Indicate if you do not wish to receive further information from promoter. Usual Wyvex Media rules apply. This competition is open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications.

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MONDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Monday Morning With Andy and Stephen, 1100 Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1700 Drivetime With Marcus, 1900 Rosie's Highland Fling, 2000 John McLuckie's Show, 2100 David Cullen

TUESDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 1000 Ken Hunter, 1200 Memories are Made of This with Ken Hunter, 1500 Lesley Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 1900 Sounds Scottish with Archie Cameron, 2000 Highest Praise with Stuart, 2100 Elaine Lamb, 2300 Northern Soul with Gordon Covey

WEDNESDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Sound Scottish (repeat), 1000 Comfort Zone with Doug Carmichael, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Elaine Lamb, 1700 Drivetime with Campbell, 1900 Country Meets Rock with Len & Ken, 2100 Gordon's Grooves

THURSDAY: 0800 Morning show, 1100 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Gordon Covey, 1700 Drivetime with Stephen, 1900 Christine's Collection, 2100 Ann's Ceilidh, 2200 Margo Till Midnight

FRIDAY: 0800 Jean Ainsley Breakfast Show, 1000 Teeny and Tiny Show, 1300 - 1500 Weekend Warmup with Ian Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 1845 Sports View, 1900 Country Meets Country with Jackie Craig, 2000 Friday Night with Innes, 2100 TFI Friday with Jim Lavin

SATURDAY: 0800 Breakfast Show, 1000 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Crosher, 1330 CLYDE 2, 1800 Sports View with the Dream Team, 1900 Marcus, 2000 Dave Lewis

SUNDAY: 0900 Sunday Morning with Breege, 1100 - 1400 Sunday Brunch, 1630 Archie Darling, 1800 Ken's Friends with Ken Hunter, 1900 New Country Show with David Entwistle, 2100 Drum & Bass with Graham Scott

Arena

> cinema, radio and what's on listings > leisure ideas > local events

Mull Highland Games

RECORDS were broken at this year's Mull Highland Games, which attracted competitors from all over the world.

Hundreds of spectators made their way to Erray Park, Tobermory, and witnessed Allan Hamilton of Edinburgh break two ground records, as well as two Scottish Highland Games records.

The 24-year-old cleared 50ft and one-inch to claim the triple jump record and jumped 24ft and six-and-a-half inches in the long jump and almost cleared the sand pit to break his second record of the day.

He said: 'I'm really happy. I love Mull. They always put on fantastic games. I have never heard anything bad about them.

'I was here last year and it was a bit wet, which was a pain, but this year has been really great, especially the crowd. It's really inviting.'

The games do a great job of catering to a high level of competition and making it fun for all the family.

People on the hill cheered as heavyweights from Canada and America joined competitors from all over the UK to compete against locals.

Kids of all ages got involved in the running events, as did visiting spectators.

Four rows of men lined up, following almost as many women, from all across the globe to compete in a one-lap race for a bottle of whiskey.



The committee and pipe band lead the parade. 17_t31mullhg01.



Angus MacColl competes in a piping. 17_tmullhg08.

From Oban to Castle Stalker, Tiree, over to Coll and on to Mull

MARK Beaumont's Wild About Argyll Adventure has begun. In the first three days, Mark has already covered a few hundred miles by bike and run a half a marathon, squeezing in cliff jumping, surf kayaking and multiple boats and planes.

The 12-day challenge, masterminded by Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative (AITC), sees Mark travel the length and breadth of the region and explore many of the adventure sports that the area has to offer.

Mark said: 'When I set out on this Wild About Argyll challenge on Sunday I knew it was going to be tough and varied, but underestimated the stunning landscapes and very warm welcome for everyone I have met. Already I've cycled a few hundred miles on superb routes in

north Argyll and Mull, overlooked by castles, forests and cliffs. I've taken on the Tiree surf by kayak and cliff-jumped into the Atlantic on Coll as well as run a half-marathon along perfect white sands. And, in true Scottish style, we have had a range of conditions, from the calm to the wild ... when it comes to adventure sport, it's been perfect.

'With over half the adventure still to do, get online and follow all the videos and updates. I hope we can inspire many more adventures in Argyll and the Isles.' Wild About Argyll can be followed online at ExploreArgyll.co.uk or on Twitter @MrMarkBeaumont.

The adventure officially started on Sunday (July 24) at Dalmally Station, where Mark was given a purple felt heart, by Liz Gaffney of Heartfelt by Liz. Mark

will carry this memento throughout the challenge. He then headed to Oban where he was met by AITC director Calum Ross. Then it was straight on with the challenge, cycling north on the Calcedonia Way, accompanied by Sustrans' Mike Dennison, and taking in some of the region's most stunning landscapes, including passing the iconic Castle Stalker. Then it was over to Lismore to do some exploring and then back to Oban, via Sutherland's Grove.

While Mark described day one of the challenge as 'a cracking first day to warm the legs up', day two certainly ramped up the adventure. An early morning start saw the team head to Oban Airport for the morning flight to Tiree, as the Tiree half-marathon course was calling. Becky from Tiree Fitness was Mark's guide on

the popular route, which has seen people from Slovakia and Brazil travel to the island just to compete.

From there, the team headed to Coll where Mark met up with friend and Coll resident Rob Wainwright, the former Scotland rugby star. The pair cycled the island from end to end before heading for some cliff diving and wild swimming.

Then it was off to meet Turus Mara who took Mark and the team back to base for day two, the island of Mull, where the adventure started again on Tuesday morning with the Mull sportive cycling route.

With another nine days to go and challenges ranging from fell running the Paps of Jura to rowing with Vikings still to come, Wild About Argyll is certainly living up to its name.



Maritime day sails to a resounding success

A JOINT mission in Mallaig was an 'all-round success'.

Mallaig Maritime Day took place last Saturday on the pier. Similar events have been the highlight of calendar in previous years but this is the first time the RNLI and the Fishermen's Mission have joined forces to host the festival.

Throughout the day the pier was transformed with a parade and games taking place and with stalls holding fresh fish, memorabilia, sweets and hot food.

Ross Carr, from Mallaig Harbour Authority, said: 'It is really just great to see a big deal being made of the event again. It was always something people looked forward to in Mallaig and it attracted lots of visitors.'

'For the boat race you would see some coming over from Skye as well. Then the events were stopped for a few years so I think it's great to have a joint event rather than two separate ones. It seems like a win-

ning formula, so hopefully they can build on this and continue with the tradition.'

The afternoon finished with the traditional boat race in which the captain from each vessel lodges a time they expect to complete the set course. The ship which returns in the time closest to the estimate is the winner.

Donald Ian McDonnell owns the Emma C, named after his eldest daughter. He invited family and friends aboard to enjoy the race and was accompanied by the pipe band to

keep everyone in good spirits. He said: 'I get involved because it's good for the area and it's a good day out for everyone. My family gets to spend time together on these days and the same with everyone else and that's what it's all about really.'

The father of two joked: 'We would have won the race if we didn't have to pull up to help the lifeboat. Emma was a bit upset about that but, no, it is just the taking part that counts and as long as everyone had a laugh then I'm happy.'



The afternoon events finished with the traditional boat race.



Abbie MacDonald, aged eight, chose a pretty butterfly for her face paint.



The pipe band helped keep the festivities going throughout the day.



Fun and Games at the Mallaig Maritime Day.



People dressed up as Jacobites were a part of the festivities.



A miniature steam engine was a popular attraction.



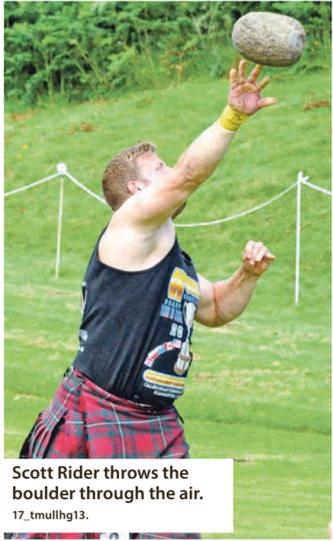
The Mallaig Boat Race was the highlight.



The lifeboat attracted attention.



Oban's Craig Nicholson puts everything into his throw. 17_tmullhg14.



Scott Rider throws the boulder through the air. 17_tmullhg13.



Matt Vincent from Louisiana, USA, who won the open caber competition. 17_tmullhg16.



Scott Rider, who successfully defended his title at the Inveraray games on Tuesday, came in second place in this year's caber toss. 17_tmullhg10.



Oban High School Pipe Band entertains the crowd. 17_tmullhg06.



Allan Hamilton, from Edinburgh, breaks his second Scottish record of the day, and almost his leg, when he jumped 24ft and six-and-a-half inches in the long jump and almost cleared the sand pit. 17_tmullhg05.



Danielle Evans-Lauder, five, from Oban, gets a glittery tattoo at the games last Thursday. 17_tmullhg09.



Alasdair McLean, 17, from Kilmartin, and Alexander Anderson, 16, from Tobermory, who both won piping competitions. 17_tmullhg07.

malt OF THE month

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Bruichladdich The Laddie Ten 46 ABV
Approximately £45

I had missed the ferry to Iona. In fact, it was cancelled because of inclement weather. I met a well-worn friend on the jetty and we made our way to a B&B in a borrowed car. I dug in my bag and found a bottle of Bruichladdich Laddie 10, made in Islay. It comes with a great reputation. The whisky lives up to its reputation. To me it has a taste-of-the-sea sweetness. I feel quite confident in drinking it. No bitter aftertaste – a story of the people and the whisky. It is smooth and full. There are some whiskies that can frighten me with their boldness or their reputation. Those ones we all know that have a seriousness about them. I imagine any malt made in the Hebrides will be a substantial drink. Islanders can hold a party. They need strong drink to get them through. But the Bruichladdich is a fine, fine product. In drinking it, the tales come easily and kindly. My companion and I talk of the Iona disco. For a resident population of less than 200, it was quite something that we held two discos a week. On a Tuesday, the Abbey ceilidh disco and a Friday, the islanders' disco. The islanders disco had the added ingredient of alcohol. This was, in those days, drunk surreptitiously in the back room, where only islanders were invited. In those days, people smoked inside the hall on a Friday. With no police on the island they still were pretty mild affairs. The dance was once in *New Musical Express* as a top venue in the UK. And it was – one minute you could be flung around the floor in a Gay Gordon and the next making a boat on the floor to James's *Sit Down*. It was a joy to remember. Bruichladdich does what whisky should do. It brings on a story. I ask my companion about his favourite whisky – Jura Superstition and Laphroaig. Maybe *Louise Glen* next time.

Summer dining



Award winning Highland and Island Hospitality at The Barn Bar

MARY MacLeod and her team welcome you to The Barn Bar in Lerags for hearty fare and fun. Three miles south of Oban, The Barn Bar offers Highland and Island hospitality and award-winning food and drink in a tranquil glen setting. Why not make the short drive out for lunch in the beer garden, or book a table for an evening meal? Housed in converted byre, The Barn Bar's ambience is authentic and comfy, whether having a meal with family

and friends, dining à deux or enjoying the craic and a dram with lively locals. Well-behaved dogs are welcome too – you can enjoy a walk together on the forest trails. The Barn Bar is a favourite of musicians, with regular sessions on many Sundays and live music on Wednesdays in the summer. As proud members of VisitScotland's Taste our Best quality award scheme, Mary offers a varied menu of pub

favourites and daily specials that feature the best of the west – local seafood, fish, game and meat. From Loch Creran oysters to Tainuill beef burgers to vegetable lasagne, there is something for every taste, whether you are a meat lover or a vegetarian. They offer real ales and an extensive malt whisky selection. Save room for Mary's famous sticky toffee pudding, or try a selection of Arran ice-creams.

The Barn is featured in discerning guidebooks such as CAMRA, Scotland's Best Kept Secrets, Scotland The Best, Good Pub Grub guide and the Good Beer Guide. Recent accolades include the 2014/15 Pub of the Year for north-west Scotland, CAMRA 2015 Scottish Pub of the Year and Taste our Best 2015 award. The Barn Bar – so much more than just a pub.

Dolce Vita

Breakfasts include everything from fruit bowls to porridge and full Scottish breakfasts using local produce.	Lunches from light bites soup and sandwiches, paninis to pizzas, burgers and salads.	Also ask about our speciality ice cream sundaes and milkshakes using Porrelli ice cream.
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New competitions entertain hundreds of visitors to Tiree Agricultural Show

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

FRIDAY'S Tiree Agricultural Show drew in 800 visitors and islanders on a 'blessed' dry and sunny day, after the Tiree Music Festival wash-out the weekend before.

The show, which started in 1877, took place at Tiree Rural Centre, Crossapol, on July 22. Rosemary Omand, treasurer of the organising Tiree Agricultural Society, said: 'We used to call it the busiest event in Tiree before Tiree Music Festival. I think it's busier than last year.'

This year saw many new competitions, including a scarecrow contest, won by Jarleth, Ailish and Katie-Jane MacKechnie of Heylipol, with Evan Omand winning second for his 'crofter and son'. Tiree Young Farmers Club organised a roll-a-bale competition, won by Sheena MacKinnon and Duncan MacLean, and there was a new contest called 'a pie, a pint and a sheep', where competitors 'eat a pie, drink a pint, and shear a sheep'.

Perhaps unsurprisingly it was won by Tiree sheep shearer Colin MacKinnon of Kilkenneth, since he was the only person to enter. 'Winning wasn't easy,' he joked after shearing five sheep, but he promised to reward himself with a pie and a pint afterwards. The Tiree Trust put on a hoopla game to celebrate the £1m raised over five years by community-owned wind turbine 'Tilly' at Ruaig Sliabh. The nearby stall tent was full of island enterprises, including paintings by 25-year-old animator Amanda Worsley from Cornaig, who is funding a career in character design. 'Tiree show is the best,' enthused Poppy Scotland volunteer Elspeth Gillies of Kenovay at the next table. 'It's a meeting place. There are visitors who come every year.' One such person is retired college lecturer Jane Syme, 76, who visits from Galloway to paint and sell watercolour and ink postcards. 'People are so kind,' she said. 'I would

never be lost in extremis. Tiree is so photogenic. I find the annual pilgrimage helps me pay for the sherry.' Music was provided by the Argyll Ceilidh Trail, a ceilidh band of young traditional musicians aged 16-19, who play throughout the Hebrides in summer, including the after-show dance in An Talla.

Ms Omand, on behalf of the committee, thanked all the sponsors for the prize money and raffle prizes, including a Tiree painting donated by Anine MacLean of Mannal, which raised £160 at auction for show funds. Archie Cameron also donated a shepherd's crook for auction, which was sold for £130 to the show's announcer Donald MacArthur, a crofter at Middleton. 'We usually get between 800 and 1,000, which is good for a small island,' Mr MacArthur said, adding via the microphone: 'The island is dependent on cattle and sheep. Agriculture and tourism are split 50:50 in terms of income. We would not have so many visitors if it were not for the agriculture, so thank you all for coming.'

A Suffolk ewe bred by Fraser MacLean of Heylipol Farm won supreme champion in the sheep section. A prime lamb, donated for auction by Heylipol Farm, raised £350 for cancer charity CLIC Sargent, with United Auctions paying for the slaughter and butchery.

Archie John MacLean of Heylipol's Charolais-cross bullock calf won supreme champion in the cattle class and the Champion of Champions in all livestock sections. The champion pet, a Border collie called Coll belonging to Claire Kennedy of Ruaig, came second. Coll celebrated his triumph by lunging at the nearby poultry champion, Rodney the Rhode Island Rooster, who squawked the collie back into place. Clutching the magnificent cockerel in the show ring, owner Rhoda Meek reflected on their day: 'I have never been so humiliated in all my life - and neither has Rodney.'



Bale pushing proved popular.



Nicole MacKinnon and Dougall.



A haul of cup winners.



Left: Pony riding a highlight of the show.



Right: Sheep judging.



Champions of champions stewards and judges.



Colin MacKinnon competes in the sheep shearing competition.



Claire Kennedy and Coll the collie.



Proud competitors Anya May, left, and Martha Campbell.

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MOST POINTS FOR CHILDREN 5 - 7 YEARS
ANYA WRIGHT, BALEMARTINE

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MOST POINTS FOR CHILDREN 8 - 11 YEARS
KATHLEEN MUNN, KENOVAY

THE MACDONALD MEMORIAL CUP
MOST POINTS FOR CHILDREN 12 - 16 YEARS
LEWIS McDOWALL, BALEPHETRISH

THE LADY PEGGY HOARE SALVER
BEST KNITTED ARTICLE AT SHOW
SHEILA NEILL, BALEVULLIN

TIREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY CUP
MOST POINTS IN HANDICRAFT SECTION
MONICA SMITH, CROSSAPOL

TIREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY CUP
MOST POINTS IN PRODUCE SECTION
JOSIE BROWN, CORNAIGBEG

THE RURAL CUP
MOST POINTS IN HOME INDUSTRIES AND PRODUCE SECTION
ALISON CAMPBELL, BALEPHETRISH

BRUTON CHALLENGE TROPHY
MOST POINTS IN HORTICULTURE SECTION
NEIL CONNOR, RUAIG

SPECIAL PRIZE MOST OUTSTANDING ITEM
IN PRODUCE SECTION
JOSIE BROWN, CORNAIGBEG - CUSTARD CREAMS

SPECIAL PRIZE BEST EXHIBIT
IN HANDICRAFT SECTION
SHEILA NEIL, BALEVULLIN - CHILD'S KNITTED NOVELTY JUMPER

SPECIAL PRIZE BEST EXHIBIT
IN HORTICULTURE SECTION
RHODA MEEK, CAOLÉS - 3 RED ONIONS

SPECIAL PRIZE MOST OUTSTANDING ITEM IN LOCAL CHILDREN'S SECTION

KATIE - JANE MACKECHNIE, HEYLIPOL
- SEAHORSE SHELL PICTURE

THE CHRISTINA MACLEAN CAMERON MEMORIAL
SALVER
MOST POINTS IN VISITOR'S SECTION
MARION MCMASTER, GIRVAN

TIREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRIZE
MOST POINTS VISITING CHILDREN - PRE SCHOOL
TEDDY BRYANT AND REUBEN MILBOURNE

TIREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRIZE
MOST POINTS VISITING CHILDREN 5 - 7 YEARS
RHYS CAMPBELL

TIREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRIZE
MOST POINTS VISITING CHILDREN 8 - 11 YEARS
JAMIE BROWN

TIREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRIZE
MOST POINTS VISITING CHILDREN 12 - 16 YEARS
STEPHANIE BRADLEY

SPECIAL PRIZE MOST OUTSTANDING ITEM
IN VISITOR'S SECTION
IAIN PIRIE'S PHOTOGRAPH - TIREE VIEW FROM YOUR WINDOW

SPECIAL PRIZE MOST OUTSTANDING ITEM
IN VISITING CHILDREN'S SECTION
JAMIE BROWN - SHELL HIGHLAND COW

PETS
MACDONALD LANGLEY QUAIH
BEST GOLDEN OLDIE DOG AT SHOW
LOUISE REID, CROSSAPOL - SKIPPY

HADLEY SHIELD
CHAMPION PET AT SHOW
CLAIRE KENNEDY, RUAIG, COLL

POULTRY
THE MAIN ROAD FARM CUP
POULTRY CHAMPION
RHODA MEEK, CAOLÉS

RIDING HORSES AND PONIES

THE CHRISTINA QUAIH
CHAMPION HORSE OR PONY AT SHOW
JAN PATERSON, BALINOE, TALLINA

TREE ON HORSE BACK SHIELD
BEST YOUNG HANDLER
JENNA MACARTHUR, LOCHSIDE

HEAVY HORSES
THE DONALD MACINTYRE CUP
BEST CLYDEDALE HORSE AT SHOW
- NO ENTRIES

TRACTORS
THE MACPHAIL SHIELD
CHAMPION TRACTOR AT SHOW
IAIN MACKINNON, KILMOLUAIG MF35

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OMAND MOTORS SHIELD
WINNER OF TOSSING THE SHEAF
GAVIN OMAND, RENFREW

CATTLE SECTION
NIGEL GUNNIS CUP
CHAMPION PUREBRED ANIMAL
ALASDAIR MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

CAMERON CALVES CUP
BEST SUCKLER COW
COLIN MACKINNON, KILKENNETH

DRUIMFHRAOICH CUP
CHAMPION BREEDING ANIMAL
A&I MACINNES, RUAIG

THE SOCIETY CUP
BEST BEEF BULLOCK
- NO ENTRIES

THE JOHN MACKINNON (BUILDERS) CUP

BEST BEEF HEIFER
ALASTAIR & IAIN MACINNES, RUAIG

BELGIAN BLUE SOCIETY CUP
BEST CROSSBRED BRITISH BLUE SIRE CALF
KIRSTEEN MACKINNON, PARKHOUSE

MACLENNAN MOTORS SALVER
CHAMPION MALE CROSSBRED SUCKLED CALF
ARCHIE JOHN MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

ID MACKINNON MEMORIAL CUP
CHAMPION FEMALE CROSSBRED SUCKLED CALF
ARCHIE JOHN MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

BERNARD D SMITH CUP
OVERALL CHAMPION CROSSBRED CALF
ARCHIE JOHN MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

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OVERALL CROSSBRED CHAMPION
ARCHIE JOHN MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

CAMERON LIVESTOCK PRIZE
RESERVE TO OVERALL CROSSBRED CHAMPION
ALASTAIR & IAIN MACINNES, RUAIG

PARKHOUSE CUP AND NORBROOK PHARMACEUTICAL PRIZE
SUPREME CHAMPION IN CATTLE SECTION
ARCHIE JOHN MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

CORSON CUP
BEST CATTLE ANIMAL BRED BY EXHIBITOR
ARCHIE JOHN MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

PHARMACEUTICAL PRIZE
SUPREME CHAMPION SHEEP
FRASER MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

TIREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY CUP
MOST POINTS IN SHEEP SECTION
SANDRA BROWN, BALEVULLIN

STAFFORD & FLORA ELGIN SHIELD
MOST POINTS IN CATTLE SECTION FOR CROFTERS
AND THREE ASSOCIATION PRIZE
KIRSTEEN MACKINNON, PARKHOUSE

YOUNG STOCKPERSON SECTION - UNDER 18
ANNIE CAMERON CUP
CHAMPION FROM CATTLE AND SHEEP YOUNG STOCKPERSON
KIRSTEEN MACKINNON, PARKHOUSE

HEYLIPOLO FARM CUP

BEST YOUNG HANDLER IN SHEEP SECTION
RUAIRIDH MACDONALD, ROADSIDE

SHEEP SECTION

D.A. MACLEAN CUP
CHAMPION PEN OF CROSSBRED PRIME LAMBS
ARCHIE JOHN MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

ROBERT NISBET MEMORIAL SALVER
CHAMPION BLACKFACE SHEEP
ETTIE MACDONALD, ROADSIDE

LACHIE "DRUIMFHRAOICH" QUAIH
BEST SCOTCH MULE SHEEP
ETTIE MACDONALD, ROADSIDE

UNITED AUCTIONS CUP
CHAMPION CROSSBRED FEMALE SHEEP
ETTIE MACDONALD, ROADSIDE

MACLEOD CONSTRUCTION LTD CUP
CHAMPION PURE BRED RAM
ALASDAIR MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

TARFF VALLEY CUP
CHAMPION PURE BRED FEMALE SHEEP
FRASER MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

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OVERALL CHAMPION PURE BRED SHEEP
FRASER MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

DRUIMFHRAOICH CUP AND NORBROOK PHARMACEUTICAL PRIZE
SUPREME CHAMPION SHEEP
FRASER MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

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MOST POINTS IN SHEEP SECTION
SANDRA BROWN, BALEVULLIN

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CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS - FROM ALL LIVESTOCK SECTIONS
ARCHIE JOHN MACLEAN, HEYLIPOL

WEST HIGHLAND YACHTING WEEK

Craobh, Oban and Tobermory
July 30 to August 5

2016



Get set for WHYW 2016...

UP TO 100 yachts are expected to line up for the start of this year's West Highland Yachting Week (WHYW) marking the 69th year of this famous Scottish regatta that takes place from July 30 to August 5 2016.

The popular sailing format that mixes passage and Olympic style racing offers both white sail and spinnaker classes ensuring a range of options for everyone in the fleet.

Tunnock's remains the major sponsor of WHYW with support from Argyll and Bute Council, Malin Waters, Tobermory Harbour Association, Owen Sails, Gael Force Marine and West Coast Motors.

A regatta with a history of 69 years must be doing something right. Organised by a joint regatta committee (JRC) comprising members of Royal Highland Yacht Club, Oban Sailing Club and Western Isles Yacht Club, the event remains unique. No other regatta is based over three venues - Craobh, Oban and Tobermory - with passage races linking the three ports of call and a day's racing off each port over the six days. Two feeder races from Oban and Gigha bring competitors from north and south of the country to muster at Craobh Marina for the start of the week's point series on Saturday July 30.

Here the fleet will enjoy the camaraderie and hospitality of the Lord of the Isles pub and restaurant at Craobh that hosts the grand opening party on Saturday. This is the springboard that sets the social scene for the week ahead with barbecues, live music, dancing and general boat-to-boat socialising at all ports of call.

REPUTATION

WHYW has a well-deserved reputation not only for highly competitive racing on the water but an excellent après sail social programme. This gives the chance to catch up with friends, some not

seen since last year's event, as well as making new acquaintances. It is a reflection of the success and longevity of the regatta that there are often three generations of the same family competing since it's an event that offers a range of competing options - accommodating white sail for families or those short-handed on crew to the highest level of national competition in the spinnaker classes.

WHYW chairman Andy Knox said: 'Now into its 69th consecutive year, West Highland Yachting Week continues to attract new participants from other areas of the UK and sometimes beyond to enjoy their sport in one of the most scenic parts of the world. Many will return by sea or land bringing friends and family after savouring the delights of this corner of Scotland. Not only is this type of event nowhere else to be found but it brings much-needed revenue to local communities in this area.'

A FLEXIBLE MIX...

The regatta has always offered great flexibility to do only a few days or compete in the entire series. With up to 10 racing classes separated by handicap, the spinnaker classes are known as The Tunnock's Fleet and the restricted sail yachts comprise The Argyll Fleet on the days the both fleets race separately. This flags up the sponsorship of the event from both Tunnock's and Argyll and Bute Council.

Returning for another year to run the racing is principal race officer Malcolm MacGregor, who is hugely experienced in the field. Well known west coaster David Wilkie is assistant race officer (ARO) for the Argyll Fleet and will also start the Gigha feeder race. Oban's David Preston will be ARO starting the Oban feeder race.

WARM WELCOME

Looking forward to the event, Craobh Marina manager Alastair Spence said: 'Holt Leisure Parks and the Craobh Marina staff are honoured to be hosting the mustering of the fleet and the start of WHYW again this year. As in previous years, we wish the race committee a successful week and thank them for their labours in organising the event. We look forward to welcoming back those who have competed in the week before and offer a warm welcome to those who are putting their toes

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in the water for the first time. We trust all-comers will enjoy their stay with us but also wish them all a fun packed week both on and off the water as they travel onwards in what we believe to be the world's best sailing waters.'

SAILING PROGRAMME

**Sunday July 31
The Craobh Race**

The Craobh Race marks the start of the Points Series for the week and all yachts race off Craobh in Loch Melfort over a distance of around 23 miles circumnavigating the island of Shuna. Close-quarters racing at stages gives an interesting and challenging race.

Monday August 1 Craobh to Oban passage race sponsored by Owen Sails

This passage race must rate as one of the most scenic in the world over the 20-mile course taking in a mix of island and mainland scenery, including the tidal races between Fladda and Luing. The finish is to the north of Kerrera.

Tuesday August 2 Firth of Lorn races

Today yachts divide into The Tunnock's Fleet racing with spinnakers and The Argyll Fleet of white sail racing on different courses in the Firth of Lorn.

The Argyll Fleet sail an inshore course to the south in the Firth of Lorn taking in Bach Island, Insh and marks off Ardencaple and Loch Feochan into the sound of Kerrera. The Tunnock's Fleet makes a colourful sight racing round the buoys off Ganavan on Olympic-style courses. Wind permitting, there will be two races for The Tunnock's Fleet.

Wednesday August 3 Oban to Tobermory Race sponsored by Gael Force Marine Equipment

This is probably the most popular race of the week where the fleet sail together to Tobermory - an iconic destination with renowned hospitality for WHYW competitors. Stunning scenery complements this passage race against the backdrop of the island of Mull and the Morvern peninsula.

Thursday August 4 Sound of Mull races

The Tunnock's Fleet race two Olympic-style courses in an area bounded by Rubha nan Gall and Mingary Bay while The Argyll Fleet race out to Kilchoan, Ardmore, Quinish Point and Ardnacross Bay before sailing south to the Green Isle and back to Tobermory Bay.

Friday August 5 Tobermory to Oban race sponsored by Thomas Tunnock Ltd

The final day's racing marks the end of the regatta with the fleet heading to Oban down the Sound of Mull. This race is the final one to decide the points series for the week.

The prize-giving is this year being held at Dunstaffnage Marina.

ENJOY THE SOCIAL APRES SAIL

Strong competition on the water is complemented by an excellent WHYW après sail social programme offering a wide range of activities for all ages to enjoy.

The Lord of the Isles at Craobh Marina opens events on Saturday and Sunday evening where the pub and restaurant go the extra mile for competitors' enjoyment with a selection of food to choose from, games and dancing to live music both Saturday and Sunday night. The Democrats play on Saturday while Archie McAllister entertains on Sunday. Argyll Hog Roasts will be doing the outside catering offering hog in a bun, hot dogs, burgers and chips as well as paella. LOTI has a new dining marquee and special WHYW dinners are available but booking is essential. Telephone 01852 500 658. Breakfast rolls are available in the morning.

Monday night sees Oban Sailing Club hosting their traditional barbecue at the clubhouse and the Waypoint Bar at Oban Marina is open from 6pm to 11pm. The Wide Mouthed Frog at Dunstaffnage has a range of food available and opens till midnight for drinks. Oban Marina has the Waypoint Bar only open from 6pm-11pm.

Tuesday sees a change in the

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social programme with the mid-week prize-giving and a ceilidh with Craighendarloch at the Corran Halls in Oban. Davy Sinclair and band are popular 'old hands' playing for the fleet at WHYW.

The Wide Mouthed Frog also has live music and a barbecue. The traditional free family swimming night is on offer at Atlantis Leisure and the sports centre also has a wide range of gym facilities and fitness classes for competitors at cost. West Coast Motors host their usual bus service to transport competitors between Dunstaffnage and various drop-off and pick-up points in Oban. For those berthing at Oban Marina the Waypoint Bar is open from 6pm-11pm.

On Wednesday the fleet race to Tobermory where the hospitality is legendary. Macgochans hold their now traditional open mic night from 10pm while the Mad Ferrets take over the famous Mishnish at the same time. On Thursday Trail West entertain at Macgochans while the Mad Ferrets will still be playing at the Mishnish.

A wide range of eating out is available for all competitors and guests throughout Tobermory.

The final day's racing sees the fleet return to Oban on Friday and the points series prize-giving will be held this year courtesy of Dunstaffnage Marina who host a barbecue from 6.30pm. The prize-giving will be held

at 9pm. The Wide Mouthed Frog bar is open till midnight. Those at Oban Marina will have the Waypoint Bar open from 6pm-11pm for drinks.

Water taxi in Tobermory – a RIB water taxi service operated by a licensed commercial provider will be available. Contact 'Gigha' or 'Tobermory water taxi' on VHF Ch 08.

See the full social programme on the website for details.

FAMILIAR FACES ON THE START LINE

Class 0

Class 0 is for those racing IRC handicap and sees the return of many 'well kent' faces. Alan Jeffrey and Paul Scutt with Carmen II their First 36.7 are regulars and former overall title holders and will have good one-design competition with Jack Aitken's Animal, also a First 36.7. Iain MacLachlan in Polaris is also a well-known competitor. Gordon Lawson competes for the first time here in his J122 Moonstruck Too having won the inaugural St Kilda race and a good performance in the round Mull race. David Walter, also a St Kilda competitor, brings his Arcona 430 Requiem to Class 0 after winning his class in the recent round Mull race. John Minnis also lines up

with Final Call, his First 31.7, as does the Sigma 38 Machismo II of Tim Levett and the Sun Fast 35 Nimrod with Paul Love-Williams at the helm.

Class 1

Oban's James Hardie with his Grand Soleil 40 Taz is a local on the start line in Class 1, with Susie Edmond a new name on the block with her Elan 40 Sea Reiver. Regular Euan MacKenzie with his Elan 40 Ceol Beag will have good racing alongside Sea Reiver, and Jim Dick returns to race his Grand Soleil 39 Fortuna. Class 3 boats have been amalgamated into Class 1. Former title winners Roddy Angus and team on their Sunfast 37 More Misjif will be hoping for repeat success. Alan Moore's Dehler 34 Delinquent and John Rose's Oceanic 40 Insatiable are regulars on the WHYW scene, as is local OSC member Beppo Buchanan Smith with Enigma and they are joined by new entry Nicholas Marshall's J92 Satisfaction to complete the class picture as *The Oban Times* went to press.

Class 2

Local Hero, the First 44.7 with Norman Howison at the helm, opts to race restricted sail this year in Class 2. The Howisons will have good competition from the Chalmers family, who are no strangers to winning this class in Sunrise, their Sigma 400. Damon Lindsay's Ionara is



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Oban Harbour – Managing the Safety of Navigation

Recent changes to ferry schedules arriving and departing from Oban will result in over 13,000 ferry movements each year within Oban Bay notwithstanding other marine traffic. To put this into perspective, the Port of Dover, the busiest ferry port in Europe handles over 16,000 ferry movements every year, so Oban is actually one of the busiest ferry ports in the UK. West Highland Yachting Week brings a much welcome influx of additional yachts and other activity and is therefore the busiest week of the year in Oban Bay.

Clearly such activity merits a common-sense approach to managing the safety of navigation within Oban Bay so that all may continue to navigate safely and freely. The Oban Bay Harbour Management Group has pulled together comprehensive representation from Oban Bay users resulting in an improved website and a revised Code for Safe Navigation in and around Oban Bay. The Code was derived through widespread consultation among ferry operators, yachtsmen, fishermen, the RNLI and many other organisations and so represents a commonly agreed practice to enable safe navigation within Oban Bay. It also contains contact information for the Harbour Master.

Find out more at: www.obanharbour.scot.

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While events such as the Silvers Marine Scottish Series, held in Tarbert earlier in the year, and the upcoming West Highland Yachting Week, have always put Scotland on the sailing map, the current focus on Scotland as a premier marine tourism destination is exciting for everyone in the industry, and firmly secures that pin.

Tarbert Harbour Authority will continue to play an integral part in 'Awakening the Giant', and to add to their already friendly welcome, community spirit, and competitive berthing rates, also have a number of exciting shore-side developments in the pipeline to enhance customer experience.

In the meantime, the board of trustees and harbour staff would like to wish Oban Times readers a successful West Highland Yachting Week!



Owen Sails

Wishing all competitors the best of luck during WHYW

Link to 2016 WHYW event Gallery
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Eating out guide 2016



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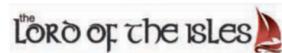
All-day coffees, lunches served midday till 2pm and dinner served from 6pm.
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also a family boat in this class. Murray Findlay campaigns Boxcar here this year. Regular Stephen Pickles also chooses white sail this year with his Dufour 40 Ataraxia alongside the fellow Dufour 40s of Alistair Torbet with Spirit of May and Chris Morrison with Synergie. Danny Sinclair has his new Oceanis 45 Kalita, Ian Donald with Tioram and Douglas Gray with Shenavall. Mark Curran's Sun Odyssey Prevail is an old hand in Class 2.

Class 4

Anne Campbell will be at the helm of Ajax in this white sail class with Irishman Stevie Andrews also opting for restricted sail in his new Sweden Yacht 36 Scooby-Doo. Chris Ashe joins the class with his Oceanis 40 Shantaram. Bruce Johnson's Oceanis Mystic Sun is a regular WHYW yacht and this year Vaughan Thomas races his HR 342 Puffin.

The evergreen Swan 36 Valhalla of Ashton is always a strong class title contender, as is former class and points series winner Donald McLaren's Sigmatic. Add in the Sigma 33s of James Miller's Mayrise Mark Bradshaw's Busy Beaver and the Shields with their Meka 11, and the Sigmas will have close competition and good racing together. It should be all to play for in this class.

Class 5

This will be a highly competitive class with a good amount of local competition to the fore. Peter Watt of Glencoe, former class and overall series winner, returns to WHYW after an absence of 11 years to campaign with a local crew in his lovely BB10 Vaila. Oban's Graham Anderson with team on Lucky Ned Pepper line up alongside, as does Easdale's Adrian Laycock with the Oyster 37 Prime Cut. Last year's class and overall WHYW winner Steven Fortheith helms Shadowfax with a local team in the First 31.7 and there

will be good competition between them and fellow First 31.7 of Stu Spence. Also in this class is the Moody 38 Lemerac of the event's major sponsor, Boyd Tunnock, Hamish Jackson's Hoo-Ha and the Sigma 33s of Jeremy Colman's Sea-Pie of Cultra and Lennox and Simpson's Miss Behavin. Mark Taylor in Strike 3 is also a WHYW regular. All yachts are strong competitors so Class 5 will make for interesting and very close racing.

Class 6

A good line up for this white sail class is headed by Brian Wiseman's Sorr of Appin fresh from a good performance round Mull. Neil MacKinnon's Oceanis 351 Whimbrel and Stephen Owen's Halcyon are also keen competitors, not forgetting Kilmelford's Donald Phillips with his Moody 335 Whigmaleerie - always strong when the wind is up. With an amalgamation of Class 9 into Class 5, Judy Orr's MG C27 Eureka returns as a former class winner here with a Campbelltown team aboard. Darren Taylor from Tayvallich, who campaigned his SK Bluefin in Class 8 last year, takes to the non-spinnaker class with his Carter 33 Chimeara and he and the Moody 31 Hiffy should have close racing on handicap as they will with Gordon Callander's Rustler 36 Reever.

Class 7

The famous Moody 336 of Cool Bandit 2 with Craig Anderson and team line up alongside fellow 336s of John Mactaggart's in Stargazer and Stuart Hamilton in Piecemaker. And John Corson now has a Moody 336 with his latest Salamander XXII so this will be a really exciting class to watch. Euan Cleland's Momo 3 the Hanse 292 is the smallest yacht in the class alongside Noel Mcinley in the Moody 31 Co Na Ro. The two Dehler 34s Nimrod and Sullven with Colin Crawford of Oban and David Cooper



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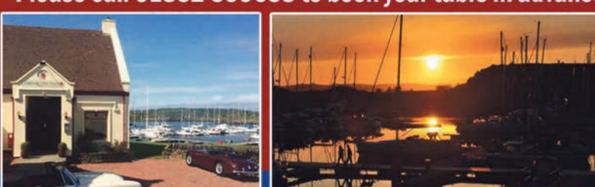
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www.yachtingimages.co.uk



The 2015 Peter Cocks Memorial Trophy winners were the Shadowfax team helmed by Steven Forteith. Shadowfax won both class and the overall points series for the best performance in the fleet. With a strong crew presence from the Owen Sails loft and Owen Sails being one of the new supporters of WHYW 2016, the Shadowfax team will be looking to defend both their class and overall trophy win.



of Glencoe will be locked in battle for honours. Add in Roger Jarrett's Jarrett 34 Woodwind and it will be an interesting mix of yachts – although all eyes will likely be on the Grand Soleil 34 Stargazer from Arran that swept to victory last year in Class 8.

Class 8

It's another cross-section of yacht sizes in the largest class of The Tunnock's Fleet with the widest handicap division in the fleet. All will be welcoming back the Prentice family from the north-east coast who make the long journey every couple of years to compete in their Contessa 32 Circe. They will see good competition from Alistair Pugh's Contessa 32 Marisca, a Class 8 regular and Angus Fyfe's Contessa 25 Popcorn, class winner from two years ago. The familiar names that have supported the class for many years are also back – the 2015 class winner Marian Austin with Scintilla of the Sea from Lochaber, Alistair Cousin of Campbeltown in Carna, Garth Wilson and Lucy Downie's GK 24 Zebedee, Mike Johnston with Arran Comrades and Hot Toddy as well as the mighty Red October, the famous little Club 19 with Findlay Clark. And Roxy Robson's Contessa 26 Windflower is now a regular to the class. Richard Doig's GK 24 Sirius lines up here for 2016 and will be hoping for good racing alongside Zebedee. New to class is the beautiful Nicholson 35 Jane Waterman of Andrew Wallace and Murray Caldwell's Trapper 500 Oystercatcher, the latter the one to watch after an overall round Mull win in both class and fleet.

PLEASE NOTE

Class entries are correct at time of going to press but may well change with new entries before the start of the event. For up to date entry list and information see www.whyw.co.uk and on www.facebook.com/WestHighlandYachtingWeek

EVENT SPONSORS

The joint regatta committee gratefully acknowledges the support of all sponsors ensuring the success of the 69th West Highland Yachting Week.

Tunnock's

Tunnock's is the major sponsor of WHYW and this event marks the company's eighth year of support. The unique range of Tunnock's products complements the unique 'moving' regatta. Acknowledging the support of the famous biscuit manufacturer, the spinnaker classes are known as The Tunnock's Fleet on the days the fleets race separately.

Tunnock's also sponsor the Tobermory to Oban passage race on the final day of the event, awarding the Thomas Tunnock Trophy for the winner in IRC Class 3. And the company provides the famous 'Tunnock's survival box' of teacakes and caramel wafers to each competing yacht. WHYW would not be the same without a taste of Tunnock's.

Boyd Tunnock CBE, managing director and grandson of the founder of Thomas Tunnock Ltd, is a regular competitor at West Highland Yachting Week in his Moody Lemarac. The Lemarac Cup, named after Boyd Tunnock's yacht, is awarded on Thursday in further recognition of the huge support Tunnock's contribute to the event.

Argyll and Bute Council

The restricted sail classes are known as The Argyll Fleet on the days the yacht fleets race separately, pointing up the many years of support Argyll and Bute Council has given to the event. This is in recognition of the economic and community benefit the regatta brings to Oban, Craobh and Tobermory. WHYW is a community event as well as a racing regatta with social events open to the public. The regatta, or yacht week as it is known, is a real attraction for locals and visitors with businesses recognising the economic input to the area over the week. WHYW welcomes the generous support from Argyll and Bute Council to keep WHYW on a winning course.

Tobermory Harbour Association

A true Highland welcome is extended to all taking part in WHYW 2016 from Tobermory Harbour Association. The fleet has access to anchorage, moorings and pontoon berths with full facilities as well as the first class onshore facilities in the Taigh Solais building, including showers, toilets and laundry room. Since 2015 there are new moorings for use, including two in Aros Bay and everyone can enjoy the views at

West Highland Yachting Week Social Scene 2016

SATURDAY JULY 30

Craobh Marina Lord of the Isles pub and restaurant Grand opening party

Food, live music with The Democrats and entertainment. Games. Argyll Hog Roasts will be doing the outside catering offering hog in a bun, hot dogs, burgers and chips as well as paella. New dining marquee. WHYW dinners. Booking essential on 01852 500 658. Breakfast rolls available.

SUNDAY JULY 31

Craobh Marina and Lord of the Isles pub and restaurant The party continues ...

Food, live music with Archie McAllister. Outside catering from Argyll Hog Roasts – hog in a bun, hot dogs, burgers, chips and paella. Book for dinners as Saturday. Breakfast rolls available.

MONDAY 1ST AUGUST

Oban Sailing Club – early evening barbecue party

6pm to 8.30pm
Burger and bar at Oban Sailing Club.

The Wide Mouthed Frog, Dunstaffnage Marina

Bar open till midnight. Selection of bar meals/dinners.

Oban Marina – the Waypoint Bar

Bar open for drinks only 6pm-11pm.

TUESDAY AUGUST 2

Midweek prizegiving and ceilidh, Corran Halls, Oban

Ceilidh and prize-giving in Corran Halls 7pm. Prize giving at 2030 followed by dancing to Craigendarloch Ceilidh Band.

The Wide Mouthed Frog, Dunstaffnage Marina

Live music and barbecue. Bar open till midnight. Bacon rolls and coffee for next morning. Pre-order at bar or 01631 567005

Oban Marina – The Waypoint Bar

Bar open for drinks only 1800-2300hrs

Free family swim night at Atlantis Leisure Centre

6pm to 8pm. Ladies only 8pm to 9pm. Atlantis offers range of sports facilities for use including fitness classes, gym, tennis and squash. See www.atlantisleisure.co.uk.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3

Bacon Rolls from the Wide Mouthed Frog in the morning

Tobermory: live music/entertainment/food in various venues.

Macgochans – open mic night from 10pm. Food 12-10pm.

The Mishinish – the Mad Ferrets from 10pm. Food 12-10pm.

THURSDAY AUGUST 4

Live music/entertainment/food in Tobermory – various venues.

Macgochans – Trail West from 10pm. Food 12-10pm.

The Mishinish – the Mad Ferrets from 10pm. Food 12-10pm.

FRIDAY 5TH AUGUST

Final prize-giving Dunstaffnage Marina Barbecue courtesy Dunstaffnage Marina starts 6.30pm Final prize-giving for week at 9pm.

The Wide Mouthed Frog – Food and bar open till midnight.

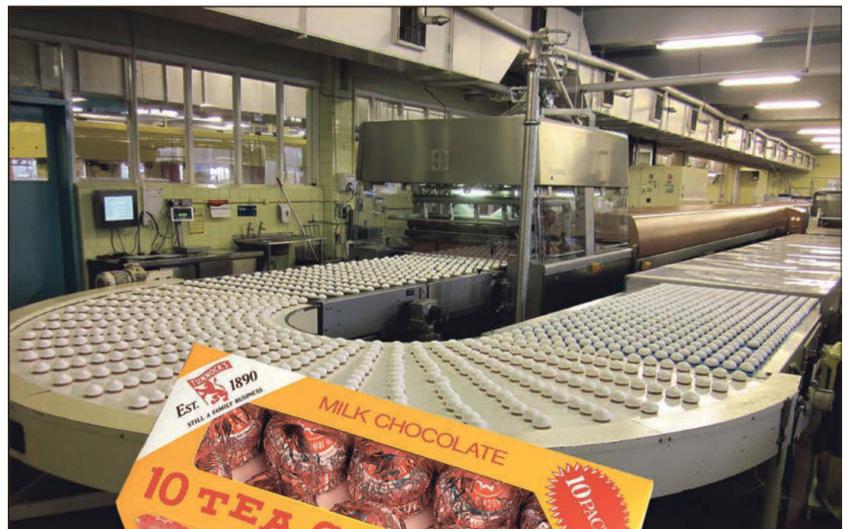
Oban Marina – The Waypoint Bar open for drinks only 6pm-11pm.

Water taxi in Tobermory – RIB water taxi service operated by a licensed commercial operator will be available, contact 'Gigha' or 'Tobermory water taxi' on VHF Ch 08.



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www.yachtingimages.co.uk



the picnic benches next to the THA shelter and new viewing areas to Aros Path. Don't miss the Mull Aquarium inside the Taigh Solais building – the first catch and release aquarium in Europe. For 2016, a new wi-fi system is installed and upgraded to fibre-optic. The team of friendly and expert THA staff is on hand throughout the event and always happy to help where they can.

MalinWaters

MalinWaters has come on board WHYW for a second year, recognising the importance of the event in the MalinWaters calendar. MalinWaters is committed to nurturing the development of marine and coastal activity with sailing of key importance in the MalinWaters regions. MalinWaters was funded by the EU INTERREG IVA cross-border programme until March 2015 under the Sail West project covering the shared maritime waters of north-west Ireland including Donegal and Sligo, the maritime counties of Northern Ireland and western Scotland. In 2016, partners are now contributing their own funds to ensure the continued promotion of the MalinWaters brand and the longevity of this valuable network of partners. MalinWaters promotes opportunities for sailing, surfing, diving, kayaking and other water-based activities. It also provides innovation in the development of new marine tourism products and services. Visit www.malinwaters.com for more information.

Owen Sails

Owen Sails, Scotland's largest sailmaker and one of the major players in the UK market, is famous not only for sails for racing and cruising but production of a wide range of covers and upholstery as well as repair and rigging services. Owen Sails is delighted to assist with prizes and six new Seaflex course marks for this year's event. Owen Sails is supporting West Highland Yachting Week throughout the event with repair services aimed at keeping all afloat for the duration of the regatta.

Gael Force Marine Equipment

Gael Force Marine is one of the fastest growing marine equipment suppliers in the UK, stocking perhaps the widest range of leisure boating, commercial fishing and aquaculture products available anywhere in the land. Gael Force has marine outlets across the UK with their flagship Marine Megastore in Inverness, a Marine Centre in Glasgow serving leisure and commercial customers on the west of Scotland and

a commercial outlet on the south coast in Plymouth. To add to this, Gael Force Marine has a team of field representatives offering customer service and product expertise right across the UK. Gael Force is delighted to be supporting West Highland Yachting Week with many of its customer base involved in taking part in the event. Gael Force looks forward to a continuing strong partnership with one of Scotland's premier yachting events.

West Coast Motors

West Coast Motors is again providing a special transport service between Dunstaffnage and Oban to link up with après sail events when the fleet is in town. West Coast Motors has been bringing people together via their transport system since 1923 much as WHYW has been attracting sailors for 68 years. A bus and Oban Marina ferry timetable is included in competitor's packs.

All information from www.whyw.co.uk.

LET'S GET SOCIAL THIS YEAR

This year more emphasis will be placed on social media with Iain Hurrell of Sailing Scotland being at the hub of the event posting blogs and pictures on a daily basis. Follow him and the links as he covers the sights and sounds of the week.

Sailing Scotland

Sailing Scotland (rebranded from Marine Blast) will be running the West Highland Yachting Week social media on Facebook and Twitter this year, so make sure you are following @whyweek on Twitter and West Highland Yachting Week on Facebook. As part of additional sponsorship from @OwenSailsUK an event gallery has been set up to allow competitors to snap the exciting moments throughout the week on their phones and then post them directly onto the gallery website. The gallery will make up a collection of images along with other sailing

events that will allow Scottish Sailing and particularly West Highland Yachting Week to digitally record what makes the event so popular. This will be very important as next year will be the 70th year of the event. See www.facebook.com/WestHighlandYachtingWeek.

Sailing Scotland promotes all aspects of sailing in Scotland. It has four regional sites covering the country and is supported by an iPhone app and websites that are all mobile friendly and with more than 1,700 marine businesses listed throughout Scotland. With a massive digital following of more than 10,000 across all platforms, it's easy to see why Sailing Scotland has become Scotland's biggest and fastest growing marine tourism group.

The Argyll Marine Tourism group, as one of the four regions, leads the way with exceptional growth this year.

Photographs at West Highland Yachting Week

Ron Cowan, the well-known yachting photographer, will be at West Highland Yachting Week for the event. Selections of his photographs from last year and previous years are on his website www.yachtingimages.co.uk as well as www.whyw.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.

WHERE TO SEE THE FLEET

Saturday

Craobh Marina – with the mass of yachts mustered for WHYW's grand opening party.

Sunday

Watch the fleet head out from Craobh Marina from 9am from the end of the causeway to the start off Craobh and in Loch Melfort.

Monday

See the fleet starting off from Craobh from 9am onwards and sailing down Loch Melfort. Cullipool, Easdale Island and Ellenabeich offer good vantage points to see the racing where the fleet comes together.

When in Oban, yachts berth at Oban Marina, off Oban Sailing Club at Oban Bay Community Berthing, Oban Esplanade or at Dunstaffnage Marina.

Tuesday

Best views from Dunollie Point, Oban's Esplanade, Ganavan and Dunstaffnage Marina from 9am. Also from Dunstaffnage

Castle headland. Watch The Tunnock's Fleet race round the buoys for Ganavan or the west side of Kerrera for the Argyll fleet.

Wednesday

Views from Oban Esplanade, Dunollie Point, from 11am to see the yachts head to Tobermory. Also Dunstaffnage Marina and Dunstaffnage Castle headland for the yachts departing for the start of the race. Passengers aboard the CalMac ferry to Craignure gain a bird's eye view through the Firth of Lorn and the entrance to the Sound by Lismore light. The fleet musters in Tobermory Bay.

Thursday

Boats leave Tobermory from 9.30am. Head to Rubha nan Gall lighthouse or Ardmore Point to see the fleets racing at the north entrance to the Sound of Mull.

Friday

Watch from Tobermory Bay at 8.30am as the boats head down the Sound of Mull to Oban. Viewing from the east coast of Mull – the road from Tobermory to Craignure and the CalMac ferry from Craignure back to Oban.

Anyone wishing to check on best locations to see the fleet can phone 07879 646 170. Results of each day's racing are posted on the website www.whyw.co.uk.

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1 years MOT, 9 mths Road tax, Recently serviced. In good condition for mileage -155,342 miles, Timing belt changed 2023 miles ago
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Orkney Longliner, 16'

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TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000

New Aygo x-cite: the buzz on the street

THE NEW AYGO X-CITE is the most colourful addition yet to Toyota's range of lively three- and five-door city cars, making a dazzling street statement with its yellow fizz paintwork and contrasting black roof and pillars.

Its distinctly waspish appearance is given even more impact by Aygo's famous mix-and-match customised body elements. The front 'X', front pillar extensions, door mirror casings and rear bumper insert are all finished in bold black and the 15-inch twin-spoke alloys are painted glossy black. Rear privacy glass is also part of the design package.

The cabin strikes the same contrasts, with a yellow fizz finish for the seat-side bolsters, door panel inserts, air vent surrounds, gearshift knob and carpet mat edging. The instrument panel, centre console and gear lever surround all feature bold black inserts and the interior door handles are chrome-finished.

The new X-Cite comes as standard with the seven-inch, full-colour X-touch multimedia system, with DAB, MirrorLink for compatible mobile phone integration and a rear-view monitor to take the pain out of reversing into tight parking spots. Other features include six airbags, vehicle stability control, Bluetooth, air conditioning, driver's seat height adjustment, split-folding rear seats, projector headlights with LED tracers, front fog lights and leather steering wheel and gear knob trim.

Power comes courtesy of Toyota's characterful and efficient 1.0-litre VVT-i petrol engine, with a choice of five-speed manual gearbox or X-shift automated transmission. All versions are exempt from annual road tax (VED) thanks to CO2 emissions ratings of 95g/km for the manual and 97g/km for the X-shift version. In official testing, Aygo X-Cite achieved combined cycle fuel consumption of 68.9mpg (manual) and 67.3mpg (X-shift).

The new Aygo X-Cite is on sale now at Helensburgh Toyota. Call sales on 01436 672779.



Take a seat for a test drive in the modern, stylish interior of the Toyota Aygo X-Cite.

AYGO X-CITE AT HELENSBURGH TOYOTA

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Representative over 24 months*

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per month*

Reversing camera
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helensburgh.toyota.co.uk

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Model shown is Aygo x-cite 5 door 1.0 VVT-i Manual at £12,490. Prices correct at time of going to print. *0% APR Representative only available on new retail orders of Aygo (excluding x grade) between 1st July and 30th September 2016 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services by 31st December 2016 on a 2 year Access Toyota (PCP) plan with 0% 37% deposit. **Payment shown is based on a 24 month Access Toyota contract with £4,603 customer deposit, and Guaranteed Future Value/Optional Final Payment. Toyota Financial Services (TFS) PLC, registered office Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 3UZ. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status over 18s. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Excess miles over contracted charged at 8p per mile. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and conditions apply. Affordable finance through Access Toyota. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions.

AYGO x-cite 5 door 1.0 VVT-i Manual. Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 56.5 (5.0), Extra Urban 78.5 (3.5), Combined 68.9 (4.1). CO2 Emissions 95g/km. All mpg and CO2 figures quoted are sourced from official EU regulated laboratory test results. These are provided to allow comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

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De-licing Systems Manager

(Salary will be matched to experience)

Marine Harvest Scotland is the largest producer of Atlantic salmon in Scotland. The Company employs a workforce of over 600 throughout the Highlands and Islands and produces over 50,000 tonnes of salmon annually. Our farming operations are based in Fort William and the Company prides itself in being a major employer of skilled people and strives to produce high quality, healthy and nutritious seafood in the most sustainable way.

Over the coming years Marine Harvest has announced plans to invest over £100 million to integrate and grow its farming and fish feed production business in Scotland. We are proud of our 50 year heritage in the Scottish Highlands and Islands and the support we have from local communities and our dedicated workforce.

This year has marked the arrival of new non chemical methods in lice treatment. We currently operate 2 Hydrolicing machines. A further 3 systems, including a Thermolicer, are due to be in operation before October.

These machines are proving highly effective for the non chemical removal and capture of sea lice. Operating 16hrs every day each system has a dedicated crew of 4 who are further supported by farm staff.

We are currently looking to recruit a suitably qualified, experienced and highly motivated individual to pioneer and establish this major new and specialised area of farming in Scotland. Reporting to the Seawater Manager this role will be responsible for the co-ordination, man management, performance improvement and technical development of this specialist service operation.

Applicants, who must already be experienced within the salmonid industry, must have a demonstrable proven track record of having installed and developed new techniques into farming operations. Strong interpersonal, communication and first class organisation and planning skills as well as the ability to problem solve and motivate and achieve results through the success of others are some of the key attributes required for this post. In addition, applicants should have a full driving license and be prepared to undertake significant travel as required.

In return the successful candidate will benefit from a salary matched to experience, a specific performance incentive bonus scheme, company vehicle and the opportunity to develop their career through this exciting new and pioneering role.

If you have the drive, commitment and enthusiastic personality that is required for this interesting, important and novel role, coupled with the relevant experience, please apply in writing, no later than Thursday 11th August, stating your reasons for applying and your relevant skills and experiences to: Vicky Ferguson, HR Manager, Marine Harvest Scotland, Stob Ban House, Glen Nevis Business Park, Fort William, PH33 6RX

Informal enquires can be addressed to David MacGillivray, Seawater Manager, Marine Harvest Scotland, Stob Ban House, Glen Nevis Business Park, Fort William, PH33 6RX

E-mail: david.macgillivray@marineharvest.com

We are a rapidly developing multi-site business and market leading UK company within the timber industry, employing over 1200 people and with a Group turnover in excess of £300m. With ten profit centres across the UK and one in Latvia, We are BSW.

Production Operators

Fort William Sawmill • £Competitive + Excellent Benefits
2 x Permanent Night Shifts & 2 x Rotating Shifts

Our team at Fort William has a number of opportunities available to join them as a Production Operator, assisting in the production of timber. At first you will be finding your feet getting to know our systems and procedures, then once you are comfortable in your surroundings, you'll develop into the role.

Production Operators perform various duties, including operating state-of-the-art sawmilling machinery and manual handling of timber. The job responsibilities vary according to the role, however working safely and following appropriate Health and Safety practices is essential.

Working closely with the rest of the team to meet customer needs on a shift basis, good levels of punctuality, hand-eye co-ordination, safety consciousness, problem solving skills and ability to take direction will be required. You will ideally have experience in a process/manufacturing position, preferably sawmill or similar environment and should also be interested in the timber you are producing and understand the value of the product you are handling. Once firmly established in this role, there will be opportunity to extend your ability and move into a machine operator position.

As well as the competitive salary, this position includes other benefits such as a bonus and employer's contribution pension scheme.

To apply, please send your CV to: recruitment@bsw.co.uk
Closing date for applications is: Friday 12th August 2016

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Excellent Opportunities for Careers in Care

Lynn of Lorne Care Home is a purpose built Care Home that provides a superior standard of accommodation. The Home is designed to promote small group living providing accommodation for 61 residents. We pride ourselves on our delivery of high standards of care and comfort for all of our residents at all times.

We are currently looking to expand our team by filling the following positions:

Unit Manager £18 per hour

Nurses £14.50 - £16 per hour

Senior Care Assistants £8.55 - £9.55

Care Assistants £7.30 - £8.25

Further details on all roles can be found in the careers section of our website www.mckenziecare.com

To apply, contact lynnoflorne@mckenziecare.com or call Home Manager Jennifer Foote on 01631 720278.
Benderloch, By Oban PA37 1QW • www.mckenziecare.com



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NORTH ARGYLL HOUSE

Care Home for the Elderly

Office Administrator

The North Argyll Eventide Home requires a dedicated individual to fill the post of Office Administrator in the Home with financial and some secretarial responsibilities. This is a permanent, flexible post, approximately 20 hours per week and remuneration will be £16,000 - £18,000 depending on experience. Ideally, the individual concerned should have a working knowledge of the SAGE accounting system, can work on their own, without supervision and also to have a close working relationship with the Manager and the Board of the Home.

Applicants for this position should e-mail the home at NAEHLtd@gmail.com with a copy of their CV and a covering letter. The closing date for applications is 8 August 2016.

Senior Care Officer: Full time position, 1 year fixed term contract to cover maternity leave.

Cook and Handyman: Part time temporary posts

For an application form and job description for either of these positions please contact Morag Telfer, manager, on 01631 562168



Rembrand Timber require an enthusiastic, motivated, hard working individual to fulfil the role of **Asst Manager** within their Oban Depot. This role involves a high level of customer service, to develop strong customer relations and deliver sales growth.

Previous merchant experience would be advantageous, but training will be provided.

Please apply in writing with CV to Michael Higgins, Branch Manager, Rembrand Timber Ltd, Glenshellach Business Park, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HG,

Or by email to oban@rembrandtimber.com



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D&J Campbell Limited

HAULAGE CONTRACTOR

Office Manager

We are looking to recruit an Office Manager for our family run haulage company.

You would cover a wide variety of duties including Sage Accounts, online banking, preparing wages, administration and being involved in the day to day running of the company.

Good organisational skills, Sage experience and working in logistics would all be an advantage but not essential.

Training would be given to the right person.

Contact details; traffic@d-jcampbell.co.uk
01631 710882



Regeneration Officer

35 hours per week
Salary: £27,087 - £31,867

Lochgilthead

Permanent
Interview date 31st August 2016

Trainee Regeneration Officer

35 hours per week
Salary: £23,397 - £27,526

Lochgilthead

Fixed term to 31st August 2019
Interview date 1st September 2016

Modern Apprentice

35 hours per week
Salary: £10,694 - £15,865 (depending on age)

Lochgilthead

Fixed term to 31st August 2019
Interview date 23rd August 2016

Finance Assistants (3 posts)

35 hours per week
Salary £16,281 - £19,153

Lochgilthead

2 x Fixed Term to 30th June 2017
1 x Fixed Term to 31st December 2016
Interview date 22nd August 2016

For further details and to apply visit our website at www.acha.co.uk/recruitment If you are unable to access the website contact the Recruitment Team: Tel 01546 605917 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk

Closing Date for all posts: 12 noon on Friday 5th August 2016



Due to the award of several long term contracts OES Ltd requires the following personnel:

Apprentice Electricians

Full 4 year industry apprenticeship involving training on our sites and block release to college in Paisley.

Electricians

Current CSCS and relevant grade cards.

Domestic commercial and industrial experience preferred.

All applications including a copy of your current CV to

Angus MacPherson, Managing Director,
OES Ltd, 19 Stevenson street, Oban, PA34 5NA
amacpherson@fes-group.co.uk

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SAVE OVER 20% ON THE COVER PRICE - ONLY £39.96 (Direct Debit)

JUNIPER and JANE

Scottish textile design studio Juniper and Jane is based in West Kilbride, Ayrshire. Much of their time is spent roaming Scotland's wild places from which they draw inspiration for their printed patterns.

Textile Artist, Jane Hunter and designer, Sam Kilday venture off the beaten track in a bid to find those quiet, remote locations in which to absorb the natural surroundings. Travels take the pair from craggy coastlines, hearing only the sound of inquisitive seals to lonely mountain corries in the hidden north, long since abandoned by ice and man.

Juniper and Jane's textile patterns evoke the true character of Scotland's wilderness in a contemporary, illustrative style.

The mountain bothy cushion on offer is printed on 100% natural, unbleached cotton and comes complete with a plump feather pad.

To find out more about Juniper and Jane's fabrics, gifts and home accessories visit: www.juniperandjane.co.uk



Scottish Field

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*Price includes P&P



PUBLIC NOTICES

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Wendy E MacGillivray has registered their croft Sheilfoot West, Sheilfoot (East End & West), Ardnamurchan & Sunart on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 30 Mar 2017. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C2849.

AMENDED REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Mrs Margaret Campbell Harper has amended the registered boundaries of the croft Ichrachan, Glenorchy & Innishail in the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 3 March 2017. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C2087.

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITTEARACHD DECROFTING APPLICATION

J Cameron
207 Acharacle (Burnbank), Ardamurchan & Sunart
0.021 ha - Existing house site
69092

Comments can be made to the Crofting Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land, within 28 days of the date of this newspaper. Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

DECROFTING DIRECTION ISSUED

A Cameron
80 & 85 Portuairk, The Bungalow, Ardnamurchan & Sunart
0.392 ha - Existing house site
4.86.61694
Conditions: 3b, 4

Conditions

(3) Complete enclosure of the land with a stock proof fence within 4 months of:
(b) the proposed development completion
(4) That fence shall be maintained in good order and repair by each successive owner or occupier of the land.

Any person with an interest in the application may appeal against a decision to the Scottish Land Court within 42 days of the date of this advert.

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

Proposed Assignment of a Grazings Share.

Dr M. Cassim Khan is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to assign the Grazings Share pertaining to the croft at 136 Kilmory, Ardnamurchan & Sunart, to Mrs C. Mary Khan of Balnaha, Kilmory, Acharacle, PH36 4LG. If you have an interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW (email info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk) within 28 days from the date of publication of the advert.

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Mrs Margaret Campbell Harper has registered the croft Nant Bank Grazings, Glenorchy & Innishail in the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 21 September 2016. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C2086.

First Registration of a Croft

Christine MacLennan has registered their croft 30 Airds Bay, Airds Bay, Archattan and Muckcairn, on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by March 27, 2017. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is A0026.

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

Anne Catherine M E McLaren has registered the croft at 19 & 20 North Ballachulish, Kilmallie, PH33 6RZ on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any Person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 4th February 2017. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C2678

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

Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 - 13:30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgighthead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
16/01583/PP	Demolition of existing dwellinghouse and erection of replacement dwellinghouse	Fasgadh Craighouse Isle of Jura Argyll and Bute PA60 7XR	Sub Post Office Craighouse Isle of Jura
16/02021/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Lettershuna Croft 2 Appin Argyll and Bute PA38 4BN	Sub Post Office Port Appin
16/02027/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle 13/01303/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of new access)	Land West of Oskamull Cottage Ulva Ferry Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA73 6LY	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
16/01955/PP	Erection of 9 metres high lattice telecommunications tower and associated works (overall structure height 11.5 metres high)	Beinn Sgailinish Tarbert Isle of Jura Argyll and Bute PA60 7XH	Sub Post Office Craighouse Isle of Jura
16/01935/PP	Erection of 9 metres high lattice telecommunications tower and associated works (overall structure height 11.5 metres high)	Land North of Ardlussa House Ardlussa Isle of Jura Argyll and Bute PA60 7XW	Sub Post Office Craighouse Isle of Jura
16/01843/PP	Alterations and extension of outbuilding to form self catering unit	Helenslee Dalriach Road Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 5JD	Oban Area Office
16/01946/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, garage and formation of vehicular access	Site 4 Nant Park Taynuilt Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
16/01671/PP	Demolition of studio, erection of dwellinghouse and detached garage, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access (amended design relative to planning permission 14/01382/PP)	The Bungalow Studio Tiroran Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA69 6ES	Sub Post Office Bunnassan Isle of Mull
16/01920/PP	Erection of 18 dwellinghouses, installation of air source heat pumps including associated roads, car parking, drainage and landscaping	Land Adjacent to Hayfield Oban Argyll and Bute	Oban Area Office
16/02044/PP	Renewal of planning permission 13/01935/PP - Erection of dwellinghouse	21 King Street Portnahaven Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Portnahaven
16/01947/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and detached domestic garage/workshop - amended design to that approved under 15/03444/PP	Land West of Dunearn House Ellenabeich Isle of Seil Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Balvicar
16/01998/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and installation of sewage treatment plant (amendment to access arrangements)	Land North of The Old Manse Seaview Terrace Ellenabeich Isle of Seil Oban Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Balvicar
16/01829/PP	Erection of 6.4 metres high telecommunications pole and associated works	Land South West of Feorlin Cottage Feorlin Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA70 6HD	Sub Post Office Bunnassan Isle of Mull

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

www.highland.gov.uk



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk> or electronically at your nearest Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a_to_z

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
16/03081/PIP	Land 60M West of 3 Stronaba, Stronaba, Spean Bridge		Erection of two houses (renewal of 13/00765/PIP)
16/03090/FUL	Tigh Marall, Bunree, Onich Fort William		Conversion of garage into self-contained studio apartment
16/03128/FUL	Land 580NE of Loch Lochy Fish Farm, Gairloch, Spean Bridge		Erect a new 5m x5m ground mounted 500kva sub station
16/03159/FUL	Land 25M South of Rockfield, Anaheilt, Strontian		Erection of house and formation of access

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



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

THE A828 TRUNK ROAD (DUROR TO KENTALLEN) (40MPH AND 50MPH SPEED LIMITS) AND DUROR PRIMARY SCHOOL (PART-TIME 20MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2016

THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS hereby give notice that they have made the above Order under section 84(1)(a) and (c) and 124(1)(d) of, and paragraph 27 of Schedule 9 of, the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984(a). The effect of the Order is as described in Oban Times and West Highland Times dated 10 December 2015, and the Edinburgh Gazette Issue Number 27651 dated 11 December 2015. The Order comes into force on Monday 01 August 2016.

A copy of the Order as made, the relevant plan and the Revoked Orders may be inspected free of charge until 31 August 2016 during normal business hours at the offices of Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF; Kentallen and Duror Community Centre, Duror, Appin, Argyll, PH38 4BS and Ballachulish Post Office, Park Road, Ballachulish, Argyll, PH49 4JS.

A copy of the Order and this Notice will be available on the Transport Scotland website at <http://www.transport.gov.scot/road/road-and-traffic-orders/north-west-traffic-orders>

J MORAN

A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers
Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF



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West's Lettings Team offers the most comprehensive lettings management package in Oban, giving property owners complete peace of mind. 'We include excellent marketing, thorough tenant referencing, detailed tenancy documentation, full written and photographic inventories. Our experience paired with proactive property inspections, ensure all our properties are well maintained and any issues or repairs are dealt with swiftly and cost-effectively.'

As Property Managers, and property owners, tenants and landlords ourselves, we know the issues clients experience. 'I have grown West Property on a reputation of looking after our clients, an efficient and proactive approach to selling and letting property paired with our professional and friendly attitude. Whether you are buying, selling or renting - West will be there providing friendly, professional and efficient service throughout!'



Nicola started West in 2011, initially as West Lettings with a small portfolio of fully managed properties. 'Since then we have expanded dramatically and now manage over 150 fully managed properties in Argyll and Lochaber,' Nicola said. 'In response to client requests we became West Property Sales & Lettings and began offering estate agency services in 2013. This has grown and now we are kept very busy selling around 50 properties a year.'

West's Sales Team offer proactive sales packages to clients include effective advertising, national ex-



w: www.west-property.co.uk

e: info@west-property.co.uk

t: 01631 569 466 (Oban)

t: 01397 747 123 (Fort William)

Meet the team



Nicola MacPhail
 Managing Partner

Nicola started West in 2011 with a passion for property and determination to provide the very best customer service. A landlord herself, in addition to having both NFOPP Awards in Property Sales & Management and Associate of the Institute of Residential Property Managers has a wealth of experience in the property sector. Nicola manages the office, staff, provides valuations for both sales & lettings as well as advice on a variety of property issues for clients. Presently she is also kept busy with expansion plans in Fort William and beyond!



Elliot Yates
 Sales Negotiator

Elliot manages our sales portfolio and is the point of contact for our sales clients. He is always on hand to answer property queries, arrange viewings, discuss property particulars, negotiate offers, liaise with solicitors and generally be on hand for clients, frequently going above the 'call of duty' to give clients the best opportunity of a sale and achieve the best sales price.



Rhona Forbes
 Office/ Property Manager

Rhona is key to the management West, assisting Nicola in the running of our busy Oban office, dealing with much of our office admin, accounts, business paperwork, calls and emails. Also she assists our Property Managers - arranging viewings, inspections, tenancy administration as well as being on hand to deal with any tenant and landlord queries. She is an invaluable source of knowledge in the property sector, having project-managed the build of two homes.



Chermaine MacLachlann
 Lettings Manager

A graduate of the Strathclyde Business School and having grown up on the Isle of Mull, Chermaine brings an excellent mix of local knowledge and expertise to the team. Her skills ensure the efficient and comprehensive management of our rental properties. She is the main contact for our Landlord clients and her tasks include dealing with sourcing great tenants, overseeing repair requests, tenancy admin, move in/out, inspections, and all nature of tenancy queries.



Jen Montgomery
 Property Manager

Born and raised in Lochaber, Jen graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University. Jen joined us in 2016 after working in a large student letting agency in St Andrews and has a wealth of experience relating to all aspects of property letting. Jen works alongside Chermaine supervising viewings, referencing tenants, dealing with repairs, completing inspections & preparing lease documentation. She also offers advice to landlords and manages our student lettings.

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BIRTHS

DELIN - To Eilidh and Stephen on July 16, a daughter Roisin Jo, born in Carlisle. A granddaughter for Joe and Barbara, Keswick, and Joise and Michael, The Summit Oban.

MACDONALD - Malcolm and Leanne are delighted to announce the birth of their first son Angus William MacDonald on July 22, 2016. Weighing in at 8lb 11oz, the first grandchild for Angus and Pamela MacColl of Glengorm, Isle of Mull and another welcome grandchild for Archie and Janet MacDonald of Tobermory, Isle of Mull.

ENGAGEMENTS



NEISH - STEPHEN

Ruaraidh and Siobhan are delighted to announce their engagement. It took place during the 4th of July celebrations in New York. Families Brenda, Brian, Fiona and Iain are all absolutely delighted.

GOLDEN WEDDING

SWEENEY-FARQUHARSON - At St Mun's Church, Ballachulish on July 30, 1966, Danny to Marion. Present address: 6 Lovat Road, Kinlochleven

DEATHS

COUTTS - Fay Coutts passed away peacefully on Saturday July 23, 2016. Born and raised in Oban, the town she loved dearly and contributed to all her working life. She was a much loved sister, auntie, colleague and friend. A special thank you to all those who helped care for Fay with great Dignity and respect during her illness. Please join us in celebrating Fay's life at Oban Parish Church, Glencruitten Road, Oban on Monday August 1, 2016 at 7.00 pm. or at Cardross Crematorium, Main Road, Cardross on Tuesday August 2, 2016 at 12.15 pm. Family flowers only please. A retiring collection/donations if desired for Diabetes UK & Oban Hospice.

MACDONALD - Ella MacDonald (née Watt), of Dollar and North Uist, died peacefully at Strathcarron Hospice on Monday July 18, aged 85. She was the loving widow of John Norman MacDonald, dear mother of Iseabal, mother-in-law of Geoff and proud grandmother of Calum and Robyn.

WILKINSON - Peacefully at the Mackintosh Centre, Mallaig on the July 23, 2016. Beatrice Myra, beloved wife of the late Henry George Du Cane Wilkinson, loving mother to Pamela, Joyce, Julie, Colin and the late Peter, caring grandmother and great-grandmother.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
MACINTYRE - Rosemary, Fiona, Alexander and their respective families would like to extend their warmest thanks and appreciation to dear family and friends for the overwhelming and heartfelt expressions of sympathy following the sad death of Duncan. Grateful thanks to the consultant, doctors and nursing teams who were involved in his care. Special thanks to Mgr James MacNeil for his support throughout Duncan's illness and conducting the requiem mass. Thanks to Hamish Hoey & Son for assisting in the funeral arrangements. Finally, our profound thanks to the many who came to pay their final respects and donated £1600, which will be divided between Duncan's favoured charities. He will be sorely missed but we are sustained by your help and support and the sharing of warm memories.

McGUIRE - Ann, Alan and family would like to thank the community and beyond for their kindness over the past few weeks. Grateful thanks to the Macmillan Nurses for all their care. Special thanks to Gill for being there.

MEMORIAMS
ARCHIBALD - In loving memory of our dearly loved daughter, sister and niece Michelle, died July 25, 2002 aged 25 years.

Another month, another year Another smile, another tear Another winter, summer too But there will never be another you.
- Love always mum, dad, Lisa and uncle Angus.xx

GILLIES - In loving memory of our dear mother, grand-mother and great grand-mother May, who was so suddenly taken from us on August 1, 2013. Sorely missed and quietly remembered every day.
- Love Theresa, Iain and family.

GILLIES - May, died August 1, 2013. To a dear mum Though absent you are very near Still loved, still missed And very dear.
- Love Angela and David.

GILLIES - In loving memory of a dear mum, granny and great-granny May, who died August 1, 2013. Time can change many things But not the memory this day brings.
- All our love Donald, Anne and family.

KERMODE - John. 10th Anniversary. Treasured memories of John died July 31, 2006, a dear husband, devoted dad and papa. Lead kindly light amid the encircling gloom, Lead thou me on; The night is dark and I am far from home, Lead thou me on. Remembered always.
- Lillian, Cameron, Mary, Graeme, Sally, Kirsty, John, Grant and Ellie.

MACCOLL - In Loving memory of Ronald Graham who passed away at Kilmore on July 30, 2009.
- Morven, Christina, Deirdre, Duncan and their families

MACDOUGALL - In loving memory of Ian our dear son, daddy, brother and uncle died August 1, 2014. Remembering you is easy We do it everyday It's just the pain of losing you that never goes away. Love you always
- Mum, Dad, Rebecca, Matthew, Fiona and Michael, Fort William.

MACINTYRE - In loving memory of a dear nephew and cousin Iain (Slippers) who died July 22, 2014. Always in our thoughts.
- Uncle John, Auntie Teenie, Uncle Peter, Fraser, Fiona, Kevin and Kyle.

MACKINNON - Treasured memories of our dear father, grampa and great grampa Iain, who passed away on July 29, 2012 at Gartnavel Hospital. Kind was your nature dad True were your ways We will treasure your memories For the rest of our days Missed and loved every day.
- Angus, Lachie, Margaret,

Christine, Fiona, Linda, Alastair and all their families.
McCOMBIE - In loving memory of a dear mother, mother-in-law and granny (Cathie) who died July 27, 1990. Time slips by but memories stay Quietly remembered every day.
- John, Teenie, Peter and family.

STEWART - In loving memory of Alistair a loving husband, devoted father and grandfather, who passed away August 1, 2008. Deep in our heart your memory is kept To love and cherish and never forget.
- Christine and family.

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Uyu Hiromoto, 19, awarded the Royal Academy of Dance's Solo Seal Award

A BALLETT West Student has been awarded the highest graded examination of the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD).

Uyu Hiromoto, has received a Solo Seal award for solo performance. The 19-year-old is originally from Yokohama in Japan and has been training at the Taynuilt-based ballet school since January this year.

She has danced starring roles in the Ballet West 2016 Scottish tour of *The Nutcracker*, and in the show-cases in Oban and Stirling over the summer. Uyu was also among the team of top dancers from the school who visited Penang in June to work with young Malaysian dancers in workshops and a showcase performance.

Uyu said: 'I am absolutely delighted and honoured to have been awarded the Royal Academy of Dance Solo Seal Award. Since starting my vocational training at Ballet West I have been given so many opportunities for which I am very grateful.

'I would like to thank my teachers for all the time they have invested in me and for the many hours of private coaching that had



Uyu Hiromoto, 19, has been awarded the Royal Academy of Dance's Solo Seal Award.

made this success possible.' so well deserved. We are all Ballet West principal immensely proud of her. Gillian Barton added: 'Uyu is a dancer of exceptional talent and dedication, achievement for Uyu, and an outstanding student.'

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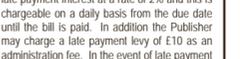
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Catholic Church appoints new parliamentary office director

THE Bishops' Conference of Scotland, has announced the appointment of a director of the Catholic Parliamentary Office.

Archbishop Philip Tartaglia, president of the Bishops' Conference congratulated Anthony Horan, who will direct the work of the Catholic Parliamentary Office from July 25, 2016.

Archbishop Tartaglia said: 'I congratulate Anthony on his appointment as director of the Catholic Parliamentary Office. 'Together with all the bishops, I look forward to working with him in future as he represents the church in the political sphere.

'Anthony's demonstrable knowledge of and commitment to his Catholic faith will be a tremendous asset to the Catholic Parliamentary Office. I wish him every success in his new post.'

Mr Horan said: 'I am honoured to have been appointed director of the Catholic Parliamentary Office of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland. 'I look forward to engaging with Scotland's parliamentarians and the political system, developing friendly and positive relationships in the process. I am extremely grateful to Scotland's Catholic bishops for giving me this opportunity to work for them and to develop the work of the parliamentary office.'

Thought for the week

'The Lord has told us what is good. What he requires is this: to do what is just, to show constant love and to live in humble fellowship with God.'
Micah 6: 8

WE LIVE in times of change and uncertainty. Sudden accidents, violence, terrorist attacks cause fear, confusion, death, anguish and unrest. What should be our response, how do we go on, and where, or to whom can we turn for guidance and help?

It was ever such in societies and the people at the time of the prophet Micah were in great turmoil. Having neglected God's clearly defined ways for living, they were following their own destructive paths of sham religion, abusive power, sharp practices, cruelty and violence. Only a radically different lifestyle could rescue them; what was urgently needed was a reworked mindset, to establish new priorities in relating to others and to God.

So Micah, responding to God's loving care for people, declared that this challenging, practical way of being and doing, effective for individuals and communities, was the only way to achieve wholesome living.

This forceful message, given centuries ago, still rings true for us today as an anchor in confused waters, and a guiding light, bringing the hope that seeming impossibilities can become possible when we seek God and walk with him. To live out the 'Micah Way', we must tune our lifestyle into God's GPS, using his guidance, provision and strength.

Carol Leech

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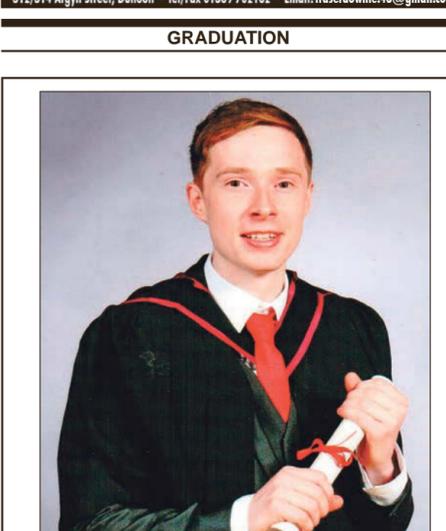
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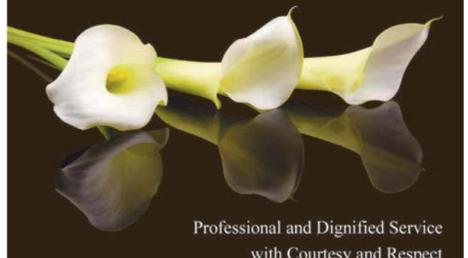
GRADUATION



Andrew Ruaraidh Macfarlane
Graduated from University of Glasgow on 29th June 2016 with an MEng in Aeronautical Engineering with Honours of the first class. Son of John and Cathie Macfarlane, Oban and grandson of the late Donnie and Helen Macfarlane, Oban and the late Ruaraidh MacLeod, Islay. Andrew is a former pupil of Rockfield Primary and Oban High School.

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Green Machine prepare for a tough start to league campaign

OBAN Lorne RFC have been handed a tough start to the 2016/17 season facing two of last year's relegated National 1 sides in the opening few weeks of the campaign.

The Green Machine's league opener is at home to recently relegated East Kilbride RFC on Saturday August 27. EK will be hoping for a quick return to the National League and will provide the West Division One clubs with a very hard test this season.

Tricky

Oban's first away game is at Bishopbriggs side Allan Glen's, who finished mid table last season before another tricky home game on September 10 against Irvine, who join East Kilbride in the West League this season.

The first Argyll and Bute derby of the season will take place on October 8 with Oban visiting local rivals Helensburgh RFC.

With promoted Annan joining from Division 2 the men in Green will face another long journey in their season with a visit to Annan on October 1.

West Division 1 is expected to be an extremely competitive league this season with a number of well established clubs all boasting strong playing numbers and organised set-up.

The clubs will be aided this season with a more favourable fixture calendar that will aim to complete the vast majority of league fixtures before Christmas. The majority of cup, shield and bowl fixtures will follow

into the start of 2017 along with any rescheduled fixtures. The new playing diary should help clubs with problems made due to unplayable pitches and sustaining a strong playing squad over a shorter period of time.

Pre-season

Oban Lorne head coach Corrie Louw has stepped up this season's preparations in comparison with other years with the club returning to pre-season training in early July. Sessions have been attracting between 20 and 30 players every Tuesday and Thursday evening with the majority of sessions being held so far at Ganavan Sands.

The squad will travel to Islay this weekend, depending on playing numbers, to take part in a friendly

match and training prior to pre-season friendly fixtures as follows.

Oban Lorne v Garioch RFC, Saturday August 6, Glencruitten, KO TBC.

Harris Academy RFC v Oban Lorne, Saturday August 13.

Oban Lorne v North Berwick RFC, Saturday August 20, Glencruitten, KO TBC.

Pre-season training continues every Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Glencruitten from 7-9pm with all 1st XV, 2nd XV (Argyll and Bute), ladies and beginners all welcome to attend.

Argyll and Bute RFC will have more games in this season's West Division 4 with the addition to the league of Clydesdale RFC, Glasgow Uni Medics RFC, Lanark RFC and

Rugby

Glasgow Alphas RFC who are the first gay-inclusive rugby club in the West of Scotland. Argyll will face local rivals Isle of Mull RFC at Garmony on Saturday October 8. Mull are expected to field a strong side this season after much improvement over the course of the 2015/16 season.

All 2nd XV players from Oban Lorne RFC as well as players from any other rugby clubs in Argyll and Bute are welcome to play for Argyll and Bute RFC. Training runs alongside Oban Lorne 1st XV training every Tuesday and Thursday evening at Glencruitten.



Glencruitten

NEIL Carmichael won the handicap championship at Glencruitten on Saturday with an aggregate score of 255, followed closely by in-form John Plunkett with a score of 257. Alan Jamieson was also on 257 and Martin Rae on 258.

On Sunday the Ginty Trophy was played which was won by Phillip Murphy with a score of 61 - 1 = 60, with Steven Murphy in second with a score of 65 - 4 = 61.

On Saturday the Championship third round takes place alongside the George Smith third round, followed by a Stableford on Tuesday.

Islay

LIFEBOAT spoon played Sunday July 24 - 1 N Carmichael 73 - 5 net 68; 2 S Welsh 75 - 4 net 71; 3 D Livingstone 79 - 8 net 71.

Dalmally

LADIES summer meeting and medal (net scores): 1 Ann Hay 70; 2 Maud Marshall 73; 3 Colleen Brown 73.

Gents medal qualifier 4: 1 Tony Graham (28) 63; 2 Graeme MacKechnie (7) 67; 3 John MacKechnie (18) 67

A CHARITY event at Dalmally Golf Club raised £300 for the North Argyll Voluntary Car Scheme.

Around 30 women took part in the ladies captain's day, with Lily McKay and Catriona O'Keefe winning the competition.

North Argyll Voluntary Car Scheme (NAVCS) is a network of volunteer drivers who provide lifts for people who have difficulty getting about. NAVCS operates in Seil, Taynuilt and Dalmally.

Caroline Gillanders of NAVCS said: 'I am absolutely delighted on behalf of the scheme and very grateful to the Dalmally ladies for their generosity. We are increasing the number of drivers in the Dalmally area and it's wonderful to have support from the local golf club.'

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Argyll crews do well in Mach 1 Stages Rally

CREWS from all over Scotland descended on the very tip of Kintyre recently to contest the Mach 1 Stages in association with Tom Blackwood Plant Hire and Dunfermline Car Club.

The rally is in its third year now and the reputation of the only two-day event in the calendar is growing all the time.

There were several Argyll crews entered and the hours of hiding in cold garages and workshops since last year's Rally were about to be put to the test.

Shaun Sinclair brought his very quick WRC Subaru S9 Impreza and, with Fred McLean reading the maps, was on the pace right from the start. Shaun would open up a healthy lead by the close of the first day's stages.

Alas, mechanical failure robbed him of what was looking to be a fairly nailed-on win and Shaun was left thinking what could have been.

There were locals right through the classes, but by far the most popular, and competitive, was Class 1 for cars up to 1400cc. Half of the eight crews in Class 1 were from the Argyll area. Top finishers were Innes Mochrie and Allan 'Goldie' Ross in their Metro GTi, closely followed in third by Jamie Miller and Andy Dunn in the wee white Nova.

Improvement

Neil McAllister and Stephen Lang were debuting in the immaculate Peugeot 205 and brought it to the finish seventh in class and 64th overall from a start number of 105, so quite an improvement.

Blair Morrison and Kyle Livingstone failed to finish after breaking a shaft on stage 10.

Unfortunately, Saturday afternoon saw Paul Hunter and Angus McNeil crash out of Stage 3 in pretty spectacular fashion. Both crews eventually declared as 'going to feel it in the morning' by medical staff.

Class 2 saw 20 entries, includ-

ing several with local knowledge. Duncan McLean and Norman Young went out in the 106, which had seen a fair few 'new' bits since its last run out. He took the 106 to the finish in a more than respectable 11th in class and 46th overall.

Steven Paterson showed what the little Corsa was capable of to any interested parties as the for sale signs didn't seem to slow him and Scott Paterson who finished 10th in class and 55th overall.

John Kean and Malcom McDonald also contested Class 2 and brought the 106 GTi powered Peugeot 205 home in 14th in class and 60th overall.

Mechanical issues stopped Lois and George Fell in their Puma but they were back out in the Trophy Rally on the Sunday and made it to the finish with no more issues.

Donald Bowness was unfortunate to sheer a CV joint after a short journey on two wheels in Stage 11. All the hard work getting the Nova back from the crumpled remains after the Knockhill Rally in January was well worth it, both from the quick stage times and for the best prepared car award that Donald received on Sunday afternoon.

Lochgilphhead's Alister MacArthur and Chris Robertson, from Tarbert, were once again out in the Sunbeam, pushing hard all weekend and taking third in Class 3 despite a 30-second penalty for clouting a chicane on the final stage. The great drive was also rewarded with a top 20 finish, 19th overall.

Cameron McLean and Robert Sherry brought their Ford Escort MkII through the 12 stages to a seventh in Class 3 and 27th overall.

Also in a MkII were brothers Ally and Del Galbraith, who banished their non-finish hoodoo and secured 11th in class and 40th overall.

Other crews in Class 3 who unfortunately failed to finish

Rallying

were Mull's Norman McPhail and Lee Gallagher in their MkII, and Amanda Morrison who was co-driving for Andrew Yates in his 205.

Freddy and Garry Lockhart were out in their Class 5 Mitsubishi Evo and were quick all weekend. The pair set consistent times over all 12 stages to finish a very respectable 10th in class and 16th overall.

Reasonable run

James Allan, co-driven by Mike Dickson, brought his Impreza home a couple of places further down the field at 13th in Class 5 and 26th overall.

Geoffrey Gallagher and Jonnie Bould had a reasonable run in 16th in class and 35th overall and, finally, Simon and Lee Poud in their Subaru finishing 17th in Class 5 and 42nd overall.

The event was eventually won by John Marshall and Dave Robson, who took the top step of the podium ahead of Bruce Edwards and Jim Smith in the Darrian T9 and Alistair and Colin Inglis in the Lotus Exige, both of whom suffered penalties on the final stage which promoted John to the win.



Oban and Taynuilt Masonic Lodges pictured at the prize-giving.

Busy weekend at Oban bowling green



SATURDAY July 23 saw the Oban green host the annual competition between the Masonic Lodges of Oban and Taynuilt. It was a close competition and it came down to the last game on the green to decide the winner this year. Oban were the winners and our photograph shows the trophy being presented to Kenny Stewart of Oban by Kenny Ferguson of Taynuilt.

On Sunday Oban bowlers battled it out in the annual Innisfree competition. Out of the round robin stages emerged two finalists who were Colin, Alex and Lorna Carmichael who played against Marian Carr, Sandy Carr and Moira Spreadbury.

The Carmichaels proved the stronger team on this occasion and were the winners for 2016.

Colin, Lorna and Alex Carmichael, winners of the Innisfree Cup.

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SHINTY

Best for all shinty news, results and fixtures

Inveraray and Kinlochshiel reach Macaulay Cup final

Macaulay Cup - semi-finals

Kyles Athletic 2 Inveraray 3

Inveraray overcame the odds to beat Kyles Athletic 3-2 in their 1.30pm throw up at Mossfield, Oban, and will now play Kinlochshiel in the Artemis Macaulay Cup Final at the same venue on Saturday September 3.

Kyles were without Grant Irvine who suffered a broken arm in the Camanachd Cup defeat to Lochaber a week earlier and his season could be over. They were also without Roddy MacDonald and Donald Irvine. Andrew King was in defence with David Zavaroni at full centre.

Andrew McMurdo was still banned for Inveraray, whilst Grant Griffin was also missing. A strong Inveraray bench featured David Robertson, Lewis MacNicol and David MacPherson.

Kyles took the lead after 18 minutes when some great work from Dunkie Kerr saw him turn Ally Munro and surge towards goal before sending a perfect ball to Robbie MacLeod at the back post who turned the ball home to make it 1-0.

Allan MacDonald equalised on 21 minutes with a back-hand rocket-shot into the top corner of the net from 25 yards.

Gordon Whyte put Kyles back in front on 27 minutes from the penalty spot and that's the way it stayed until the break.

Kyles had a great chance to extend their lead when referee Lachie Wood awarded them a second penalty. Inveraray keeper Scott MacLachlan and Dunkie Kerr clashed when going for a 50-50 ball and Wood pointed to the spot on the advice of goal judge Robert Baxter. Inveraray disputed the decision but Whyte sent this one the wrong side of the post.

The tie was very even at this stage and it was Inveraray who levelled for a second time when a terrific move involving all four forwards saw Fraser Watt win the ball in the middle of the park. He played it wide to substitute David Robertson, who had come on at the interval along with Lewis MacNicol in place of player/manager Ruaridh Graham and Ally MacDonald. Robertson switched the play to Lewis Montgomery who controlled the ball and played an accurate pass to the



Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-final man of the match Alan MacDonald of Inveraray receives his award from David Hamilton, Macaulay Association secretary.

unmarked Allan MacDonald at the back post who fired the ball home to make it 2-2 with 65 minutes gone.

The winning goal came five minutes from time when Allan MacDonald sent a dipping, swerving 25-yard effort past a helpless John Whyte to make it 3-2 and complete his hat-trick.

Kyles pushed Callum Miller up front for the last five minutes in a bid to take the tie to extra-time. Allan MacDonald tracked back with him.

There was late drama when Kyles were awarded a third penalty. Referee Lachie Wood penalised the Winterton side for a kick, again on the advice of the goal judge. Inveraray were unhappy with the decision but Robbie MacLeod hit the spot-hit straight at MacLachlan who stopped the ball and played it out for a corner. Allan MacDonald was sent off by referee Lachie Wood for something said in the aftermath.

Defender Nicholas Crawford and forward Allan MacDonald were both outstanding for Inveraray whilst there was some super wing play from Kyles pair Robbie MacLeod and Thomas Whyte.

Kinlochshiel 3 Lovat 0

Kinlochshiel are through to their first senior final after they beat Lovat 3-0 at Braeview Park.

There was a large crowd at this excellent venue for this much anticipated semi-final tie.

The early play took place in the 'Shiel forward line but,

after five minutes, it was at the other end of park where there were two superb displays of skilful stick work. First, Lovat's Kevin Bartlett connected with a ball in the air to steer a shot goalwards, only for keeper Scott Kennedy to produce a fantastic reflex save with his stick to stop Bartlett's effort entering the net.

A minute later, a first-time Greg Matheson shot from the edge of the 'D' went just wide of the post.

Kinlochshiel made the breakthrough on eight minutes. Lovat keeper Stuart MacDonald had to quickly adjust his feet to keep out a slightly deflected shot on goal, but the alert Keith MacRae ran in to tap the rebound into the net to make it 1-0.

Kevin Bartlett created another chance for himself on 13 minutes but Scott Kennedy reached the ball with his right foot to save.

A trademark 'Shiel free-hit from wide on the left on 17 minutes saw full forward John MacRae sprint across the pitch from the left touchline to get onto the ball. Lovat full back Daniel Grieve was alert, tracking MacRae's run, and he did enough to prevent a clean strike at goal.

John MacRae wasn't to be denied on 41 minutes though. There was a scramble at the edge of the 'D' following a 'Shiel corner. The ball spun up in the air and MacRae knocked it into the net to make it 2-0 and the west coast side were worthy of their two-goal interval lead.

Kevin Thain got his and Kingussie's second on 52 minutes. Aberdeen forward Alex Duncan was sent off by referee Euan Pearson after the re-start.

Roddy Young on 73 minutes and Ruaridh Anderson on 82 minutes secured Kingussie's progression to the last four of the tournament.

James MacPherson has been in great goal-scoring form for the Glen reserves this season and he netted four times. Callum Smith and Cairn Urquhart got the others.

The Glenurquhart colts now have a Strathdearn Cup semi-final meeting with the

Calum MacAulay came on for Lewis Tawse at the break, with Tawse departing to head on holiday.

Lovat made another switch as Drew Howie came on for Graeme MacMillan on 62 minutes. Howie went to full back, Daniel Grieve to buckshee back with Danny Kelly pushed forward and Kevin Bartlett playing along the centre line.

With 15 minutes remaining, a Donald Nixon rocket shot from distance produced a good save from Stuart MacDonald as the ball would have dipped just under the crossbar.

Keith MacRae finally put the result beyond doubt on 77 minutes when he collected the ball 15 yards out before drilling a low shot under the diving Michael MacKenzie. This meant Stuart MacDonald didn't see the ball until late and it went into the bottom left hand corner of the net.

Lovat made a final change as Euan Ferguson came on for Lorne MacKay.

Some excellent work from Duncan 'DA' MacRae, on as a replacement for Jordan Fraser, at the edge of the 'D' on 85 minutes saw him shake off his marker, creating enough space to send a fierce shot goalwards. But he was denied by another spectacular Stuart MacDonald save with the ball heading for roof of the net.

Kinlochshiel deserved the win and they could have added more than one goal to their tally in the second half. Lovat, especially when Kevin Bartlett was in centre line, did not possess their usual goal threat.

Best for Lovat were Stuart MacDonald, Daniel Grieve and Mark Kelly with Ryan Ferguson battling well in centre line.

'Shiel had no weaknesses with Finlay MacRae turning in a man of the match performance and his brother Keith MacRae not far behind.

Innes Wood was the match referee.

Strathdearn Cup - quarter finals

Aberdeen University 0 Kingussie 4

The Kingussie second team beat Aberdeen University 4-0 at Balgownie.

The students started brightly and twice hit the frame of the goal before Kingussie took a 42-minute lead through Kevin Thain.

Kevin Thain got his and Kingussie's second on 52 minutes. Aberdeen forward Alex Duncan was sent off by referee Euan Pearson after the re-start.

Roddy Young on 73 minutes and Ruaridh Anderson on 82 minutes secured Kingussie's progression to the last four of the tournament.

Glenurquhart 6 Fort William 0

The Glenurquhart reserves beat Fort William's reserves 6-0 at Blairbeg.

Fort William had Gordie MacKinnon in their squad, coming out of retirement to play.

James MacPherson has been in great goal-scoring form for the Glen reserves this season and he netted four times. Callum Smith and Cairn Urquhart got the others.

The Glenurquhart colts now have a Strathdearn Cup semi-final meeting with the



Action from the Macaulay Cup semi-final between Kyles Athletic and Inveraray. Inveraray booked their place in the final with a 3-2 win.

Kingussie colts to look forward to.

Kilmallie 1 Lochcarron 2

Lochcarron came from a goal down to beat the Kilmallie second team 2-1 at Canal Parks.

Iain Beagrie put Kilmallie ahead after 10 minutes but Lochcarron's Liam Arnott, named 'Most Committed Player' at the Camanachd Association Development Camp earlier in the week, made it 1-1 after half an hour.

The winning goal came 10 minutes from time when Sean MacCuish scored to clinch Lochcarron's place in the last four of the competition.

Lochcarron will now play Skye Camanachd's reserves in the semi-finals.

Marine Harvest Premiership

Fort William 1 Newtonmore 4

Newtonmore extended their lead at the top of the table with a 4-0 win over Fort William at An Aird.

Fort William defender Mark Grant was free of suspension, but he didn't play. An under-strength home side were short of several players including Bryan Simpson, Arran MacPhee and Daniel Stewart. They had no substitutes for the game and Paul Bamber came out of retirement to play whilst there was also a place for youngster Ally MacRae.

Fraser MacKintosh returned for Newtonmore after missing his team's last three outings through injury. He started on the bench but played the second half. Michael Ritchie remained in goal whilst defender Andy MacKintosh was still out. Jamie Robinson was also back and he came on as a substitute late in the game.

Newtonmore took the lead after four minutes when Glen MacKintosh got on the end of a cross. His shot took a deflection off a defender before nestling in the net.

When Iain Robinson played in Glen MacKintosh on 38 minutes, the Scotland forward was one-on-one with home keeper Paul MacKay, who needed treatment early in the match after being hit in the face with the ball, and the Scotland forward pushed the ball home to make it 2-0.

Scott Henderson pulled a

goal back for Fort William on 44 minutes when he capitalised on a slip in the 'More defence to score.

Evan Menzies restored Newtonmore's two-goal advantage on the stroke of half time when his long-range effort beat Paul MacKay to make it 3-1.

Glen MacKintosh completed his second hat-trick in successive Saturdays on 55 minutes when he finished off a nicely worked free-hit with a low, hard shot into the net to make it 4-1.

Newtonmore are three points ahead of second-placed Oban Camanachd and they have a game in hand.

Oban Camanachd 2 Lochaber 1

Oban Camanachd move back into second place with a hard fought victory over Lochaber in what was a dress rehearsal for the Scottish Cup semi-final on August 20.

The home side, with a full squad available, started brightly and could have scored in the first minute with Andrew 'Papa' McCuish going close.

The same player made amends in the fourth minute when he opened the scoring to put the home side ahead.

The red and blacks should have added to their tally but the combination of missed chances and good defensive play by Lochaber meant there was no further scoring.

Referee Robert Baxter had his

work cut out keeping control of a lively and sometimes highly competitive game.

The home support would have expected Camanachd to go in at half-time with a more convincing lead, especially with Lorne Dickie continuing his impressive start to the season.

The second half was only 15 minutes old when Camanachd defender Garry Lord was sent off after an altercation with Danny Delaney.

Down to 11 men, the home side had to regroup with team manager Ian Hay forced to reshuffle his line-up.

He brought on Ian Campbell for Willie Neilson and took Malcolm Clark off, replacing him with defender Scott McKillop.

Midway through the second half, Lochaber equalised through Danny Delaney.

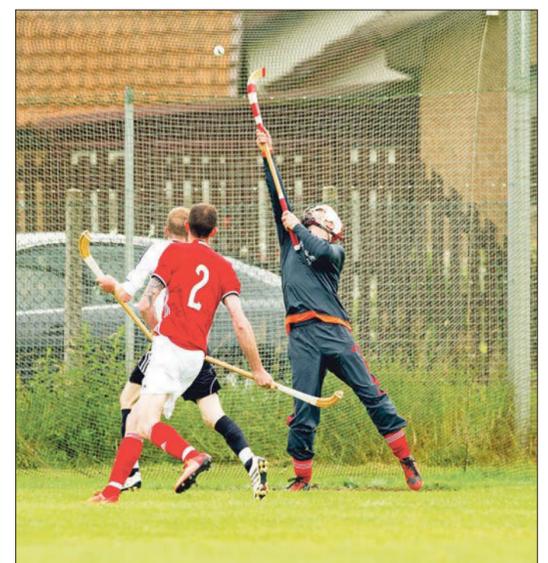
With numerical advantage, Lochaber pressed for a second goal but found the home defence of Gary McKerracher, Ross MacMillan, Scott McKillop and Daniel Cameron in good form.

The home side were dealt a further blow when Ian 'Gussie' Campbell was injured with a broken finger which all but rules him out for the season. He was replaced by Conor Howe.

Despite having to reshuffle and a man down, it was the home side who secured the two points when top scorer Andrew McCuish found the net and



Inveraray goalkeeper Scott MacLachlan saves Robbie MacLeod's late penalty during the Macaulay Cup semi-final at Mossfield, Oban.



Kinlochshiel keeper Scot Kennedy makes a great save to deny Kevin Bartlett an early goal for Lovat during last Saturday's Macaulay Cup semi-final. Photo: Neil Paterson.



Camanachd Cup Macaulay Cup MacTavish Cup Celtic Society Cup

Sutherland Cup Balliemore Cup Strathdearn Cup Bullough Cup

ensured that after last week's surprise reverse against Kingussie they stay in second place in the premier league, three points behind Newtonmore.

Team manager Ian Hay said: 'The players had to work hard for this victory, especially in the last half-hour, and that to me was the most pleasing aspect of the game. The commitment and correct attitude was there for everyone to see. Another pleasing feature is the form of youngsters Ross MacMillan and Daniel MacVicar who travelled to Ireland this week with the Scottish International under 17s.'

Oban Camanachd are at home to Skye on Saturday when they will look to cement second place in the premier league.

Skye Camanachd 0 Glenurquhart 2

Glenurquhart collected two valuable points with a 2-0 victory over Skye Camanachd in their 3pm throw up at Pairc nan Laoch, Portree.

Skye made changes to the squad which lost 5-0 to Newtonmore in their league meeting in Portree a week earlier. Iain Murray, Steven Morrison and Iain Nicolson all returned in place of Danny Morrison, David MacInnes and Neil John Campbell, the latter having suffered a broken finger in the Newtonmore match.

David MacLennan was free of suspension after missing the Lovat game but he didn't travel for this one. The Glen continued with John Barr at full back, Fraser Heath at buckshee back, Arran MacDonald at full centre and Lewis MacLennan in attack.

The game started at a fantastic pace and Stuart MacKintosh made a great save from a Jordan Murchison shot before Jamie Gannon did even better to deny both Neale Reid and Connor Golabek.

Glen took the lead on 39 minutes when a Lewis MacLennan shot from the left took a wicked bounce in front of the Skye keeper and the ball sneaked into the net.

Whilst there was a touch of fortune to the Glen opener, their second was well executed as a fine turn and 22-yard shot from Neale Reid made it 2-0 on 49 minutes.

Skye pressed late in the game but they couldn't find the goal that would have set up a grandstand finish. The closest they came was a Jordan Murchison shot which was again well saved by Stuart MacKintosh.

Glenurquhart now move two points away of the relegation zone. They have important matches coming up in the next fortnight; away to Fort William and at home to Skye.

Marine Harvest National Division

**Bute 0
Kilmallie 3**
Kilmallie moved up to second in the table with a 3-0 triumph over Bute at the Meadows.

Craig MacIsaac was free to play for Kilmallie but his booking in the Balliemore Cup Final last weekend means he starts a three-match suspension in the league meeting with Beaulieu this coming weekend. Innes Blackhall served a one-match ban for passing through the disciplinary points threshold. Peter Carmichael and Alan MacDonald were also missing. Duncan Rodger scored the only goal of the first half on 33 minutes.

Liam MacDonald made it 2-0 on 52 minutes and a second from Duncan Rodger in the final minute completed the 3-0 triumph.

Kilmallie are just a couple of points behind league leaders Inveraray and have two games in hand on the Winterton side.

**Caberfeidh 8
Ballachulish 2**
Caberfeidh go third after they recovered from the loss of an early goal to beat Ballachulish 8-2 at Castle Leod.

This was a first match in charge of Caberfeidh for Jodi Gorski who took over the hot seat from Lee Nicol.

Ally MacLennan and Paddy Wilson were missing for Caberfeidh, whilst Donald Mellis played in goal instead of Ewan Pilcher. Scott MacDonald was still banned for Ballachulish, Cain MacPhee was also suspended but John MacDonald played.

Lorne Brown shocked the hosts with a goal after four minutes. Brown struck the ball from 40 yards and it took a bounce in front of Caberfeidh keeper David Mellis before ending up in the net.

Cabers recovered though and Ruaraidh MacLeman slammed home a re-bound on 29 minutes after Balla' keeper Cameron Sutherland had made a good save.

A speculative Craig Morrison drive from 25 yards on 35 minutes went into the top corner of the net. Blair Morrison peeled away from his marker John MacDonald, following a short corner on 41 minutes, and drilled an unstoppable shot into the bottom corner of the net to make it 3-1.

Balla' weren't going down without a fight though and John Clark pulled a goal back a minute before referee John Angus Gillies' half time whistle when he reacted first to send a superb lob over keeper Mellis in the home goal.

The second half belonged to Caberfeidh. Craig Morrison got his second from the penalty spot after 49 minutes to make it 4-2. Scotland U17 keeper Cameron Sutherland had made two outstanding stops in quick succession but was then penalised for falling on the ball.

Craig Morrison and Blair Morrison were becoming more and more influential as the match went on and Craig Morrison completed his hat-trick on the hour mark with the goal of the match.

Blair Morrison ran down the wing, juggling the ball on his caman. He crossed to his brother Craig Morrison who volleyed the ball home from around the penalty spot past a helpless keeper.

Not to be outdone, Blair Morrison took his tally to four goals with strikes on 69, 79 and 82 minutes to round off the 8-2 win.

Whilst the Morrison brothers shone for Caberfeidh, keeper Cameron Sutherland was again the pick of the Ballachulish players.

Marine Harvest North Division 1

**Newtonmore 2
Strathglass 0**
The top two met at the Eilan where the Newtonmore seconds closed the gap on league leaders Strathglass with a 2-0 win.

Newtonmore, with John MacKenzie in goal, took the lead in the opening minute thanks to a Conor Jones goal and they doubled their advantage when Duncan Gorman made it 2-0 on 37 minutes.

The Strathglass cause wasn't helped when Scott Douglas was sent off by referee Graham Cameron for two bookings. They also lost keeper Adam Todd with what seemed to be a serious leg injury.

Strathglass rarely troubled the Newtonmore goal and John MacKenzie only had one real save of note to make.

Newtonmore are now just two points behind Strathglass and have two games in hand.

Skye Camanachd 1 Lovat 1

The Skye Camanachd reserves and the Lovat reserves shared the points following a 1-1 draw in their noon throw up at Pairc nan Laoch, Portree.

Skye's James Pringle was with the Skye first team, Neil John Campbell was injured, and Aonghas MacDonald dropped out of the squad. Their places were taken by David MacInnes,



Oban Camanachd's Garry Lord clears his lines during the Marine Harvest Premiership game against Lochaber which the red and blacks won 2-1.

Marine Harvest Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	10	9	1	0	37	8	19
Oban Camanachd	11	7	2	2	18	10	16
Kinlochshiel	12	6	3	3	26	15	15
Kingussie	13	6	2	5	22	22	14
Lovat	13	6	1	6	25	28	13
Kyles Athletic	8	5	2	1	25	11	12
Glenurquhart	11	4	0	7	16	28	8
Lochaber	13	1	5	7	17	33	7
Skye	9	2	6	3	6	15	6
Fort William	12	0	2	10	11	33	2

DJ Gilpin and youngsters Jamie Gillies and Martin Pringle. Lovat keeper Ronan MacMillan missed their last outing, an 8-4 defeat to Strathglass, but he was back for this one.

Martin Mainland, on his way back from injury, started at full centre where he was a cut above the other players. Scott MacKenzie also stood out at buckshee back for the Balgateside who travelled without any substitutes.

Skye edged the first half but Lovat came closest to taking an interval lead when a Bailey MacKay shot came back off the post.

A low Cameron MacMillan strike deceived Skye keeper Ryan Morrison on 53 minutes to give Lovat the lead.

Skye pushed hard for a leveller but it looked like the visitors would take the points until Connor Gilpin, at the back post, crashed a corner from the right into the net to make it 1-1 with just a minute remaining.

Kinlochshiel 4 Beaulieu 0

The Kinlochshiel seconds overcame the Beaulieu seconds 4-0 at Kirkton.

Kinlochshiel defender Douglas Campbell began a two-game ban following his red card in the Strathdearn Cup semi-final defeat to Skye a week earlier.

Beaulieu were missing some regulars. Calum MacKay was called on to play in goal but, with no first team game, they were able to field Scotland U17 player Andrew Morrison.

There were no goals in the first half but Sandy MacDiarmid put 'Shiel ahead three minutes after the re-start.

The home side scored three more times in the final 15 minutes of the game.

A Scott MacLean shot deceived the keeper to make it 2-0 on 75 minutes and Duncan Matheson added a third three minutes later.

'Shiel captain Neil Fraser rounded off the 4-0 win with a goal on 81 minutes.

Marine Harvest South Division 1

**Oban Celtic 12
Taynuilt 0**

Oban Celtic were too strong for Taynuilt, winning 12-0 in their 3pm throw up at Ganavan.

Celtic were without Rory Bruce, Allan Mckie, Scott Burnett, Ewan MacCorquodale David Graham and Fraser MacMillan. They welcomed back full centre David MacInnes.

Taynuilt also had absentees in what was to be a difficult afternoon for the visitors.

Oban Celtic boss Kenny Wotherspoon's pre-match team talk proved to be positive as his side raced into a 3-0 lead after only eight minutes.

An early Daniel Madej double on three and six minutes and an Ally McKerracher strike on eight minutes gave Celtic a 3-0 advantage.

Taynuilt were struggling to cope with the home side's movement, particularly up front, and Daniel Madej completed his hat-trick on 25 minutes and Neil Carmichael made it 5-0 on the half hour mark.

Ally McKerracher got his second on 33 minutes to make it 6-0 at the interval.

The second half started as the first half ended with relentless pressure from Celtic and Neil Carmichael got his second four minutes into the second half and a fourth from Daniel Madej made it 8-0 with 55 minutes played.

Some excellent goalkeeping from Taynuilt's Chris Parr kept the home side at bay until four goals in the last 10 minutes completed the emphatic win.

Neil Carmichael completed his hat-trick on 80 minutes with Ally McKerracher, who must be pushing for Scotland U21 recognition, also getting a hat-trick goal a couple of minutes later to take Celtic into double figures.

George MacMillan on 84 minutes and a fifth from Daniel Madej a couple of minutes later made it 12-0.

Oban Celtic now go second, ahead of Aberdeen on goal difference. They both trail Lochside Rovers by a point and both have two games in hand.

After the match, Oban Celtic manager Kenny Wotherspoon said: 'The performance today was exceptional and some of the goals we scored were out of the top drawer.'

'My decision to move Ally McKerracher from defence to the forward line paid off as he and Daniel Madej were superb. I also thought Taynuilt's keeper Chris Parr, although conceding 12 goals, made some very good saves.'

'I could not have asked for a better performance from the boys.'

'This sets us up nicely for the derby against Lochside on Saturday and that's one we are certainly looking forward to.'

Kyles Athletic 2 Col Glen 1

The Kyles Athletic second team came from behind to beat Col Glen 2-1 at Tighnabraich.

Strathspey Camanachd at Kinraig.

Strathspey's Liam Tinney started a two-game ban following his red card against the Caberfeidh seconds a week earlier.

Garry led 2-0 at the interval with Stuart Gregory on 11 minutes and Ben Armitage on 25 minutes on target.

Former Kingussie player Ally Walker pulled a goal back for Strathspey on 65 minutes but a Raymond Robertson double on 67 and 78 minutes gave fifth placed Glengarry a 4-1 win.

Inverness 5 Caberfeidh 6

The Caberfeidh reserves took the points thanks to a 6-5 victory over the Inverness reserves in a high scoring encounter at the Bught Park.

Inverness included young forward Charlie MacDonald, who has been in fine form for their senior side this season, whilst Cabers were without former Inverness player Brian Mackain because of work commitments.

Colin MacLennan put Cabers ahead after three minutes and Stuart Kryzanowski made it 2-0 on 14 minutes. Chris Johnson pulled a goal back a minute later, only for Colin MacLennan to get his second on 22 minutes to make it 3-1.

Inverness, with Matthew Ross excellent at full centre, roared back into the match and Colin Fraser on 29 minutes and Charlie MacDonald on 38 minutes made it 3-3 at the break.

There was an even start to the second half before two quick goals from Stewart Krzyzanowski and a hat-trick strike from Colin MacLennan gave Cabers a 5-3 advantage with an hour played.

Michael Chisholm halved the deficit on 64 minutes, only for Ruairidh McCreadie to make it 6-4 on 71 minutes.

Jack Craig made it 6-5 on 77 minutes and there were chances at both ends before the final whistle but Cabers took the points.

Caberfeidh are now just a point behind second-placed Lochcarron in the league, although they have played three games more.

Lewis Camanachd W/O v Boleskine

After the previous weekend's Heb-Celt Cup success, there was disappointment for Lewis Camanachd as Boleskine were unable to raise a team for their match at Shawbost.

Lewis were awarded the points and move above Strathspey to eighth spot in the table.

Marine Harvest South Division 2

**Aberdour W/O
v Bute**

The Aberdour colts were given a walk-over as the Bute colts were unable to raise a team for their match at Silver Sands.

Aberdour are awarded the points and they move off the bottom of the table on goal difference at Dunoon Camanachd's expense.

Fixtures

Saturday July 30

**Aberdeen Considine
Sutherland Cup Final**
Newtonmore v Kingussie, Archie Ritchie, Kingussie, The Dell, Kingussie.

Bullough Cup Semi-Final

Glasgow Mid Argyll v Tayforth, Ewan MacDonald.

Marine Harvest Premiership

Fort William v Glenurquhart, Robert Baxter - 3pm. Lovat v Kyles Athletic, Graham Cameron. Oban Camanachd v Skye, Deek Cameron.

Marine Harvest National Division

Beaulieu v Kilmallie, Evan MacRae. Caberfeidh v Bute, Calum Girvan - 1pm. Inveraray v Glasgow MA, David Mitchell - 3pm. Inverness v Ballachulish, Martin MacLean.

Marine Harvest North Division 1

Skye v Glenurquhart, Andy MacLean. Fort William v Strathglass, Alex MacVicar, noon. Kinlochshiel v Lovat, John Angus Gillies.

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Col Glen v Glenorchy, Ronnie Campbell. Inveraray v Aberdour, Ross Brown, noon. Kyles Athletic v Taynuilt, Innes Wood. Oban Celtic v Lochside Rovers, Lachie Wood.

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Inverness v Aberdeen Uni, John Matheson, noon. Glengarry v Lewis, Callum Duff. Lochaber v Strathspey, John Wood. Lochcarron v Kilmallie, Brian MacKay.

Marine Harvest South Division 2

Dunoon v Aberdour, Willie MacDonald.

Throw ups 2.30pm unless stated.

Results

Saturday July 23

**Artemis Macaulay Cup
Semi-Finals**
Kinlochshiel 3-0 Lovat
Kyles Athletic 2-3 Inveraray

Strathdearn Cup third round

Kilmallie 1-2 Lochcarron
Glenurquhart 6-0 Fort William
Aberdeen Uni 0-4 Kingussie

Marine Harvest Premiership

Fort William 1-4 Newtonmore
Skye 0-2 Glenurquhart
Oban Caman 2-1 Lochaber

Marine Harvest National Division

Bute 0-3 Kilmallie
Caberfeidh 8-2 Ballachulish

Marine Harvest North Division 1

Newtonmore 2-0 Strathglass
Kinlochshiel 4-0 Beaulieu
Skye 1-1 Lovat

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Oban Celtic 12-0 Taynuilt
Glenorchy 1-2 Inveraray
Kyles Athletic 2-1 Col Glen
Lochside Rovers P-P Aberdour

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Inverness 5-6 Caberfeidh
Lewis P-P Boleskine
Boleskine unable to field a team, points to Lewis
Strathspey 1-4 Glengarry

Marine Harvest South Division 2

Aberdour P-P Bute
Bute unable to field a team, points to Aberdour



Glenurquhart's Ben Hosie and Fort William's Lachie Shaw in action during the Strathdearn Cup quarter final. Photo: Donald Cameron.



Oban Saints central defender Craig Campbell sees this goal-bound header cleared off the line by Ants defender Ross Loughlin. Photos and match report Derek Black

Saints in dominant mood as they knock five past the Ants

Oban Saints	5
St Anthony's	1
Pre-season friendly	

LAST Saturday Saints welcomed first-time visitors St Anthony's to Glencruitten for a pre-season friendly match but quickly whipped away the welcome mat to give their semi-professional guests from the West Region Central District Junior League a torrid afternoon.

Manager Alex Craik returned from holiday to resume team selection duties but found his options limited by a lengthy list of unavailable players due to injury and other commitments.

There were only six survivors from the XI who started against Vale of Leven last week with Thomas McCulloch lining up in goal behind a back four of Jamie Graham, Craig Campbell, Dene Cassells and Dougal Graham. Paul Kerr took up his accustomed position anchoring the midfield with Donald Campbell and Scott Maitland for company.

Absence

Alex was keen to have a look at the versatile Martin Bonar in an attacking role and handed him the number nine jersey flanked by young Fraser MacFarlane and Craig MacEwan.

Marc MacCallum's continued absence meant that Donald

Campbell kept the captain's armband. The substitutes' bench was once again a mixture of youth and experience with teenagers Jay Cooper and Daniel Croarkin keeping down the average age and Graham Douglas, Ross Maitland and Alex Craik threatening to push it off the scale at the other end.

The players were met by the sound of the Ants drone hovering above the pitch keeping an eye on the action unfolding below.

After a quiet opening spell the match burst into life in the sixth minute when Donald Campbell thumped a right foot shot past Jon Connolly in the Ants goal from 22 yards.

The move started with Dougal Graham on the left wing with the full back swinging in a cross which the Ants defence could only clear as far as Scott Maitland who found his skipper on the edge of the D. Donald shifted the ball to his right, opening up the angle for a shot which beat the Ants keeper low down to his right.

Scott set up Donald again two minutes later, this time from a set-piece. Scott was fouled on the corner of the Ants penalty area just outside the 18-yard line. Donald lined up the free kick from the Saints left, and he

curled it right-footed around the two-man wall but also wide of the junction of post and bar.

The Ants made their first foray up field in the 11th minute winning a free kick just outside the Saints box on the Ants right when Dene Cassells clipped the heels of Grant Reid. Full back Graeme Crawford curled the free kick high over the crossbar much to the frustration of the pack waiting for a cross to the back post.

Jousts

Martin Bonar was enjoying his aerial jousts with the Ants defence and won a free kick from Michael McDowell in the 15th minute for a push in the back when the pair went up for a header. Donald Campbell played the ball out wide to the left for Dougal Graham, who kick-started an intricate passing move involving Scott Maitland, Craig MacEwan and Donald Campbell which ended with Donald tucking the ball away from six yards only for referee Martin Rae to deny Saints a sensational goal by ruling Donald offside.

Martin Bonar's afternoon was cut frustratingly short when he landed awkwardly on his left heel forcing him to leave the field of play to be replaced by Ross Maitland.

The Saints defence was caught out by a ball over the top in the 18th minute with Grant Kelly outpacing Craig Campbell and the big Saints central defender bringing down the Ants striker with a rash challenge just inside the Saints box. Kelly took the spot kick himself but couldn't beat Thomas McCulloch who made a good save down to his left. Dene Cassells was quickest to react ushering the loose ball behind for a corner kick under pressure from Craig Smith.

At the other end Scott Maitland stung the palms of Jon Connolly with a fierce strike from 22 yards after an incisive pass from Paul Kerr.

Saints kept up the pressure and carved open the Ants defence in the 40th minute with Craig MacEwan threading a perfectly weighted pass through to Ross Maitland who lifted the ball over the advancing Jon Connolly but narrowly wide of the big keeper's left hand post.

The front three combined well again on the left to set up another shooting opportunity for Fraser MacFarlane but this shot lacked the power of his previous effort and was easily gathered by Connolly.

Saints were rewarded for their first half dominance in the 43rd minute when Craig MacEwan got on the end of another excellent move to tuck away a Jamie Graham cut back from the right. The Ants defence appealed in vain for an offside decision and although Jamie didn't have his glasses on he was pretty sure Craig was behind the ball when he played it.

Graham 'Sugar' Douglas replaced Thomas McCulloch in goal for the start of the second half with a promise from the manager that youngsters Jay Cooper and Daniel Croarkin would get a run out for the closing 30 minutes.

A devastating start to the second half saw Saints score three goals in five minutes to put the game well beyond the visitors' reach. Straight from the



The hi-tech drone which was fitted with a camera hovered above Glencruitten during last Saturday's match

kick off Donald Campbell ran at the heart of the Ants defence winning a corner kick and setting the tone for another 45 minutes of Saints domination. Craig MacEwan netted his second goal of the day in the 46th minute clipping home from 12 yards range after a give and go with Ross Maitland.

Brace

Three minutes later, Donald Campbell completed his brace with Scott Maitland providing the killer pass. The match was all over as a contest by now and Ross Maitland completed the scoring with a stunning finish from the left, slamming the ball into the net past Connolly's despairing left hand after a lay off from Donald Campbell.

The hour mark brought the promised line-up changes with Jay Cooper replacing Fraser MacFarlane up front and Daniel Croarkin replacing Dougal Graham at the back.

Donald Campbell almost replaced Jay Cooper for a shot on goal in the 64th minute but the substitute was denied by a tremendous last-ditch challenge by Paul O'Brien taking the ball off the youngster's toe at the expense of a corner kick.

Craig Campbell who has not had much pre-season training was replaced by his manager Alex Craik in a like for like switch in central defence.

Football

Despite being second best for most of the match the visitors never gave up and were rewarded for their perseverance with a deserved consolation goal in the 77th minute when Saints momentarily switched off at a free kick on the edge of their own box. Substitute Aiden Lennon slipped the ball to Graeme Crawford who raced into the box and squared the ball to Craig Smith who forced the ball home from three yards.

Referee Martin Rae, who had a good game, brought a dominant Saints performance to an end with the hone side running out comfortable 5-1 winners.

Saints manager Alex Craik was delighted with his team. He said: 'We played some excellent football today against an experienced junior side. We kept the ball well and never let them settle into any rhythm. We still have a number of players to come back into the squad, but I was very pleased with the showing of the youngsters who have joined us this year.'

Next up for Saints is a visit from old rivals East Kilbride of the Central Scottish Amateur Football League Premier Division. The game will take place on Saturday at Glencruitten 1 with a 1.30pm kick-off.



Saints' keeper Thomas McCulloch saves Grant Kelly's first-half penalty kick.

MARTIAL ARTS WITH IAIN RODGER

Kickboxing

Classes continue as normal during the holidays with Craig MacLachlan training hard towards the full contact karate world championships in Japan in October.

For more info on the classes contact Wullie Rodger on shihanwill@gmail.com.

Ladies-only kickboxing

Senshi Do Kickboxing's women-only sessions on Sundays at 2pm, taken by Sharon Dickison are open to beginners of all ages from high school upwards. The first session is free so you have nothing to lose and everything to gain. It's a great way to get fit and learn to defend yourself in the process.

For more details, contact Sharon on 07508 726334.

BJJ

All the classes continue as normal throughout the holiday period and the regular monthly seminars are well attended with a wealth of knowledge being passed on from head coach Marcos Nardini.

For club info contact Coogie on coogiepots@gmail.com.

Kyokushinkai Karate

With the summer grading tests out of the way, the classes are concentrating on fighting training for the time being. Last Saturday in Oban, club instructor Iain Rodger ran a course aimed at those wanting to improve their stand-up fighting and/or attend tournaments, details of which will be in the next report.

Several of the junior members have expressed an interest in competing at a national tournament in London in November so some of the training will be geared towards this.

The Oban club has gained national and international recognition through some of its past and current fighters and it's good to see a new crop of enthusiastic competitors coming through.

For more info on the Kyokushinkai classes contact Iain on iain@ikku.co.uk or 07584 166542.

Shukokai Karate

Argyll Martial Arts classes are taking a well-deserved break for the summer holidays and will resume in a couple of weeks.

For club details contact Kenny Gray on kenni.gray@btinternet.com.

Argyll and Bute Cup Football

THE annual Argyll and Bute Cup tournament will take place in Lochgilphead on Saturday August 6.

Cup holders Oban Saints have been drawn in section two alongside Glasgow Islay, Dunoon and Tarbert.

Section one comprises host club Lochgilphead Red Star, Rothesay Brandane, Kilchoman Islay and Carradale.

The tournament gets under way at 10am at the Ropework Park and on the 3G pitch at Lochgilphead Joint Campus.

Scottish Cup draw Football

THE draw for the opening rounds of the Scottish Amateur Cup will take place at Hampden Park, on Tuesday August 2 commencing at 10am.

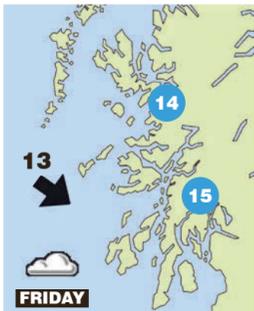
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Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban

WEATHER

Thursday	Cloudy with light rain showers Winds moderate south south westerly Temperatures 14°C to 17°C.
Friday	Sunny period with light rain showers Winds light west south westerly Temperatures 12°C to 16°C.
Weekend Outlook	Light rain showers on Saturday Sunny on Sunday Winds moderate westerly Temperatures 11°C to 15°C.



Stop Press: New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday July 28, 2016 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST)

Date	am	pm		
Thur	06.17 1.4 12.15 3.0 18.45 1.4	** ** *	**	Ardrishaig -5.35 Mallaig +0.25
Fri	01.29 3.1 07.30 1.4 13.59 3.1	20.05	1.4	Campbeltown -5.30 Portree +0.55
Sat	02.52 3.2 08.42 1.3 15.15 3.3	21.25	1.3	Crinan -0.47 Tobermory +0.16
Sun	03.56 3.4 09.44 1.1 16.08 3.5	22.29	1.1	Islay Port Ellen 2.00 Dover +5.30
Mon	04.45 3.6 10.37 0.9 16.50 3.7	23.20	1.0	
Tues	05.26 3.7 11.23 0.8 17.28 3.9	** ** *	**	
Wed	00.04 0.9 06.02 3.8 12.06 0.7	18.05	4.0	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate



WEST HIGHLAND YACHTING WEEK
SIX-PAGE PREVIEW
2016



Tiree Agricultural Show round-up and results
 See our farming section



Trust seeks ideas for how to win land buyout backing

MONICA GIBSON
 mgibson@obantimes.co.uk

A TRUST embarking on the biggest community land buyout on record is looking for innovative and traditional suggestions on how best to get public support.

More than 500 people have become members of East Lochaber and Laggan Community Trust (ELLCT), which hopes to buy the estate currently owned by Rio Tinto. Measuring around 120,000 acres, the trust believes, if successful, the buyout would provide numerous opportunities for individuals and businesses with the goal of creating a better future for the younger generation.

There are 11,000 people on the electorate who are eligible to become members, with youngsters and those living outside the catchment area also able to sign up.

The trust has generated an online presence, including website and Twitter accounts, and has held various meetings to help spread the word as it believes having community backing is its best chance of success.

At one of the meetings, it was suggested a video campaign

could be a way of catching more attention. Meanwhile, on Facebook, the trust asked: 'What would you like to see happen on or around the Rio Tinto estate?'

Donald Morriss replied: 'A bilingual Gaelic and English language policy. Plots for housing. Reduction in deer numbers. More cycle routes. Renewable energy sources. The puggy line as a tourist attraction.'

Politicians have also shown their support. David Stewart, Rhoda Grant, Donald Cameron, Douglas Ross, Edward Mountain and John Finnie, who all represent the Highlands and Islands, have sent a letter to Rio Tinto.

The letter read: 'We welcome the move by ELLCT to investigate the potential for the community to purchase the estate, should it become available.'

'As the community trust rightly recognises, the priority must be securing the jobs at the smelter site with either Rio Tinto or a similar industrial employer.'

'However, we think the trust's ideas represent an exciting prospect for the people of Lochaber.'

'Ultimately, Rio Tinto has

the final say on what happens next, but we all believe that the company being rooted in Lochaber would be the best outcome.'

To further strengthen its hand, ELLCT has become a member of Community Land Scotland (CLS), which was established in 2010 to provide a collective voice for community landowners.

Lorne MacLeod, for CLS, said: 'To work with whoever may be the operator of the smelter, I think it has to be explored.'

'It [community land ownership] has worked elsewhere if you look at South Uist with 93,000 acres.'

'This would be 125,000, which is obviously huge but, in the modern-day, community ownership is the right route to take and I am confident they have a good shot at being successful here.'

He added: 'Everyone should see this very much as an exciting initiative.'

'It covers such a vast area from Spean Bridge and Kinlochleven and that will mean there is potential for lots of big ideas. Whether it be mini hydro, smallholdings, new crofts, there is so much potential here.'



Murdo Morrison, aged eight, gets a close look at some of the shellfish on show at Mallaig's Maritime Day.

Mallaig Maritime festival fun day

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and the Fishermen's Mission came up with a new winning formula for an event in Mallaig last Saturday. Similar events have been the highlight of the calendar in previous years but this is the first time the RNLI and the Fishermen's Mission have joined forces to host the Maritime Day festival. Throughout the event, Mallaig pier was transformed. Highlights included a parade, games, memorabilia and stalls selling fresh fish, sweets and hot food. See page 14 for full report and photographs.

TIMESLINE

MacFadyen's Contractors

THE OBAN Times would like to apologise without reservation for a photograph published in last week's Lochaber and Oban edition of the newspaper.

The paper published a picture of a haulage vehicle that had absolutely no connection with another company which was taking large loads through the centre of Fort William during peak hours.

Any connection to MacFadyen's hauliers was completely erroneous. The company has, in fact, received praise for its outstanding commitment to community consultation and negotiation in the movement of vehicles in the area.

Town volunteers praised at AGM

FORT William's Town Team volunteers have been commended for their achievements at the team's second annual general meeting.

Moira Robinson, town team chairwoman, ran through the achievements which included the toolshare project, the town centre heritage trail, the 'adopt a plot' project and the sponsored hanging baskets.

Secretary Sue Keen said: 'All 39 volunteers are highly valued and very much appreciated. Next year the team hopes to do more of the same and help to make Fort William even better.'

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Man on attempted murder charges

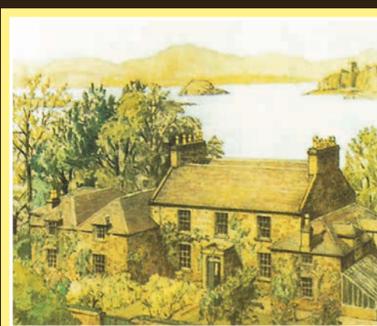
A MAN has appeared in court in Fort William charged with two counts of attempted murder.

James MacDonald, 49, has been charged with assaulting Flora MacPherson, of 78 Glenkingie Street, Caol, by striking her repeatedly on her hand and arm with a chainsaw to severe injury and permanent disfigurement. He is also accused of assaulting Raymond MacPherson, 73, of the same address, striking him repeatedly with a chainsaw on his body, left arm and hand, to severe injury and permanent disfigurement.

MacDonald appeared in Fort William Sheriff Court in private on petition on Thursday July 21. He is expected to appear in court again today (Thursday July 28).



The house at 78 Glenkingie Street in Caol.



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Transport forum's train service appeal

LOCHABER Transport Forum is calling for an improvement in West Highland line train services.

The forum wrote to Scottish Transport Minister Humza Yousaf last week following growing frustration over problems with the rail service.

The letter highlighted current issues with the service, including poor connecting train services with ferries arriving in Mallaig, as well as trains still being cancelled at the last minute, despite ScotRail taking on additional staff.

The letter stated: 'Trains are still being cancelled at short notice. For instance, four trains, half the scheduled services, were cancelled on July 2 between Fort William and Mallaig. No notices are provided at small/unmanned stations to let passengers know about cancellations.'

'Real-time travel information on screen or a PA system would seem to be essential on the West Highland line with its sparse services from unstaffed stations in remote locations.'

An issue arising with news of the upgraded 158 trains which will soon be used on the West Highland line, is the reduced capacity to carry passengers and bicycles.

The letter read: 'We've seen a big increase in ferry journeys along the west coast leading to an interest in cycling holidays so anything to improve this is welcomed. Surely we should be encouraging this type of tourism.'

The forum pointed out that increased services had been successful on the Oban section of the line, saying: 'It's time improvements were put in place for Lochaber. Everyone agrees this is such an iconic popular journey and services should match the significance of this.'

Speaking to *The Oban Times*, forum chairman and Fort William councillor Brian Murphy said: 'We are getting really angry and frustrated with the situation.'

'We have been writing to ministers for several years now and we keep getting fobbed off to Transport Scotland and given the run around.'

'Now we want to put pressure on ministers to do their job and get the West Highland line sorted.'

Court hears Lochaber man left wife feeling 'suffocated'

A LOCHABER man left his wife feeling 'suffocated' after he tried to control her by banning her from nights out and hiding her phone, a court heard.

Ewen MacKenzie, 41, has pleaded not guilty to acting in a way which caused Linda MacKenzie, his wife, fear or alarm over a five-month period starting in January this year.

The charges against MacKenzie, from Donald Row, Gleannan Cross, Morar, near Mallaig, include stopping

Ms Mackenzie from wearing makeup and shouting and swearing at her.

MacKenzie previously pleaded not guilty to assaulting his wife by seizing her and dragging to her injury on May 7 and May 21 and assaulting her friend Jody Dempster by pushing them and placing them in a headlock on May 23.

The trial against MacKenzie began last Friday in Fort William Sheriff Court where his solicitor, Gerry Sweeney, lodged a defence of self-defence.

Ms Mackenzie, who works during the week as a waitress, told the court the couple had been together for 15 years and married for five years.

The 39-year-old said: 'He used to take the phones all the time and hide them. The kids used to pick up the phone and hide it but they didn't know what they were doing.'

She added: 'Any messages, anything I got on it, he was trying to see who it was from.'

Ms Mackenzie discussed three separate incidents, telling the court on May 7

her now estranged husband grabbed her arms, dragged her outside and put her on the floor where she scraped her back on the doorstep. She added: 'I was covered in bruises. I remember because there was a period of hot weather and I couldn't wear a vest top.'

The court heard Ms MacKenzie had started texting a male friend, whom she knew from the school run, that had led to accusations of infidelity on her part, which she claimed to be false.

During cross-examination

Mr Sweeney outlined: 'A friendship intensified involving communication via text in the evening. Then there's the discovery of the texts, some months of tension which eventually leads to an argument and that's when the incidents start.' When asked why she didn't call the police after the initial alleged assault Ms MacKenzie said: 'I didn't want to have to explain myself to people ... I didn't want my kids to go through all of this.'

The trial is set to continue on Wednesday August 17.

POLICE FILES

THE FRONT door of Meall na Mara, Alma Road, Fort William, was damaged sometime between 4pm on Friday July 8 and 6.30pm on Saturday July 9. Anyone with information on how this damage was caused should contact police.

THREE brown fingerpost signs were removed from two locations between Monday July 18 and Thursday July 21.

The first was taken from the A82 at the north side of the junction with the B863. The other two signs were back to back, directly opposite the junction with the B863.

THE WINDSCREEN of a vehicle parked outside Plantation park at around 4.15pm on Monday July 22 was damaged.

Anyone with information should contact Fort William police station on 101.

A MAN was assaulted on Fort William High Street, near William Hill, at around 12.05am on Sunday July 10.

Anyone with information as to the identity of the suspect should contact Fort William police station on 101.

A WING mirror on a vehicle parked on Treig Road, Inverloch, was damaged sometime between 8.30pm on Thursday July 14 and 9am on Friday July 15.

Anyone with information should contact Fort William police station on 101.

Newsdesks

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Left to right: staff midwife Jane Elliot, Alexander, Megan and Alan Mackenzie.

Family thanks baby care unit with £3,230 donation

STAFF from Raigmore Hospital's Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) received a visit on Monday (July 25) from a little boy who wanted to say thank you to them for looking after him two years ago.

Alexander Mackenzie, two, along with his parents Alan and Megan also brought the staff at the unit a donation of £3,230.

The family, who are from Skye, held a ceilidh and raffle to fundraise for the unit where Alexander was cared for after being born two months early.

They raised a total of £4,230, donating the other £1,000 to

Ronald McDonald House in Glasgow where they spent two weeks while Alexander had shunt surgery.

Staff midwife Jane Elliot accepted the donation and she remembers the family from their time in SCBU.

She said: 'It was great to see Alexander again. We are so fortunate as a unit that so many of our former patients come by to say hello.'

'This is a fantastic sum of money which has been donated to the unit. We are very grateful to them for thinking of us and we really can't thank them enough.'

Public urged to leave TV reality show stars alone

'IT'S UP to you, but please leave them to it' is the message from the producer of a new television show.

KEO films, the maker of reality programme Eden currently being filmed on Ardnamurchan, has asked members of the public to stay away to protect the 'integrity' of the experiment.

The London-based outfit applied for and was granted a land order restricting access to the 600-acre 'set' to film the show in which 23 individuals or 'contributors' attempt to build a community from scratch.

The show was first aired on July 18 on Channel 4

attracting 1.8 million viewers, and in the second episode last Monday, members of the public were shown sailing into Cul na Croise Bay and leaving treats for the contestants.

While there are no tasks on the show, Monday's hour-long programme showed tensions building among sugar deprived community members as they struggle to live off the land. Therefore, the surprise delivery was met with much excitement and celebration.

And while KEO says it doesn't know what is going to happen as the show progresses, it has said how the group fares is up to the members and therefore asked that the

restrictions to be respected. A spokeswoman for the company said: 'For the safety of contributors Keo Films applied for a Section 11 statute which would temporarily suspend the public right to roam on the private land where the community are living.'

'The order is in effect from March 23, 2016, to midnight on March 20, 2017.'

She added: 'It is up to the community if they wish to interact with the outside world. However, for the integrity of what the group hopes to achieve in this remote location, we would hope that people leave them to it and observe the section 11.'

Fèis Nan Garbh Chriochan hailed a success



Mike Bryan, seated centre, from Ullapool, with some of the pupils who took part in the guitar group. Photo by Anthony MacMillan.

THE 26TH Fèis Nan Garbh Chriochan has been hailed a 'huge success' with numbers up and pupils showing incredible talent.

Acharacle Primary School hosted the fèis on Thursday July 21. Fifty-eight youngsters took part in the main fèis, for 9-18 year-olds, while 22 children participated in the Fèis Bheag for 5-8 year-olds.

Events included lessons in clarsach, guitar, fiddle, chanter, step dance, drama, accordion, keyboard, shinty, percussion, and Gaelic song. Eighteen tutors came from all over Lochaber to help with the day. Mike Bryan, who took guitar lessons, came from Ullapool, Alannah Beaton travelled from Skye to host drama seasons and Gaelic song teacher, Linda MacLeod, came from North Uist. Others travelled from Fort William, Mallaig and Glenfinnan.

Lesley MacMaster, administrator of Fèis Nan Garbh Chriochan for 11 years, told *The Oban Times*: 'It has been a huge success with incredibly talented tutors and pupils who have all worked really hard and had lots of fun. The community is hugely supportive of the fèis. Huge thanks to everyone for their support in donating prizes, attending the events and giving their time to help.'

Gemma dedicates years to help Kenya's abandoned children

KATIE CARABINE

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SOUTH Uist woman Gemma Steele has worked tirelessly since 2009 to provide a much-needed place of safety and education for orphaned and abandoned children in Kenya.

She is the founder and director of registered charity St Jerome's Centre in Nakuru.

After finishing school, Gemma decided to take a year out and travel. 'I wanted to see different parts of the world, see how different cultures deal with life,' she said.

She volunteered at a children's home in Nakuru, Kenya, and worked in a school there.

When the rent for the children's home was raised, the owner asked Gemma to pay the increased rate for them.

As a 17-year-old, just finished high school, she wasn't financially able to do this and the children she had worked with for six months had to be abandoned by the home owner. 'I couldn't have that on my conscience,' said Gemma, who returned to Scotland and started fundraising to buy a plot of land on which she hoped a new home could be built.

Word spread around her community and further afield and Gemma was offered a plot at the back of a school to build a new centre on if she agreed to build a nursery there as well. This meant the money she had raised could go straight to building the centre.

St Jerome's was opened in January



Gemma with a couple of St Jerome's residents in Kenya.

2012, providing a home to eight children at first.

There was an attack on St Jerome's in 2014 when Gemma was threatened by a gang with machetes who were trying to take over the centre.

'I naively didn't realise the difficulties with building on land that I didn't own. There was bribery over electricity and water which led to blackmail and the gang trying to get us out. They wanted to take over the building for their own use.'

'It backfired on them though because it only made me more determined to fulfil my promise I'd made to the kids to help them.'

Fortunately, news of the attack only served to increase the sup-

port the centre received. 'It was one of the best things that could possibly happen,' said Gemma. 'We managed to buy a one-acre plot and started from scratch again.'

'It was difficult but necessary to get the kids into a less violent community.'

There are 33 children currently being looked after at the centre and a team of nine staff members. There are outreach programmes as well as nursery education, adult and special needs education and rehab programmes run from the centre.

In 2014 Gemma won a Young Scot Unsung Hero award.

She also had dinner with Alex Salmond in Bute House when he was first minister and received a donation from the proceeds of an

auction of gifts he had received in office.

A BBC Alba documentary about her work in Kenya was broadcast in 2015.

Gemma was nominated by Alasdair Allan MSP as a local hero, meaning she was invited to participate in the Riding procession to officially open the Scottish Parliament at the start of July.

Speaking about when she found this out, Gemma said: 'I was quite shocked. I was sent the message directly and I didn't know anything about it but I was quite pleased.'

'The day itself was really interesting, to get an insight about the parliament building and behind the scenes. It was mainly a celebration though, there wasn't much politics.'

Gemma, who is 25 now, went on to study occupational therapy at Glasgow Caledonian University but she still tries to visit Kenya at least once a year.

Her role is less hands on these days. 'It's more staff management now. There's a team of nine staff and a committee of six,' she says.

Thinking about the future, Gemma says she wants to take what she has learned in Kenya back to Scotland.

'The issues the kids in Kenya face are not unique - they also exist in Scotland. Kids here need help too, in our West Highland communities and across Scotland.'

St Jerome's relies on donations and fundraising. To donate visit www.stjermosescentre.org.uk/ donate.

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Mairi Hunter, left, presents the trophy to Nan MacLachlan for best cross breed sheep. All photographs by Ricky Clark, show secretary.

Sun shines for west Ardnamurchan show and sports day

ELLIE FORBES
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

THE SUN shone on Kilchoan on Friday July 22, making it the perfect venue for this year's West Ardnamurchan show and sports.

The show field was busy from the outset, with the sheep judging getting under way early. Entries were up on previous years, with some people showing their sheep for the first time.

Judge Iain MacKay from Mull awarded best in the show to Hughie MacLachlan's blackface sheep.

Iain said: 'Overall the quality and presentation of the sheep has been very good, so deciding on the best was not an easy task.'

'We have had a great day in Kilchoan. This is such a friendly show, I hope they ask us back.'

There were also more entries than usual in the baking, craft, gardening and children's competitions, which were judged by Penny Horner and Sine Ferguson.

They said their particular highlights were the iced carrot cakes, the vegetable baskets and the items children had made with shells and seaweed they had found on the beach.

For the first time this year, the show included a display of Highland dancing by Connie MacLennan, as well as piping by members

of Tobermory High School Pipe Band. There was plenty to keep everyone entertained throughout the day with children's amusements, stalls and a barbecue.

One Dutch visitor said: 'This has been a special day, in a special place. I guess this must be what Highland hospitality is all about.'

A visitor from Mull said: 'I don't know how they do it over here in Kilchoan, but the sun always seems to shine on their show.'

In the afternoon there were the children's races, the hill race and the heavy events.

Show regular James Campbell of Mull took the overall title in the adult heavy event for the eighth year running.

The day ended with a pet parade, tug-of-war and the prize-giving.

This year the show committee's former secretary, Mairi Hunter, did the honours at the ceremony.

There was also a family ceilidh in the evening, featuring Ceol an Aire.

Rosie Curtis, show committee chairwoman, said: 'The committee did a fantastic job, as usual, and I want to say thank you to them as well as to our sponsors Marine Harvest, Agrimony Consulting, Watson's Seeds, Harbro and all the other local businesses and individuals who donated prizes. It's everyone working together that makes our annual show such a success.'

France honours D-Day hero with legion medal

A RESIDENT of Abbeyfield Ballachulish has been honoured for his role as a flying officer in the RAF in the Normandy landings on D-Day during the Second World War.

Alexander MacLachlan, 95, received a Legion D'Honneur medal from Emmanuel Cocher, the Consul General for France in Scotland, on Friday July 22 at Abbeyfield.

This is one of the highest honours the French government can present and gives Mr MacLachlan the title of Chevalier or Knight of the Legion d'Honneur.

Mark McCann, for whom Mr MacLachlan worked as a collector salesman, visits Abbeyfield regularly and was there to see Mr MacLachlan receive his medal.

He said: 'He stuck to me like glue when he was getting the medal.'

'He was a bit overawed and didn't really know what was going on but it was good for him.'

Members of the British Legion of Lochaber were among the guests present at the celebration, along with Abbeyfield

staff and residents and local councillor Thomas MacLennan. Bruce James, who is a member of the Lochaber branch of the British Legion, made the application for Mr MacLachlan to be honoured as all surviving veterans involved in the D-Day landings and the liberation of France are now entitled to be.

Mr McCann added: 'In his speech he presented the medal, Mr Cocher apologised for the delay in giving these medals to the veterans. After all, D-Day was back in 1944.'



Members of the British Legion of Lochaber and guests with Alexander MacLachlan. Inset: Emmanuel Cocher, Consul General of France in Scotland, presents Alexander with his Legion d'Honneur medal. Photographs by Anthony MacMillan.

Entries sought for camera club show

ORGANISERS of an annual photo exhibition are appealing for entries.

The Great Glen Camera Club will hold its sixth show from Monday August 1 to Saturday August 13 at the Memorial Hall, Canalside, Fort Augustus.

Deirdre MacKinnon said: 'The exhibition is free to enter, we want you to enjoy it.'

'Donations are gratefully accepted and will go towards hosting next year's exhibition.'

The show will be open between 11am and 6pm each day.

Find out more by e-mailing gcc@greatglencameraclub.co.uk or visiting www.greatglencameraclub.co.uk

Long lasting memorial benches from Fusion Marine

ADVERTORIAL



Losing a loved one is always a tremendously sad and difficult time and finding a way of ensuring a suitable remembrance is often top of people's minds.

Memorial benches are one of the most popular ways of doing this, and as well as forming an appropriate remembrance, they also serve the community well as a place to sit and relax.

Barcaldine based Fusion Marine supply a range of memorial benches made from recycled plastic. They make ideal memorial benches because of their long-life and low maintenance. Engraved metal plates are easily mounted onto the benches.

The appeal of such benches lie in their attractive appearance combined with the fact that they are environmentally friendly and last much longer than wooden alternatives.

Fusion Marine, through its subsidiary Fusion Recycled Plastic, has been supplying memorial benches to both private customers and local councils for several years now and has received tremendous feedback on their sleek design and appearance, as well as their longevity.

'These benches are a marvellous way of paying tribute to a loved one and for giving something back to the community,' says Stephen Divers of Fusion Marine.



The Fusion Marine range of benches and picnic tables made from recycled plastic is also ideal for caravan and holiday parks, nature reserves, town centres, urban areas, visitor centres and many other recreational uses. They are available in colours that blend in naturally with the environment.

Fusion Marine also supplies garden decking, walkways, fences, bridges, waymarking posts and other related products made from tough recycled plastic.

ADVERTORIAL

Enjoy a fire free summer

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service summer safety advice



WE ALL want to enjoy outdoor activities and have fun in the sun, but summer is also a time when we see an increase in fires.

During the 2015 summer holiday season, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service fought thousands of needless fires across Scotland.

We want you to have fun and stay safe by following these top safety tips:

- Don't smoke or light candles inside tents.
- Never cook near long grass or flammable materials.
- Avoid alcohol if you are in charge of a barbecue.
- Never use petrol or paraffin to light your barbecue.
- Never take a portable barbecue into an enclosed space like a tent or caravan.
- Make sure recreational fires are made in a fire-safe pit or a container and are fully extinguished before leaving them.
- Only dispose of ashes from camp fires or barbecues when they are cold to the touch.
- Keep gas cylinders outside. Never store petrol, diesel or gas containers under your caravan.
- Don't discard lit cigarette ends in the countryside - make sure they are completely extinguished.

For more summer safety advice, including barbecues, camping, boat safety, water safety and wildfires, visit www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/safer-summer.

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Three-day trip takes more than three weeks to finish

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

TRYING to deliver an eco-friendly heating unit to Tobermory High School on Mull has turned into a marathon beset by problems.

The unit ended up on a long and winding road that took around three weeks because of a series of stumbling blocks on its way.

After 21 days on the road from Ireland to Mull, it still hadn't reached its destination despite the best efforts of the lorry driver, the police and local farmers.

The Irish driver had to call on local residents for help more than once to get it out of some deep holes - literally.

Police were called into help last Friday afternoon after the lorry carrying the four-metre-wide load was refused passage on the CalMac ferry for being too large.

After being refused at the quayside from boarding both the *MV Coruisk* and the *MV Isle of Mull* ferries, CalMac staff found a solution.

They loaded the lorry onto the Colonsay ferry, *The Lord of the Isles*, and asked the captain to make an extra stop at Craignure to off-load the heating unit.

After difficulty getting the load off the boat at Craignure, with only inches to spare on the pier, the load took more than four hours to travel north to Tobermory. A car journey between Craignure and Tobermory usually takes around 45 minutes.

Finally arriving in village, the lorry went off the Glengorm Road and had to be dragged out by a farmer using a tractor.

On the final leg of the journey, and within sight of the school, the vehicle got stuck again and had to be dragged out of a garden.

Plans are now being made to bring cranes to the island to take the eco-heating unit to its final resting place at the high school.

A Police Scotland spokesman said that all permission for the movement of the vehicle had been granted and it had an escort for the entire trip.

He said: 'We are doing all we can to get the cargo to its destination.'

'It must be exceptionally frustrating for the driver, who thought this would be a three-day journey.'

The *Oban Times* was unable to contact the company which was delivering the vehicle.

Ladies make history with Mull to Oban swim



For the first time in recorded history, a swim from Mull to Oban has been completed. Gemma Stewart, 34, and Gill Spink, 41, swam the 15-kilometre distance in just under seven hours. The pair took the plunge on behalf of the Roses Charitable Trust, which each year takes groups of young people from disadvantaged areas on holiday. So far they have raised £1,500. Gemma said: 'The swim was excellent. We have been training for it for about six months. We started off really early in the morning and it was calm and beautiful.' Gemma and Gill, who both suffered from jellyfish stings, started swimming at 7am hoping to arrive at the war memorial in Oban by noon. However, after they got stuck in a current near Kerrera and ended up swimming for 90 minutes without moving, they didn't arrive into Oban until 1.50pm. To donate, visit <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/4920#/donationdetails>.

TIMESLINE



Mark Beaumont cuts the tape to officially open the café.

Endurance athlete opens new café

A CAFÉ that showcases local produce was officially opened on Tuesday by a world record breaker.

Food From Argyll at the Pier, in Oban's CalMac ferry terminal, welcomed Mark Beaumont to open the establishment.

The opening coincides with his 'Wild About Argyll' challenge, a 12-day adventure across Argyll and the Isles.

Mark, who has broken a number of records, said: 'The café at the pier is a great initiative from Food From Argyll and I am delighted to be officially opening this gem.'

1,700 supporters for A85 petition

MORE than 1,700 people have signed a petition demanding the upgrade of the A85 Oban to Dunbeg road.

The petition asks for more double white lines along the road and for the speed limit to be assessed.

It was signed by 885 online supporters and by 821 people on one of the various hard copies obtained around town.

Sean MacIntyre, chairman of Dunbeg Community Council, who started the petition, said he was overwhelmed with the support and will now be handing it in to Transport Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council.

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It must be frustrating for the driver, who thought it would be a three-day journey

A spokesman for Police Scotland



CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

SOMETIMES people need extra help. The unexpected happens, or disability or illness strikes. And, as loved ones inevitably grow older, a bit of assistance is often needed. Without help and assistance at the right time, carers can find themselves facing financial hardship, health problems, emotional stress and relationship breakdown.

Asking for help is the first step, and easy to do with a wide selection of products and services available locally.

Seniors often need assistance with day to day chores, home maintenance or routines. They

take medications on a schedule. Dementia is especially troubling to deal with. Even when adult children are nearby to provide assistance, busy lives make it nearly impossible to keep up. Trained professional services and home carers are available to do this - allowing the elderly to stay in their own homes and adult children to get the professional assistance they need in caring for their loved ones - whether on a semi-regular basis or 24 hours a day.

Physically or mentally disabled children and adults can benefit from professional home care as well. Experienced carers can not only assist at home, they can take clients on outings and help them pursue their interests, whether it's bird

watching or music sessions.

Successful relationships are hard work. But sometimes even hard work isn't enough, when there are changes within the family, addiction issues, death or financial crisis. Counselling allows family members or couples to talk about their feelings and problems with a trained, neutral professional in a confidential environment. Counsellors can help people deal with negative thoughts and situations and help heal family rifts, so there is no need to suffer.

The statistics on domestic violence are sobering. A domestic violence incident is recorded every 10 minutes in Scotland. At least one in five women in Scotland will experience domestic abuse, and one

in three teenage girls suffer an unwanted sexual act. These things are nothing to be ashamed about or keep hidden.

Local organisations are there to listen and provide solutions, whether a victim needs to get safely out of a situation immediately or counselling for emotional trauma.

There doesn't have to be an emergency situation for a person to reach out. Clinical depression is a medical condition, not just feeling blue, and can be treated as such. Or sometimes life gets overwhelming and people just need someone to talk to. Whatever the case, suffering in silence is not the answer. One telephone call can be the first step to a happy, healthy life.

Marie Curie nursing service calls for support

Care and support through terminal illness



MARIE CURIE, the charity providing care and support for people living with a terminal illness and their families, is keen to hear from Islay residents eager to support their local service. The charity is looking for volunteers to set up a local fundraising group to raise money for the Marie Curie nursing service.

The service provides free one-to-one nursing care at home to people with all terminal illnesses, as well as support for family and friends. The care can either be for eight or nine hours overnight, during the day to provide respite for carers or visits at short notice in times of crisis. The charity is currently hiring for registered nurses and healthcare assistants in Argyll and Bute.

Rae Woodrow, a Marie Curie registered nurse, has provided this care on Islay for more than 20 years working closely with the district nurses. Rae combines her Marie Curie role with working part-time for the local hospital. Discussing her job, Rae explains:

'I feel being a Marie Curie nurse is an incredible privilege. To go into a family's home when they're perhaps at their lowest and give whatever help I can. You see families at high points and at their lowest. This can be especially true when you are caring for people over a number of weeks. You can have a very close relationship.'

'Many people don't realise the service is on the island until they need it. They're supportive to fundraising generally but they don't necessarily know it's local.'

Last year the 33 Marie Curie nursing team members in Argyll and Bute made 964 visits to people living with a terminal illness spending 7,683 hours providing care and support. Marie Curie estimates that of the 1,050 people who die each year in Argyll and Bute, 850 have a palliative care need.

Amanda Hillhouse is the local Marie Curie community fundraiser for Islay. She added: 'We receive around 50 per cent of the cost of our nursing service from NHS Highland Argyll and Bute so rely on generous public donations to fund the remaining amount. We're looking for volunteers who are able to support us and help raise money locally. This could be looking after collection tins in shops or organising small events like our current Blooming Great Tea Party campaign.'

'I'm keen to hear from anyone interested in finding out more and can be contacted on 07714 138348 or amanda.hillhouse@mariecurie.org.uk.'

To apply for the registered nurse or healthcare assistant vacancies in Argyll and Bute, visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/jobs.



Patron: Dame Judi Dench CH

We offer community services based at the Argyll Carers' Centre. The day hospice in Lynnside Day Centre is open on Mondays. Our services include the use of two patient beds and a separate relatives' room at Lorn and Islands Hospital.

For further information please contact chairman, David Entwistle on 01631 711 823 or 07582220648. www.obanhospice.org.uk; Facebook; @ObanHospice

Enhancing the quality of life

Oban Hospice - one couple's story

MR AND MRS Pearce were registered with Oban Hospice Community Service at crisis point. Mr Pearce had just been given a terminal cancer diagnosis and was told he had only three months to live. This was a young couple with two teenage children desperately needing counselling, support and advice for the whole family who were all in shock.

Oban Hospice's community services worker spoke to both Mr and Mrs Pearce together, listening and understanding what they were saying and reading between the lines about what they were wanting to say to each other. She then spoke to them separately and tried to communicate what they were both struggling to say. She mediated and made suggestions of what may make things more manageable following up with them a week later. This made such a

difference. Mrs Pearce said that things had been much better since the intervention. They weren't just talking at each other, they were talking to each other. Mrs Pearce said: 'I am overwhelmed from having nothing, no support, to all of this.' Practical support was given in therapies and counselling.

A roller-coaster of a time followed where they were given the news that the chemo seemed to have worked and the tumour had shrunk. They were both delighted and dared to look to the future. Six days after this news Mr Pearce died at home.

We supported Mr and Mrs Pearce intensely for just over a month and continued to support Mrs Pearce in her bereavement. They were very grateful.

Duo deny stealing in shops

TWO LOTHIAN men have denied a spate of shoplifting in Tyndrum and Oban.

Kevin Magee, 45, of 30 Deerhill, Broxburn, pleaded not guilty to stealing three bottles of whisky from the Green Welly Stop in Tyndrum on July 3 when he appeared in Oban Sheriff Court heard on Monday.

Magee and Iain Arthurs, also of 30 Deerhill, Broxburn, further denied shoplifting alcohol, groceries and a TV from Oban's Tesco store on July 9 and July 23.

Magee denied a fourth charge of possessing a wire-cutter in the supermarket's car park on July 23 with the intention of committing a theft.

Depute procurator fiscal Jenny Sapiano opposed bail in both cases, pointing to the pair's previous record of high-value shoplifting far from their home address.

Laura McManus, defending Magee, an unemployed father who suffers from type one diabetes, argued that with his level of care he would be better at liberty than in custody. The court also heard he was concerned custody would prevent him going on a holiday he'd planned with his children in Blackpool.

Ms McManus added that Arthurs, an unemployed 42-year-old, was currently subject to a drug treatment and testing order for heroin addiction.

Honorary Sheriff Muriel Frances Lanos set a trial date for August 17, and granted bail to Magee on medical grounds, and on the condition he does not enter Oban. Arthurs was refused bail.

Driver is to await sentence

A DRIVER who crashed a car on the A816 has denied leaving the scene of the accident which sparked a search by emergency services.

At Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday, Lukasz Siwinski, of 110 George Street, Oban, pleaded guilty to careless driving near Kilmore on the A816 Oban to Lochgilphead Road.

The 32-year-old lost control of his vehicle, which mounted an embankment and rolled onto its side across the southbound carriageway at around 1.20pm on January 9, 2016. A search and rescue mission was then launched to find the driver, who was missing.

Mr Siwinski denies leaving the scene of the accident without making any attempt to contact the authorities, with an intent to pervert the course of justice.

He has admitted three further charges of driving without insurance, an MOT certificate and without the keeper's name and address recorded in the register. Sheriff John Herald deferred sentencing until August 16 to await reports on the scale of the search, which he described as a 'tremendous waste of public money'.

Band set to tour islands

ONE OF the most dynamic and engaging traditional Celtic music acts, The Outside Track, will be touring the Highlands and islands this summer.

Popular for their marriage of Celtic music, song and dance, The Outside Track has won many fans.

The band has been recognised with several industry awards, including Group of the Year in the Live Ireland Awards, Ensemble of the Year in the Tradition in Review awards as well as nominations for Best Live Act and Folk Band of the Year.

Hailing from Scotland, Ireland and Cape Breton, the band is united by a love of traditional music. Among their dates are July 30 - The Ceilidh House and Heritage Centre, Corran, Arnisdale; August 1 - Astley Hall, Arisaig; August 2 - Isle of Colonsay, Village Hall; and August 3 - Atlantic Islands Centre, Isle of Luing.

Hope springs eternal as generous people donate in droves



Manager Lorraine King and volunteers Pat Barkley and Lyndsay Ross with the donated food. 17_131HopeKitchen01

AN OBAN food bank will put donations to good use after demand has 'more than doubled' in recent weeks.

Hope Kitchen raised £978.83 in cash and received three trolleys of food when volunteers packed bags and set up a collection point in Tesco last weekend.

Lorraine King, manager of Oban's Hope Kitchen, said: 'We are busy because of the school holidays.

'Children are at home all day, so they eat more. In the past couple of weeks, the demand for food parcels has more than doubled so the food collected will go a long way.

'People are so generous. It was ordinary, everyday folk that were putting it in. I think we will do it once a year, or more, if Tesco lets us.

'We are very grateful for the food and

money that was raised. We can't thank the people of Oban and beyond enough for their generosity. Every penny and every item of food collected will go directly to the people we support.'

Lyndsay Ross, who volunteers at Hope Kitchen, added: 'We did a collection in Tesco on Friday and on Saturday we were packing bags.

'We have about £500 to £600 worth

in food, probably more, and about the same in cash.

'People have been so supportive - they have not just put money in a box, they have gone and bought stuff and put it on our collection table.

'It's amazing. It's all non-perishable, so we can give it away in food parcels.

'When you think about all the people we can feed, it's amazing.'

Safety fears close Argyll's only mental health ward

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

THE ONLY intensive mental health ward in Argyll has been temporarily closed to new admissions following concerns over staffing and safety.

The news, revealed in a press release by NHS Highland on Friday July 22, comes on the back of shock news in *The Oban Times* last week of further cuts to beds and staffing at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban.

A spokesman for Argyll and

Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) said: 'Following a recent review of inpatient mental health services within Argyll and Bute Hospital in Lochgilphead, the Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit (IPCU) has been temporarily closed to new admissions.

'Succoth ward [where longer-term patients are based], however, will not be affected and will remain open to new admissions.'

The IPCU is used to support people with acute mental health distress. Patients are generally

admitted to IPCU under the Mental Health Care and Treatment Act (2003) and are referred through emergency care practitioners, police officers and social workers.

Dr Michael Hall, medical director for Argyll and Bute HSCP, said: 'We recently carried out a review of inpatient mental health services within Argyll and Bute Hospital and a number of challenges were identified, including the provision of a safe care environment and the availability of trained nursing staff.

'The Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit within the hospital has therefore been temporarily closed to new admissions but it can still be used on an interim basis as a place of safety for up to 72 hours to allow patients to be clinically assessed.

'If patients require a more prolonged period of intensive care treatment, they will be transferred to an appropriate facility outwith Argyll and Bute. 'In reaching this decision, patient safety and well-being have been our priority.

'It is also our intention to

continue with plans to relocate inpatient mental health services from Argyll and Bute Hospital to the lower ground floor of Mid Argyll Community Hospital and Integrated Care Centre.

'This requires some alteration works to ensure the area meets the necessary requirements and it is anticipated this work will be completed by December 2016.

'This planned relocation is an interim measure pending further engagement prior to a final decision about where the service will be provided in the longer term.'

Oban road works nearly complete

ROAD works in Oban town centre are still not finished five weeks after the scheduled completion date.

The works have now been going on for 31 weeks when they were originally forecast to be a 26-week project.

Visitors to the area have written to *The Oban Times* to complain the works are not yet finished.

Argyll and Bute Council has come in for some criticism from the political leader in Nairn, Michael Green, who said the plans for the works to be taking place in the height of the season are 'ridiculous'.

But Argyll and Bute Council defended the situation saying the extra works being undertaken by the contractors makes the extended time worthwhile.

Two weeks ago a council spokeswoman told *The Oban Times*: 'You will note from our previous press release that we took the opportunity to add a few things into the scheme, hence the extended completion date.

'The contractor has, and is focusing on, making as much space as possible available to public access while they continue to work in the background to complete all the finishing items.

'As per the press release issued on June 24, some of the big additions to the scheme include: three extra bus shelters at Station Square; enhanced street lighting; additional seating along the low wall next to the Whisky Shop



Not finished: the road works in Oban's Station Square on Tuesday.

on Stafford Street as well as paving over the planting area on the upper terrace, which was becoming increasingly difficult to maintain; widening and extending the dropped kerbs to disabled parking bays; extending the paving into Argyll Street; additional strengthening work to the lighting columns along the sea wall; real time information (RTI) display boards in all five bus shelters at Station Square; foundation and

infrastructure for a large RTI board to be located at Station Square which will provide real time information for train, ferry and bus services.'

While the original press release from the local authority stated there was no additional cost to the taxpayer for these works, the spokeswoman now said: 'With regard to costs for additional works, these will be fairly assessed in accordance with the contract process.'

Bulgarian refuses to give name in court

A HOMELESS man accused of attempted theft has had his case continued without plea.

Nasko Hristov Angelov, of no fixed abode, is charged with being found in a house at Whinbank, Ardfern, without lawful authority and with intent to commit theft.

Speaking through an interpreter, the Bulgarian national told Oban Sher-

iff Court on Monday July 25 he did not understand the charge and so did not make a plea.

The 48-year-old also refused a solicitor and to give his name and date of birth.

He told the court: 'I have dignity. I am not a monkey. You have my passport.

'I have not come here to be homeless. I have skills.

'Whatever I have been accused of is not the truth. I just want to pay a bill, even though I do not agree with it.

'If you have proof, I will pay the fine. I am not joking.'

Sheriff Muriel Frances Lanos sentenced the case without plea, and, since Angelov has no fixed address, she held him in custody until his trial date set for Tuesday August 2.

POLICE FILES

Thieves target high-end bikes

A NUMBER of high-value bikes worth thousands of pounds have been stolen in a series of thefts.

Holidaymakers at North Ledaig Caravan Park unlocked their bikes to go cycling but when they returned from their caravan the bikes were nowhere to be seen.

The incident took place between 4pm and 4.20pm on Monday July 25.

One of the bikes is a Norco Faze, full suspension mountain bike, black with lime-coloured writing with a retail value of £1,300.

The other is a blue GT bicycle with a red seat which costs around £1,500.

Similar thefts have been carried out in Crianlarich.

Police say it is possible a team of people could be travelling from place to place, targeting bikes.

Constable Andrew Simpson is the officer dealing with the case.

Another bike was stolen from outside Kebabish Curry House, Oban, between 1am and 4pm on Sunday July 24.

The highly distinctive Muddy Fox bike was red and black with white metal pedals and a red paw print on the saddle.

And between 8am on Thursday July 21 and 4.30pm on Friday July 22, a blue mountain bike was stolen from the Scottish Association for Marine Science at Dunstaffnage Marina.

Officers try to trace dangerous driver

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following reports of dangerous overtaking on the A85.

The incident, at 9.15pm on Tuesday July 19, involved a blue Subaru overtaking near the Halfway House filling station at Dunbeg.

Constable Andrew Hogg wants to trace a number of drivers who may have witnessed the incident, in particular a dark-coloured vehicle that turned in to Rowan Road, Oban.

Anyone with information about any incident is asked to call police on 101 or anonymously on 0800 555111.

Newsdesk
01631 568000

ADVERTORIAL

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Building Stories	Fiction writing workshop	4 August, 7pm
Scratch Choir Night	Music workshop	5 August, 7pm
Create a Crate	Family craft workshop	6 August, 10am-1
Last Nights of Summer	Argyll Youth Arts showcase night	14 August, 7pm
"The Room"	Craft interiors exhibition	19 - 21 August

Form more info and to book tickets please visit
www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk

Festival of Architecture comes to Oban

Oban Communities Trust is delighted to be hosting the Oban Festival of Architecture from 30 July to 21 August at The Rockfield Centre.

The Centre will welcome three exhibitions, including the Scottish Premiere of the Prospect North exhibition, which was first on show

at the prestigious Venice Architecture Biennale.

You can also take part in our programme of fringe events, featuring talks and workshops with an architectural theme as well as a heritage trail looking at the stories behind significant buildings in Oban. In addition, there will be a display featuring ideas for the redevelopment of the main building and the

Rockfield Centre site.

For further details or to book on to our fringe events, visit the Oban Communities Trust Facebook page or see our website: www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk In partnership with Architecture and Design Scotland, part of the Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design 2016 and the Festival of Architecture across Scotland.

Argyll to get money from EU

IN THE wake of the Brexit result, *The Oban Times* asked Argyll and Bute Council how many agreed projects would receive European funding.

A Freedom of Information officer said four projects were in the offing.

A Business Gateway Local Growth Accelerator Programme was awarded £272,100 from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and covers all of Argyll and Bute Council area.

Argyll and the Islands LEADER was awarded £4,886,126 and covers all of Argyll and Bute as well as Arran and the Cumbraes.

The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund was awarded £985,000 covering all of Argyll and Ayrshire.

Lastly, the Big Lottery Fund has started the procurement process for Delivering Financial Inclusion, supported by the European Social Fund.

The total contract value for Argyll and Bute is £3.77 million. Procurement opened on May 13 and closed to initial responses on July 11 2016.

The council intends to submit a bid in conjunction with a number of other local agencies.

Invitations to tender will be issued in August to the highest scoring bidders in each of the lots and the deadline for submissions of responses is Tuesday September 20.

Energy minister backs islands

THE UK's new energy minister has expressed his support for island renewables, where the wind is 'the best in the world', Western Isles' MP Angus MacNeil said after meeting him.

George, 70, heads for the hills in charity campaign



George Houston training for his night hike.

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

A 70-YEAR-OLD carer is planning a night hike up Ben Nevis next month to raise funds for the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society.

George Houston will be taking on the challenge overnight from August 26 to 27 to raise funds for the charity that supports him and his partner Barbara who has MS.

George is aiming to raise at least £1,200 for research into the condition and support for people affected by MS.

Barbara's daughter also has MS, as do three members of George's extended family,

including a 15-year-old girl, who has recently had the diagnosis confirmed.

Barbara and George have lived together for 18 years, during which her MS has progressed.

George, who recently turned 70, said: 'Training for the challenge is going well so far.'

'I have climbed Ben Lora three times in succession in daylight, which is a greater distance and almost the same amount of climbing as Ben Nevis. It will be more of a challenge at night with a head torch.'

'I am most grateful for all the donations that have been generously received from relatives, friends and residents of Seil,

Oban, the USA and others.'

Speaking about his partner, he added: 'Barbara was an active, talkative person and we did much together, including being involved with the local Riding for the Disabled Carriage Driving Group from its start.'

'After getting pneumonia in 2009, Barbara is now confined to a wheelchair or bed and has to communicate letter by letter using eye blinks.'

'All the money raised from the Ben Nevis night hike will be going to the MS Society – the leading UK charity for people with MS.'

There are more than 11,000 people living with MS in Scot-

land and more than 100,000 people living with MS in the UK. MS is an unpredictable condition that strikes without warning – one day you can be fine, the next you might lose your sight or be unable to move. People typically start experiencing symptoms in their 20s or 30s. These can include sight loss, pain, fatigue, incontinence and disability.

You can sponsor George's effort at www.justgiving.com/George-Houston. You can find out more information about MS or the MS Society on its website, and there is also a free helpline on 08088 008000.

TIMESLINE

Pipe band receives £2,000 cash boost

OBAN Pipe Band has received £2,000 from the Scottish Sea Farms Heart of the Community Trust.

The donation was used to buy sheepskin pipe bags and chanters. The money also allowed the band, which was established in 1920, to equip eight young members who recently joined from Oban High School and an addition two members from Bencudula and Ardgour.

Arthur Gillies, band president, said: 'We have had a lot of success in recent years which brings publicity and recognition for Oban and Lorn and we are all really looking forward to this summer.'

Families grant fund now open

A £2 MILLION fund that aims to help children, young people and families is open for applications.

The fund, provided by Lloyds TSB Foundation Scotland in partnership with the Scottish Government, will focus on promoting parenting and family skills, reducing the educational attainment gap, improving life chances for looked-after children and improving the safety of children and young people.

For information or to apply, visit www.ltsbfoundationforscotland.org.uk/grant-programmes/cypfeif-alec-fund.

Take care hunting for Pokemon

POKEMON Go fans have been warned about the dangers of searching for the elusive creatures in the mountains.

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland issued the alert after hearing some of the virtual Pokemon characters have been placed in the hills.



The Rotary Club of Oban has donated £635 to Dalmally-based charity Mary's Meals. The money was raised through a raffle at the 31st golf charities day hosted by Rotary last month at Glencruitten, Oban. The event, which attracted 45 teams of four, made in excess of £10,000 which will be given to local good causes.

Hoist gives children a lift

A HOIST that allows people living with a disability to ride horses was unveiled last week.

Oban and Lorn Riding for the Disabled revealed the new equipment at an open day at Achualarig Riding Stables.

Susan Jones, of Riding for the Disabled, said: 'We were told 18 months ago we had to have a hoist instead of lifting the children or they wouldn't be able to ride, so we had to raise money for it.'

The hoist, costing £6,000, was paid for by the Bank of Scotland Foundation, Scottish Sea Farms, West Highland Housing Association and many other firms.

Mrs Jones continued: 'They were marvellous and very supportive.'

'It has been up and running for two to three months but we



Dougie Cruikshank is helped off the horse with the hoist.

decided to have an open day to raise awareness. The benefits for the children are absolutely fantastic.'

Dougie Cruikshank, eight, comes to ride every Friday. His helper Heather MacPherson said: 'He just loves it. He gets

loads out of it. It helps his core and helps him with his movement.'

Dougie's mum, Laura, added: 'He's been coming for more than five years. It's brilliant. I would like to thank everyone for making it possible.'

Bodach

In this series, *The Oban Times'* resident Bodach (Gaelic: old man and, by experience, often a storyteller) looks through archive material for articles and pictures that preserve moments from the past. There is always a back story – and sometimes a future one.



Get in touch with your stories at bodach@obantimes.co.uk

NEWS NEWS NEWS

I KNOW I am not the only person of a certain vintage that has noticed the decline in the quality and tenor of the television news. Richard Baker was a newsreader on BBC television news from 1954 to 1982. He read the news with a dependably serious demeanour when televised himself during at tea-time and bed-time and functioned as no-frills actualities briefings. His contemporaries were Robert Dougall and Kenneth Kendall, also serious men who read headlines, provided a little more in-depth coverage, then politely bid viewers a good evening after 25 minutes on air. That was the format for the years of my childhood: hard news, total professionalism without any hint of frivolity. If people wanted news in the mornings, they listened to the radio.

Their emotionless news delivery did not prevent them from having a laugh, but that did not happen during the day job. Richard Baker made cameo appearances in three episodes of *Monty Python's Flying Circus* and the 1977 *Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show*. He died in 2007. Kenneth Kendall was also capable of sending himself up, appearing in episodes of *Adam Adamant* and *Doctor Who*, as well as Stanley Kubrick's seminal science fiction epic *2001: A Space Odyssey*. He died in 2012. Robert Dougall was the first person to present the *BBC Nine O'Clock News*. He retired from the newsroom in 1973, but appeared as himself in episodes of comedy programmes *The Goodies* and *Yes, Minister*. He voiced a news announcement in the James Bond film *Thunderball*. He died in 1999.

Nowadays morning television news broadcasts have more in common with entertainment. Apart from the sombre etiquette appropriate for bad news, today's presenters are pathologically cheerful and the studio sets look like the worst excesses of 1970s interior design. Bright colours on coffee tables and sofas assault viewers for what seems like hours, punctuated

with repeated headlines and human interest stories and guest appearances. Trivia and irrelevance are now daily broadcasting experiences, introduced by television production teams intent on celebrating show business.

These latter elements in particular demonstrate that even the serious business of news broadcasting has bowed to celebrity culture. It is not uncommon for singers, songwriters, actors and writers to appear as guests to promote their latest single, show, film or book; and often they offer their opinions on just about anything. This is not news. The opinions of celebrities matter no more than anyone else's, but some people are more influenced by the views of the famous than those of experts.

Modern news broadcasts also seem to require a great many more people. The need for editors and correspondents to report from far-flung places or in their area of expertise is understood, but there are now usually two main presenters who share the headline stories when they are not joking around. Periodically they cue two or three others in the studio who report on other matters, over and above any foreign correspondents linked from a trouble-spot by satellite. And that does not include weather forecasts, which have become ever more elaborate and ever more accurate over the years. Sometimes, you even get to see your town named on the map.

The format used by the BBC now is a half-hour of international and national headlines followed by regional news programmes (or national news if you live in Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales). It is tried and tested, but it would be interesting to test the impact of doing it the other way around. Whether you need to know about global or local events first will depend on who and where you are. In any case – and despite my enthusiasm for news in a news programme – I am very occasionally interested in and heartened by stories of human or animal endeavour, even at seven o'clock in the morning.



RICHARD BAKER



KENNETH KENDALL



Richard Baker, Kenneth Kendall and Robert Dougall were all serious newsreaders whose demeanour disguised a much lighter side and sense of humour, as evidenced by their cameo appearances elsewhere.

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Fort ready for the off at Banff

'It would be great to start with a win'

FORT William FC concluded their pre-season preparations with an excellent 4-2 away win against Kinoull Juniors from Perth.

Losing 2-0 at half-time, the team produced an excellent second half performance to score four goals without reply.

On target for the Fort were Liam Taylor, Jack Lingard, trialist and Marty Munro.

Special praise as well goes to 16-year-old Iain MacIntyre, who was excellent throughout on his first team debut.

A Fort William side missing several first team regulars went down 2-1 to Speyside Juniors last Wednesday evening, with the Speysiders thoroughly deserving the win.

This match was played in Dingwall with Barna Tot getting the Fort goal.

Fort manager Ally Ewen told *The Oban Times*: 'The players have been working extremely hard and we want to be out of the bottom three.'

'They have bought into my plans and can see where I aim to take the club.'

'My target is to be 10th in the league. I said it when I joined and people laughed, but I am developing a team that is improving.'

'They work hard, rarely miss training and want to win, and I cannot ask for any more than that.'

Football

'Last season we just missed out on 15th place and only had ourselves to blame. We need to see out games and stop shipping sloppy goals.'

The manager also said that he feels he is two or three players away from 'a very good side'.

Fort William start away to Deveronvale football club and Ally said they are looking for an early win.

'It would be great to start with a win. It won't be an easy task, but there are no easy games in the Highland League.'

Fort's first home game is on Saturday August 6 against Fraserburgh.

The club are delighted to announce the signing of Jack Lingard on a two year contract.

The 18-year-old midfielder came through the youth ranks at Ross County, and played at senior level last season with Rothes FC.

The Lochaber club have also signed Danny Highet on a two-year contract.

The 24-year-old midfielder featured for the Fort a couple of seasons ago in a game against Deveronvale, before he relocated to Sweden, where he played for Vranjo IF.

On his return to Scotland Danny played or Spey Valley FC.



Prize-winners of the Harris Ross Texas Scramble golf competition held at the Fort William golf course who help to raise £6,200 for the Star for Harris fund. Photo: Anthony MacMillan Photography

Over £6,000 raised for Star for Harris Fund

RESULTS from Harris Ross Texas Scramble held at Fort William Golf Club on Sunday July 24.

Men: 1 Dougie Duncan, George Band and Keith Duncan net 52.5 (58 - 5.5); 2 Nicholas Hough, Carl Stubbs and K Summers net 53.3 (60 - 6.7); 3 Ian Rodger, Michael Rodger and Duncan Rodger net 53.8 (58 - 4.2).

Ladies: 1 Hazel Cameron, Rosie Macintyre and Iona Cameron net 64.7 (73 - 8.3); 2 Kathleen Leitch, Frances MacTavish and Paula Halas net 66.8 (78 - 11.2).

Hidden holes - best score of 13 - winners Dougie

Golf

Duncan, George Band and Keith Duncan.

Nearest pin at third hole - David Fairgrieve; nearest pin at sixth hole - Stuart Manson; nearest pin at 12th hole - Neil Feggans; nearest pin at 16th hole - Iain MacFarlane.

Ladies longest drive at fifth hole - Rosie Macintyre; men's longest drive at 11th hole - Peter Laing.

Chipping into paddling pool - Ian Robertson.

Putting competition - Ian Rodger.

Results from the Dragon's Tooth golf open

MEN: 1 Kevin Summers, Dragon's Tooth Golf Club 39 pts; 2 Carl Stubbs, Dragon's Tooth Golf Club 48 pts; 3 Nick Hough, Dragon's Tooth Golf Club 34 pts (on c/b)

Ladies: 1 Joanne Baxter, Dragon's Tooth Golf Club 39pts; 2 Kim Topping Dragon's Tooth Golf Club 29pts; 3 Bridget Allen, Dragon's Tooth Golf club 28pts

Golf

Longest drive: Men - Robert Dunning, Tobermory Golf Club; Ladies Bridget Allen, Dragon's Tooth Golf Club.

Nearest the Pin: Men - David Langham, Spean Bridge Golf Club; Ladies - Kim Topping, Dragon's Tooth Golf Club

Fort Marathon Marathon

THE Fort William marathon will take place this Sunday (July 31).

Set 'in the heart of the Highlands', the marathon will take competitors through some of Lochaber's most stunning scenery.

Ultra marathon runner Luke Ashton commented on the marathon in his blog, saying: 'The Fort William marathon will reward you with some amazing and unique sights.'

Cameron shows his class in Croatia

FOURTEEN-year old Cameron Whyte from Spean Bridge is continuing to carve a big name for himself in the boxing world as at the time of this paper going to press he was competing to win a medal at the European Schoolboy Championships in Zagreb, Croatia.

As part of a small but formidable four-man Scotland squad, Whyte has boxed at this level before when he reached the last eight in the competition held in Russia last year.

This year he hopes to go at least one step further and medal, which would be no less than he deserves after the commitment and ability he has shown in his four years in the sport.

Cameron never seems to get an easy route to the medal stage of any major finals and these latest championships were no different with Cameron's opposition in the round of the last 16 being no less than the champion of Germany, Santino Franke.

In terms of population, with Germany having 80 million compared to Scotland's five million, this was a mismatch but in reality was anything but.

Boxing

Cameron was the boss at long range where his jab and especially straight backhand tormented his German foe the entire contest. At close and medium range Whyte would explode with combinations forcing Franke to desperately look to clinch.

It was a thoroughly deserved points decision to Whyte but his quarter-final, which will be reported on in next week's issue, was against the highly regarded Eoghan Quinn of Ireland, one of the favourites for gold.

Reputations count for nothing with Whyte, however, as he showed when he travelled to England last month to defeat England's number one and number two to win the British championships.



Young boxers Cameron Whyte, left, of Lochaber Phoenix Boxing Club, and Darrell Russell, of Highland Boxing Academy, after a final training session with Scotland squad new talent development coach Ray Gibson before heading to Croatia. Photo: Alba Photos

New date for Joe Toal six-a-side tournament

UNFORTUNATELY due to the lack of entries the Joe Toal sixes scheduled for this Sunday (July 17) were postponed.

The rescheduled date is Sunday September 18 when it is hoped that most clubs will be free from cup and league games enabling them to enter.

The organisers hope to see a good turnout on the new date.

Golf week proves to be a big success

RESULTS for the golf week sponsored by Ben Nevis Distillery were as follows. Monday July 11 - two-person Texas scramble (12 holes): 1 Andrew Brown and Stephen Howden 34 points; 2 Willie Hendrie and Brian Stewart Jnr 32 points; 3 John Confield and Keith Sangster 30 points.

Tuesday July 13 - strokeplay competition (12 holes): 1 Keith Sangster net 41 (50-9); 2 John Cairns net 42 (60-18) BIH; 3 Alan Overend net 42 (51-9).

Wednesday July 13 - three-person scramble (12 holes): 1 Willie Hendrie, Stephen Howden and

Golf

Graeme Worsdall 36 points; 2 Andrew Brown, Gareth Lee and Michael Rodgers 35 points; 3 Rusty Duncan, Willie Duncan and Ronnie MacDonald 33 points.

Thursday July 14 - singles Stableford (12 holes): 1 Gareth Lee 30 points; 2 Steven Jamieson 26 points; 3 Frank Sweeney 25 points.

Friday July 15 - three clubs and a putter: 1 Alan Ritchie 18 points BIH; 2 Kevin Hickman 18 points; 3 Robert McCover 13 points.



Winners of the golf week competitions held at the Fort William Golf Club were, front right Michael Ridpath, with his daughter Naomi. Michael is manager of the Ben Nevis Distillery who sponsored the event and made the presentation. Photo: Anthony MacMillan Photography

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

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WEATHER

Thursday Cloudy with light rain showers
Winds moderate south south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 17°C.

Friday Sunny period with light rain showers
Winds light west south westerly
Temperatures 12°C to 16°C.

Weekend Light rain showers on Saturday
Sunny on Sunday
Winds moderate westerly
Temperatures 11°C to 15°C.

FRIDAY

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday July 28, 2016** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST)

Date	am	pm		
Thur	06.17 1.4 12.15 3.0 18.45 1.4	20.05 1.4	Ardrishaig	-5.35
Fri	01.29 3.1 07.30 1.4 13.59 3.1	21.25 1.3	Campbeltown	-5.30
Sat	02.52 3.2 08.42 1.3 15.15 3.3	22.29 1.1	Crinan	-0.47
Sun	03.56 3.4 09.44 1.1 16.08 3.5	23.20 1.0	Islay Port Ellen	2.00
Mon	04.45 3.6 10.37 0.9 16.50 3.7	18.05 4.0	Lochboisdale	+0.30
Tues	05.26 3.7 11.23 0.8 17.28 3.9			
Wed	00.04 0.9 06.02 3.8 12.06 0.7			

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate