

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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## Oban ring road plan 'on back burner'

### Development road not council's immediate goal

ONE of Oban's key existing improvement aspects, the Oban Development Road, has been 'put on the back burner' for an indefinite period.

Local councillor and deputy lead councillor for infrastructure and tourism Louise Glen-Lee this week said the plan is no longer part of the authority's immediate goals and will instead concentrate on 'getting the simple things right' as it embarks on a 'long-term' programme of improvement for the area.

The road had been a key plan to help drive growth in Oban and Dunbeg in proposals set out by the council's previous administration, but faces an indefinite abeyance while the new administration focuses on Lorn 2030 - a long term development project for the area.

Councillor Glen-Lee said: 'The development road is on the back burner now. We're certainly not planning on it for the next five years. We're now planning for Lorn 2030. Our priority is

**"In the long term we have to see some sort of road that encircles Oban."**

**businessman Graham MacQueen**

making sure we do the simple things right first. To take the development road forward we need to have all the other things in place; a well developed Dunbeg, a high school that's suitable and to have quality employment opportunities for local people. When all these things are in place the development road is a must.

'In the short term we have to have the right things in place.'

'However, we will have the new roundabout which could lead to a new hotel complex at Dunbeg and that's something that could have real substance for Oban.' The revised plans to develop the town will be discussed at a

CHORD project board meeting on August 6, she said.

Former transport spokesman and now opposition councillor Duncan MacIntyre was a key figure in devising the development road.

Local businessman Graham MacQueen, chairman of the BID4OBAN steering group, believes Mr MacIntyre's plan was the right one and is disappointed to hear the road had been postponed. He said: 'I just feel the roads are a big issue and councillor MacIntyre recognised that. The roads limit the development of the town.'

'In the long term we have to see some sort of road that encircles Oban.'



Winners of the raft race at Tiree regatta were the Somerville Team.

## High winds and high excitement at Tiree Regatta

WITH showers and gusty forecasts, Tiree's 2012 regatta, was described as the toughest in the last 20 years - but the weather failed to dampen spirits.

The event last Saturday got off to a bright start in Scarinish Harbour, with conditions dry and sunny.

The forecast had put off a few boats but among the fleet were four of the classic Tiree dipping lugs, which are now a rare sight on the Scottish regatta scene.

As the boats sailed off, winds freshened and in tough sailing conditions the dinghies finished in record time.

However, the high winds proved too much for the dipping lugs, with one of them, *Daisy*, skippered by Iain Macdonald, had a mast snap and was forced to withdraw. As conditions worsened all bar one failed to round the final mark. Donnie MacInnes, skipper of the sole

finisher, the *Mary*, revealed local knowledge passed on from his father had allowed him to steer a course back to shore.

Finn MacDonald, aged 11, helming his Pico with dad as crew, followed his success in last year's centenary regatta by winning the dinghy class.

## New Coll Hall's 'part-time' manager quits 'full-time' job

THE woman employed to manage Coll's new £2.5million hall, An Cridhe, has quit after just three months.

Marianne Ings was employed on a 16-hour-per-week contract to run the new community hub, moving from the mainland to oversee the running of the hall and the bunkhouse.

She started the job on May 1, but decided to stand down from the position last Wednesday after claiming it 'simply cannot be done' within the 16 hours.

Marianne, who hasn't had a day off since June 10, said: 'The job isn't do-able in the hours contracted. I tried really hard and at one point managed to work an 18 hour week, but it simply cannot be done.'

'I think I've worked double

the hours I was supposed to since May.

'I've got years of experience so it's not as if I came into this cold, but I gave it my best shot and there's nothing more I could have done.'

She hasn't been paid for the extra hours worked.

**No comment**  
John Fraser, director of Development Coll, the social enterprise who run An Cridhe, said: 'It's an internal appointment issue and we won't be commenting.'

Meanwhile, a representative from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) visited the island this week to discuss communication between Development Coll and the community after some businesses expressed con-

cern it didn't engage properly with some aspects of the hall's development.

Douglas Cowan, Argyll area manager for HIE, said: 'We've been aware of the issues and it is a community we're working with. 'We are funding a community development officer, not connected to An Cridhe as such, about putting together a community development plan. 'We have someone on the island at the moment to discuss engaging with the community in the best way and consulting appropriately.'

The hall was opened by Princess Anne on July 11, kicking off days of celebration that saw the hall full to capacity on a number of occasions.

## Isle of Islay outrage at loss of *MV Finlaggan*

NEWS that *MV Finlaggan* will be removed from its established Islay route during the winter period has outraged islanders, who say it will adversely affect the island's commercial activity.

CalMac plans to remove the *Finlaggan* from December until Easter to cover its winter refit schedule, while maintaining the two-vessel service on Islay by redeploying the smaller *MV Lord of the Isles* to the island.

The ferry company also denies promising islanders that the *Finlaggan* would never be removed from Islay routes.

Islay Community Council vice-chairwoman Roberta MacNeill said: 'The main issue is about the reduced capacity on the *Lord of the Isles* but people also feel let down and disheartened that the boat has

been taken away.'

A spokesman for CalMac said the reshuffle was required to make sure other islands were not left without a ferry for days on end.

He added: 'Reshuffling the fleet to maintain service levels during the winter refit period is a major challenge because we have limited flexibility within the fleet, and this is especially true on the routes which are traditionally operated by our larger vessels.'

'We recognise that Islay will be disappointed to lose *MV Finlaggan*, but hope they will recognise that we have to balance the needs of the whole network.'

CalMac is currently considering how best to deploy its spare ferry, the *MV Isle of Arran*.

## Argyll and Bute Council clarifies 'spygate' investigation bill

SPYING investigator, John Clayton, billed for 61 full days work when looking into allegations against communications manager, Jo Smith, Argyll and Bute Council has said.

The authority has rejected claims Mr Clayton had only billed for 14 days work after concluding his investigation in May, further adding executive director of development and infrastructure, Sandy MacTaggart, appointed Mr Clayton after being appointed disciplinary investigation officer.

The *Oban Times* learned Mr Clayton was paid £29,121.88 over the course of his investigation, including sustenance and expenses.

## Man denies Taynuilt car theft

A MAN denied stealing car keys from a visitor's room in the Taynuilt before driving their car into three parked vehicles when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week.

David Killin, aged 30, is accused of stealing the car, an eReader tablet computer and a cheque for £200 on July 24.

He is also charged with attempting to drive the vehicle while unfit to drive through drink or drugs. There are a total of eight charges against Mr Killin, including possession of the class C drug diazepam and other driving offences.

An intermediate diet was set for August 9, with a trial diet of August 20.

## Other statue stolen from Isle of Mull

A LARGE bronze statue of an otter has been stolen from Mull Pottery in Tobermory, Isle of Mull.

The statue was taken between July 20 and 24.

Anyone who has any information regarding the theft, or noticed anyone acting suspiciously near the premises between the dates of the offence should contact PC Donald MacCush at Tobermory Police Station.



## Oban road 'not good enough'

A PLAN to patch pot holes on the main entrance into Oban, the Bealach-an-Righ, in October is 'not good enough', according to Argyll and Bute's MP.

**Cross party agreement**

Alan Reid has written to transport minister, Keith Brown, to request additional funding be given to trunk roads operator, Scotland Transerv, after he was told budget cuts meant a full resurfacing scheme has been reduced to a patching operation.

The Liberal Democrat's call has been backed by the council's

deputy lead councillor for tourism and infrastructure, SNP councillor Louise Glen-Lee.

Mr Reid said: 'The Bealach-an-Righ is the entrance to Oban and its terrible condition gives a very poor first impression to visitors. Reducing the proposed from full repair to patching is not good enough.'

Mrs Glen-Lee said: 'Mr Reid is absolutely right.'

'Oban is a beautiful town and it deserves a beautiful entrance.' Transport Scotland said: 'We have received Mr Reid's letter and will respond shortly.'



Shauna MacKenzie celebrates grabbing the first tickets to Oban Phoenix Cinema's first showing, with boyfriend Javi Martinez, left, and Daniel Clough - the cinema's second and third customers. 15. 131cinemat

## Oban cinema hit by ticket rush for *Brave*

TICKETS for the opening night of the Oban Phoenix Cinema sold out in just 45 minutes as film-goers queued up for hours to guarantee their seats.

And it was Shauna MacKenzie who became the first person to buy tickets for Friday's first screening of *Brave* at the new Oban Phoenix Cinema, literally squealing with joy as she stepped through the door on Saturday morning.

The Disney enthusiast was easily the most eager film-goer in the queue and was delighted she could watch the movie on opening weekend in her home town. She said: 'I dragged my boyfriend and my friend out of their beds at 8am so I could get in the queue. I can't wait. I love everything Disney and everything Scottish so I'm really, really looking forward to it.'

While the first night sold out rapidly, the cinema sold tickets for each day of screenings across the two-week run. Tickets are still available for most of the performances and can be bought by dropping into the cinema this week. Those who have reserved briefs can now collect their tickets.

Director Louise Glen-Lee said: 'Thank you very, very much to everyone that has supported us and we hope to see you filling the cinema's seats regularly in future.'



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**Lorn Lines**

COLLECTIONS in Oban and Lorn for Cancer Research have raised £3,473.  
The sum has been added to the running total for the year, which is already higher than last year's final total, thanks to other fundraisers in the area.  
Christine Dairon and Sandra Ross, collection co-ordinators for the local Cancer Research committee, thanked all collectors for their efforts.  
Last year the local committee raised £11,559.19.



The Wee Band from Taynuilt.

OBAN High School Pipe Band member James MacPherson impressed the audience with a fine selection of pipe tunes at last week's ceilidh in Taynuilt.  
Isla Sinclair Dancers, sisters Lynn and Amanda MacLean, produced excellent displays of Highland dancing.  
There were very enjoyable individual singing performances from local artistes Jennifer Lloyd, Riona McCormick and Duncan MacDonal.  
Connell's Sileas Sinclair once again produced some terrific sounds on her accordion while 'The Wee Band' - Donald Harrison, Freddie Nicolson, Paddy Shaw, Frank Beaton and John Gosling - delighted the audience with a selection of familiar swing and jazz tunes.  
Bean an taighe for the evening was Isabel Banks who kept proceedings flowing smoothly.



OBAN Distillery's old cask store was converted into an auditorium on Friday so locals could take a glimpse into the town's rich history.  
The fundraiser for Oban Winter Festival saw John MacLean delve into his personal collection of old photographs, taking a closer look at some of the town's familiar and not so familiar buildings, people and events.  
A good crowd gathered as John showed pictures and etchings dating back as far as 1830.

Send your news from Oban and Lorn to Euan Paterson at *The Oban Times*  
epaterson@obantimes.co.uk Telephone 01631 568000

**Row escalates as health and safety issues restrict fishermen's access to Oban pier**

FISHERMEN on Oban's Railway Pier have been told they will not be given key fobs to operate a new automatic barrier from Station Square, due to health and safety risks.  
Responding to pleas from Oban's fishing fleet for unlimited access to the Railway Pier, Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) has stated its position

will not change, saying the area behind the barrier is too narrow to allow both vehicles and pedestrians to pass.  
However, the company will hold talks with ports operator Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) in an effort to find a more suitable arrangement.  
Lorna Spencer, director of harbours at CMAL, said: 'Access

is restricted on the pier due to health and safety reasons following a formal risk assessment.  
'The area accessed is very narrow and does not allow for vehicles and pedestrians to pass safely on CMAL's land.  
'Our position on this will not change due to the identified health and safety risks.  
'The main risks are the poten-

tial for vehicle/pedestrian collision, vehicle/vehicle collision, pedestrians falling from the pier edge avoiding vehicles and restricting access for emergency vehicles should a vehicle be left in the narrow access roadway.  
'Those that can access the pier using a key fob to release the bollard, can do so due to the terms of their lease arrangements. This

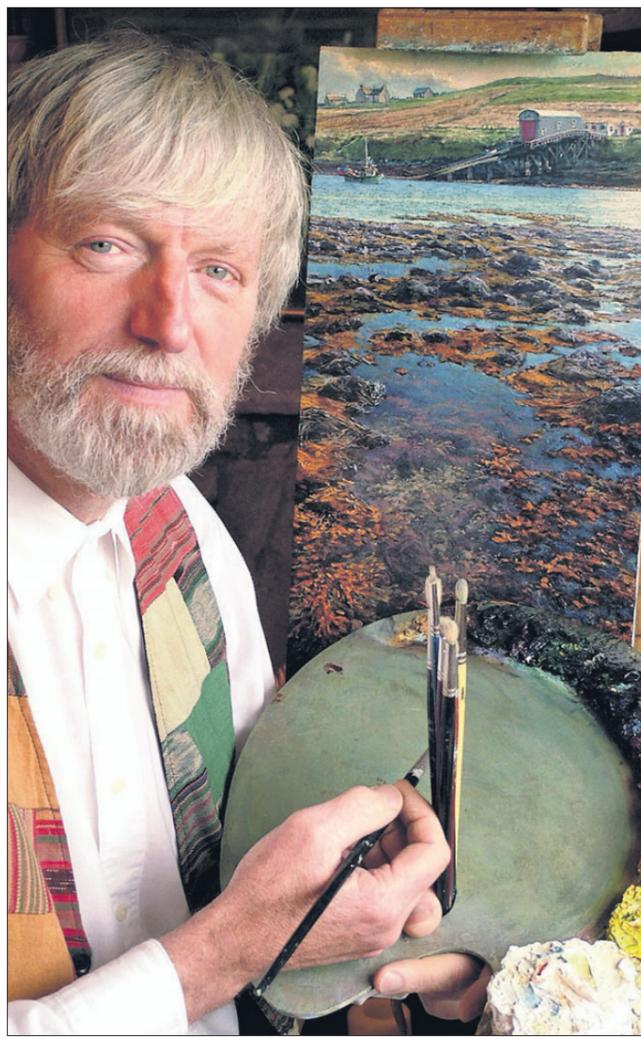
includes local businesses located close to the pier for deliveries and their own vehicle use.  
'We will, of course, speak with the port operator to see if an arrangement can be put in place to enable better controlled access for fishermen and other pier users and fishermen are aware that the South Pier can be accessed easily and used by them.'

**Benderloch doctor admits dangerous driving charge**

A RETIRED doctor who narrowly avoided a head on collision with a bus full of elderly people has been fined and disqualified from driving.  
Dr Ghazi Garabet, 73, of Collieston, Ledaig, Benderloch, pled guilty at Oban Sheriff Court to dangerous driving when he appeared last week.  
Garabet had been travelling from Benderloch to Oban on January 19 when he was caught carrying out a dangerous overtaking manoeuvre by a CCTV system installed on a bus he was overtaking.  
The court heard he had been behind the bus and had went to pass it on a 'short section of straight road'.  
Sheriff Small fined Garabet £600 and disqualified him for driving for one year. He said: 'It is fortunate there wasn't a collision.'

**Taynuilt drink driver was three times legal limit**

A TAYNUILT man narrowly avoided jail when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court on a drink driving charge last week.  
Gregor Livingston, 43, of Balindore Farm, Taynuilt, pled guilty to driving with more than three times the legal limit of alcohol on his breath.  
Livingston had been spotted behind the wheel of his Land Rover Discovery in Glencruit Road, Oban, on June 24.  
The court heard police noticed the vehicle as it was being driven in an 'erratic manner' and 'weaving from side to side'.  
Livingston was ordered to carry out 240 hours of unpaid work as part of a community payback order and was also disqualified from driving for three-and-a-half years.



Artist Paul Taggart who will create a new work of art live at Oban Lifeboat Station's 40th anniversary open day next weekend.

**Artist at the ready for Oban RNLI 40th anniversary**

OBAN Lifeboat Station's 40th anniversary open day promises to be a real work of art.  
The event, on Saturday August 11, will offer people the chance to look round the lifeboat and enjoy everything from fast Sea-fari boat trips round Oban Bay to face painting.  
Renowned Highland artist Paul Taggart will be on hand to create an original painting, which will be donated to the lifeboat to help raise funds for the organisation.  
Meanwhile, local children will be invited to paint part of another big picture, on the theme of the sea and Oban lifeboat, which will include a Countdown-style message.  
The message will be revealed when the children's finished painting - which will be rolled up as different sections are completed - is finally revealed in full at the end of the open day.  
Appealing for people to support the open day, which will run from 10.30am to 3pm, with Sea-fari trips at £5 a head running from 11.30am to 1.30pm, coxswain Ronnie MacKillop said: 'There will be something for all ages and we are really grateful to Sea-fari for agreeing to take part.'

**Attractions**  
'There will also be an opportunity to look round the lifeboat, as well as a host of other attractions including face painting, a treasure map, a book and CD stall, plus the usual teas, home baking, burgers and a raffle with great prizes.'

Mr MacKillop added: 'The RNLI is joining with the School's Out group in Oban to help start the children's painting off. Then the open day will give an opportunity for all budding young artists to add their mark to the picture.  
'It will be fun to see the painting and the message - which is one that is relevant to everyone who lives near the sea - revealed.'  
While Mr Taggart is in Oban he will also be working on another master-painting as part of a long term fundraising project for the RNLI. Prints from that painting will be sold to raise funds for the charity that saves lives at sea.  
The Awash With The RNLI project will see the artist visit two lifeboat stations a year, creating a large series of master paintings along the way. Oban is his second port of call in the series.

**Vets issue kennel cough warning**

AN OBAN veterinary surgeon warns dog owners in the area to vaccinate against kennel cough to avoid a repeat of 2010's outbreak.  
Kennel cough is a viral disease in dogs that is commonly complicated by bacteria in the throat. This is an illness that healthy dogs with vaccines can overcome, yet it is quite severe - leading to pneumonia - to those who have not had it and are very old or young.  
Local vet John Blomfield advised dog owners: 'Have your dog vaccinated before being around other dogs whether in a kennel or a dog show. It is a very contagious disease. Our last major one being in 2010 when the majority of dogs between Oban and Dalmailly suffered the illness.'

**Visitor drove on wrong side causing Appin road crash**

A WOMAN who caused a crash that shut the A828 Oban to Fort William road for several hours on a Sunday appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week.  
Lothje Vandersompele, 34, from Belgium, pled guilty to dangerous driving and causing a collision with oncoming traffic which injured another person.  
The court heard Vandersompele had pulled out of a junction at Appin and had been driving on the wrong side of the road before noticing oncoming traffic and swerving back into her lane.  
But the oncoming vehicle had also swerved to avoid a collision and the two cars crashed before the vehicle behind also ran into them. Defending, Miss Wilson said her client, who is here on holiday, had a 'momentary lapse' of concentration. She had previously driven up from Hull without incident. Sheriff Small disqualified Vandersompele for one year and fined her £400. He said: 'It is lucky no one else was more seriously injured.'

**Small businesses being targeted by criminals**

MORE than one million small businesses in the UK have been targeted by criminals in the last two years.  
The study of small business owners and sole traders, of which there are more than 4.5million, revealed that nearly a quarter had been hit by criminals. Of those hit 360,000 would make a claim averaging £2,500, resulting in an £853million bill for insurers.  
The head of Direct Line for business, Jazz Gakkhal, said: 'The research demonstrates the importance of sufficient protection of the business as claims typically average £2,500, and an unexpected bill of this size could put huge pressure on many small business owners.'

**Dunbeg man in court after chasing son with axe**

A FATHER who chased his son while wielding an axe before using it to smash a car windscreen appeared at Oban Sheriff Court.  
James MacDonald, 47, of 59 Lochnell Road, Dunbeg pled guilty to the offences when he appeared at the court last week.  
Sheriff Small called for social background reports to be prepared for sentencing on August 21.

**Rent arrears rise according to report**

FIGURES from the Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA) and the National Landlords Association (NLA) shows tenants are staying longer - but rental arrears are on the rise.  
ARLA's findings, issued this week, have shown that tenancy in the UK has now reached a new high at 20 months, saying the cause is tenants struggling when competing for properties.  
Some 58 per cent of ARLA offices confirmed there are more tenants than properties, with 55 per cent of these being couples or young families are attempting to buy their first home. However, the NLA's figures show that 49 per cent of landlords have experienced rental arrears in the last year.  
NLA chairman David Salusbury said: 'It is a sign of the difficult economic conditions that so many landlords are experiencing rental arrears. In these circumstances, landlords should work with their tenants.'  
ARLA's managing director, Ian Potter, commented: 'The PRS is clearly picking the slack resulting from a flat housing market and the ongoing lack of mortgage finance. As tenants stay in properties for longer, the importance of regulation in the sector becomes even more pressing.'

**'Insufficient evidence' halts Mull dive-boat crash court case**

Judge Rae throws out charge at Glasgow High Court almost a year after accused's first appearance

A MAN accused of killing a friend in a tragic boating accident off Tobermory, Mull, has walked free from court.  
A judge last Thursday ruled there was insufficient evidence that would allow a jury to convict Jason Robinson of culpable homicide.  
Robinson had been on trial at the High Court in Glasgow in a type of case rarely seen in Scotland.  
The 42-year-old was prosecuted following the death of dad-of-three Garry Henaghan in May 2009.  
'An almighty bang'  
The men - along with Robinson's brother Wayne and John Binney - had been on a diving and fishing trip staying in Lochaline.  
They had taken with them a rigid inflatable boat - called Sooty - that Robinson and his brother had previously bought.  
On May 18 2009 - the day of the accident - the four had sailed into Tobermory, where they visited a bar.  
A jury was told how roofing contractor Robinson, of Cramlington, Northumberland, drank lager at the pub.  
The men eventually headed back that evening towards their base with Robinson at the controls of the boat.  
Wayne Robinson recalled there later being a collision - described as 'an almighty bang' - after the boat ran aground on the uninhabited Calve

Island in Tobermory Bay. Mr Henaghan was found lying on nearby rocks suffering from severe injuries that he never recovered from.  
The Crown sought to prove a number of allegations in respect of the culpable homicide charge.  
This included a claim that Robinson was under the influence of alcohol at the time to the extent his ability to navigate was impaired.  
It was also alleged he had gone at excessive speeds for the prevailing conditions.  
His brother - who was also hurt after the crash - denied during the trial that Robinson had been drunk.  
Mark Moir, defending, argued Robinson had no case to answer following three days of prosecution evidence.  
The advocate also said: 'There are few cases like this that come before the courts in Scotland or even the United Kingdom.'  
Judge Rita Rae QC later decided to throw out the charge against Robinson - almost a year after he first appeared at the high court to face the accusation.  
She told jurors: 'I have decided there is insufficient evidence in law to allow such a charge to be considered by a jury.'  
Prosecutor Jonathan Brodie QC told Judge Rae the Crown would not be appealing her decision.

**Health awards open for nominations**

THE SCOTTISH Health Awards 2012 is open for nominations and locals are being encouraged to nominate NHS workers that have gone that extra mile.  
The awards ceremony will be held in Edinburgh on November 8, although all nominations should be made by September 10. Local people should be nominating NHS workers if they regularly go beyond the call of duty to ensure the best possible health care is provided in their area. Nigel Hobson, nurse director and chief operating officer at NHS Western Isles, said: 'Our staff work hard every day to provide the best possible care and to ensure local health services are the best they can be.'  
'The Scottish Health Awards help to highlight the skills, dedication and commitment of professionals across Scotland who strive to provide first class healthcare to patients.'  
To nominate your healthcare hero visit [www.scottishhealthawards.com](http://www.scottishhealthawards.com).

**Quarry giant assists Lismore's search for water**

THE COMPANY running Glensanda quarry has begun drilling boreholes on Lismore to help allay islanders' water supply concerns.  
Many households rely on surface springs which can dry out in hot weather and Aggregate Industries is using its equipment free of charge to help islanders who live near the quarry. As many as 36 households could have boreholes drilled.

Lismore Community Council secretary Mandie Currie said: 'This is an invaluable service to the island, as surface springs can dry out and can be of poorer water quality than borehole water.'  
'Most islanders couldn't pay the cost of a drilling rig themselves and we would estimate a cost of £15,000 to bring a rig over for those who needed the work done.'

Darren Loftas, works manager at Yeoman Glensanda, said: 'We are delighted to have been able to bring the skills and experience of both Aggregate Industries and our drilling and blasting partner BAMRichies to this community-led project.'  
'Borehole drilling has now commenced and we are looking forward to seeing the benefit these will bring to households on Lismore.'

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# Outrage as carer joins Oban-based website that mocks disabled

CONCERNS have been raised over the care system in Argyll after a carer in Oban publicly joined a website that mocked people with disabilities.

The carer, who has years of experience, joined the website last week, ahead of a community campaign to have the page taken

down over its abusive content.

**Questions asked**

Concerns about the conduct of the carer were raised with *The Oban Times* by an individual who has worked in the industry locally for more than 15 years.

The correspondent, who wished to remain anonymous,

said: "What disturbs me is that a carer would join this page at all. Its intent was pretty obvious. To me, the feelings of those who need care come first."

"To me, it brings into question what sort of background checks are being carried out on people who are employed to look after

those with specific needs."

Local councillor and former carer Louise Glen-Lee joined those condemning the page and the actions of the carer. She said: "We cannot have anyone who doesn't believe in someone's potential working in the care system. We have to believe in

the very best of people. That's why this appalls me. This website has knocked people's confidence and carers are supposed to build confidence."

"We are a wonderful, accepting town and the people of Oban have shown this page is not acceptable."

The employer of the carer who joined the page is to look into the incident.

A spokeswoman for the company said: "We take this matter extremely seriously as we do not tolerate bullying or abuse in any form. We will be carrying out a full investigation

to establish if any members of staff have been involved."

The page was stripped bare on Monday night after widespread condemnation across the community.

A total of 362 people had 'liked' the page at its peak.

## Oban woman stole from supermarket

A WOMAN who breached the terms of her probation by stealing £14.12 worth of goods from an Oban supermarket has narrowly escaped jail.

Susannah McCuish, of 5 Combie Court, Oban, had previously admitted stealing from the store on March 21. She had £18 in her purse at the time of her arrest.

McCuish appeared for sentencing at Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday, where she further admitted breaching probation imposed as part of a sentence handed down in October last year for falsely claiming £2,800 in child benefit.

Sentencing, Sheriff Douglas Small revoked the probation order and imposed two new community payback orders of 90 hours and 60 hours, to run consecutively. He also continued the compensation order, ordering McCuish to pay back the remaining £2,710 owed to the Department of Work and Pensions. He said: "The social work report points to an entrenched pattern of dishonesty. I think a lot of people have tried to work with her quite unsuccessfully. If she comes back again on breach I will have no alternative but to send her to Cornton Vale."

# October date for Oban's BID decision

## Ballot paper to be sent out to town businesses this month

COMPANIES in Oban will be asked in October whether or not to create a Business Improvement District (BID) in the town.

The announcement of the date of the ballot, on Friday October 5, came following formal confirmation that neither Argyll and Bute Council or the Scottish Government would veto the proposal.

It means the final procedural hurdle in the path of the plan - which would see local businesses within the 30mph limit investing collectively to improve Oban's trading environment - has now been crossed.

The decision over whether to actually go ahead and create the BID is now solely in the hands of the town's businesses themselves.

Graham MacQueen, chairman of the BID4OBAN steering group overseeing the proposal, said an increasing number of business figures in the town were indicating their support for the scheme.

**"We believe this scheme has the potential to transform the trading environment of our town environment"**

**chairman Graham MacQueen**

He said: "We believe this scheme has the potential to transform the trading environment of our town, but we obviously need a positive ballot result to get it up and running."

"I and the rest of the steering group will now be renewing our efforts to make sure every business in Oban is familiar with the five year business plan and what it seeks to achieve before the ballot is issued."

"This is an extremely exciting time for Oban. I believe the BID is an opportunity not to be missed, and I am very hopeful of

a positive ballot outcome and of the town going from strength to strength in the future."

If the proposal is agreed, all businesses with a rateable value property of £3,000 or over within the BID boundary would contribute through a modest but compulsory levy.

Subject to a successful ballot, Argyll and Bute Council has already agreed to provide financial support of £20,000 a year for the five year duration of the scheme, as well as an estimated £4,500 annual levy as the occupant of multiple business premises in the town.

Ballot papers will be sent to businesses on August 24, ahead of the October 5 vote.

If successful, the BID will start on October 31 and run for five years.

The BID system is already in operation in 11 other Scottish towns. A copy of BID4OBAN's proposals and a copy of the approved plan can be found at [www.bid4oban.co.uk](http://www.bid4oban.co.uk).



Lorn Show president Duncan Buchanan is looking forward to this Saturday's show at the spectacular beachfront setting

## Show opts for spectacular beach setting

LORN Show makes a welcome return to Benderloch this weekend, right on the sandy shores of Tralee Bay.

Show president Duncan Buchanan was putting the finishing touches to the new show field on the Keil common grazings on Sunday but promised a day of entertainment for all the

family at what is one of the most picturesque locations on the show circuit.

As is traditional, family fun will be combined with one of the finest agricultural events in the area, with a healthy showing of cattle and sheep expected for the full stock judging competition, which starts at 10am.

Duncan said there was a lot of promise for the event's new home and urged people to come join the fun. He said: "It's a welcome return to Benderloch for the show. It's not been here for 30 years."

"We've got a few new events lined up, such as the back-to-front bicycle competition, a

tractor pull and there will be quad bikes with buggys for the children."

Sheaf tossing and a young handlers' competition are new additions to the show, while the old favourites, of dog show, bonnie baby competition, climbing wall, terrier racing and tombola stalls will be on hand.

## Spot Oor Wullie in Oban

OBAN is set to feature in Oor Wullie's latest adventures, as one of 16 locations in Scotland where you can find him and his pals.

In Whaur's Oor Wullie, published by Waverley Books this month, Scotland's favourite boy travels around Scotland's most famous and popular places with some of the familiar characters who appear in his weekly comic strip. The challenge is to spot them in the crowd - with Oban, The Gateway to the Isles, listed as one of Scotland's most famous locations. Each spread is illustrated in full colour with a list of items and characters to spot.

**Repeat offender avoids jail for six months at least**

A MOTHER of five who has notched up 71 previous convictions has been ordered to behave herself for six months - or be sent to jail again.

Patricia McGuire, 48, whose address was given in court as Room 10, Shore Street Flats, Shore Street, Oban, appeared at the town's sheriff court last Tuesday awaiting sentencing for behaving in a threatening and abusive manner on June 26.

Ordering McGuire, who previously pled guilty, to come back to the court in February, Sheriff Douglas Small said: "I'm really at a loss as to what I should do with you. I don't want to send you to jail because it's a last resort. I will instead defer sentence for six months on the understanding that if you don't behave, you will be sent to Cornton Vale."

## Play/Talk/Read roadshow for Oban

A CAMPAIGN aimed at encouraging parents and carers to play, talk and read more with their babies and young children is coming to Argyll and Bute.

The PlayTalk/Read roadshow is coming to Oban and Lochgilphead and will have Bookbug stories, song and rhyme sessions as well as fun and free play. The campaign aims to highlight the importance of early positive interaction with children.

The Play Talk Read bus will be in George Street, Oban, on August 21; Oban Primary Campus on August 22 and in Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, on August 23. Opening times are between 9am and 12.30pm and between 1.30pm and 5pm.

Lead councillor for education and lifelong learning Michael Breslin said: "The aim of this project is to offer practical support and ideas on how to create the best foundations for children's development. I encourage parents and carers to come along."

For more information check [www.playtalkread.org](http://www.playtalkread.org).

**Jubilee trees go free to groups**

THE WOODLAND Trust Scotland is giving out free trees to schools and community groups throughout the year of the Diamond Jubilee.

Across Scotland a total of 102,000 trees have already been given, 5,700 of them to Argyll and Bute. By the end of this year around 6 million trees will have been given away throughout the UK, two million of these to Scotland. Carol Evans, director of the Woodland Trust Scotland, said: "Communities across Scotland are not only making an amazing difference now, they are investing in the long-term benefits trees will provide such as shade and shelter and homes for wildlife."

IKEA, Biffa Award, the People's Postcode Lottery and Sainsbury's are sponsoring the tree packs. Register online by August 20 to receive a medium (105 trees) or large pack (420 trees). Register online by October to receive a small pack (60 trees).

**Man admits ex-girlfriend abuse**

A MAN who hurled abuse at his ex-girlfriend before returning home and discarding her clothes was fined £200 at Oban Sheriff Court.

Lucasz Kaczorowski, 26, of 5C Burnbank Terrace, Oban, pled guilty to the offences when he appeared at the court last week.

## Oban parking trial costs remain unknown

THE SUM of money being paid to Strathclyde Police during a trial to issue on-street parking tickets will not yet be revealed to the public.

According to Argyll and Bute Council, which is funding the three-month trial, the amount it will spend on the service level agreement with the police is not finalised, but would be made available in a report on the conclusion of the trial in September.

As of July 9 police in Oban have been issuing tickets to drivers who do not pay and display in marked on-street parking bays.

Officers issued 51 penalty

tickets in the first week of the pilot, 76 tickets in the second week and 31 in the third week.

Douglas Hendry, the council's executive director of customer services, said the council will wait to find out the man-hours police have allocated to the pilot before making their payments public.

He said: "The main point is that this is a partnership that we are making a contribution to."

"We would expect the final report that comes in front of elected members to show all the relevant information, including how much the council spent."

## Injured rugby player to tackle 96-mile journey in just 45 hours for charity

A RUGBY player is to overcome serious neck and shoulder injuries to walk the West Highland Way to fundraise for autism and leukaemia charities.

Michael MacDonald, 23, will start the walk from Fort William on August 21 and end in Milngavie, continuing onto Edinburgh by bike, a total journey of 96 miles - in just 45 hours.

Michael, who is originally from Oban but now lives in Edinburgh, sustained career-threatening injuries after landing on his neck while playing for Stirling against Dundee in March.

The nerve endings in Michael's neck were damaged to the extent that he thought his rugby career might be over, however, he is making steady progress back to fitness.

"I'm completely up for it," said Michael. "I've been walking 12 miles every day, going to the gym for endurance and weight exercises and even started a special diet."



Michael MacDonald has overcome a serious rugby injury to tackle the West Highland Way.

that are personal to him and his family, including Scottish Autism.

He said: "My brother, Murray, suffers from autism and the charity has done so much for him. They helped him five days a week for about seven to eight years and have moulded him to become a more independent person. They deserve a huge pat on the back."

The second charity is Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research, as Michael lost his father, Kenny, to cancer in June 2010.

"I want to raise awareness about these illnesses because it's important that people get the help they need early on in the process."

The Stirling University student, who is in the final year of a journalism degree, said he had ambitions to return to playing and coaching rugby.

If you wish to donate you can be going to [www.justgiving.com/Michael-MacDonald](http://www.justgiving.com/Michael-MacDonald).

## Seil windfarm developer offers local community 'buy-in' option

THE DEVELOPER behind a controversial windfarm at Clachan Seil is giving residents in the area the opportunity to buy into the project.

Rory Young's planning application to erect nine turbines at Clachan Seil has received a number of objections, following a campaign in opposition to the plan from People Against Clachan Turbine (PACT).

However, Mr Young, of Clachan Community Energy, says he has local support and has now given residents the chance to invest in the development for as little as £5, with the possibility of an additional £80,000 annual payout for community projects.

However, a PACT spokesman labelled the gesture as "unpleasant", adding: "It has the obvious effect of dividing people."



Gordon Muir, manager of Tarbert Estate on Jura, shows his strength in the hammer throw at Ardlussa Sports last Saturday. The annual sporting event sees contestants take part in a variety of competitions, from 'Tattie on spoon race', through to the relay, high jump, barrel rolling or the open mile race. Picture - Konrad Borkowski

## Inveraray lead Argyll raid on Euro pipe band championships

INVERARAY led an Argyll assault on the European Pipe Band Championships in Belfast last weekend as all bands returned promising results.

At the competition on Saturday, Inveraray and District Pipe Band's juvenile band came second, while the senior band finished fourth in grade one.

Although Inveraray and District tied on points with Scottish Power in grade one, the Royal Burgh won fourth place by virtue of ensemble preference.

Jim McMillan, secretary of Inveraray and District Pipe Band, said: "We are happy with our performances and we feel we

are getting stronger with every competition. Since our results on Saturday at the 'Euros' we have become more confident for the world championships."

"The bands gave two excellent performances. The juvenile band, which has been in the same grade for years, has improved after securing second place."

"As for the senior band, we have finished in the top three in our last two competitions."

Oban High School's novice juvenile band came fourth in its category while its juvenile band finished fourth. Oban Pipe Band came 13th in grade two.

Isle of Islay Pipe Band came

second in grade 3A and piper Andrew McEachern said the group was delighted with the result. He added: "We are all very pleased with the result, it feels amazing. We were all happy - until the bus broke down on the way home."

"We are happy to get placed at all; there were a lot of good bands there. We have already come first place at the Scottish championships, sixth at the British championships and now second at the Europeans. Hopefully we'll go up a place for the world championships in Glasgow."

Kintyre Schools Pipe Band came fifth in the juvenile grade.

## Bagpipes on the battlements as Piping Live! comes to Dunollie

A TRADITIONAL fusion of bagpipes and battlements will find itself at Dunollie Castle tomorrow (Friday) - before the Oban High School Pipe Band head to Glasgow in return.

The Piping Live! Festival on Tour will come to the castle's 1745 House from 2pm as part of a tour of some of Scotland's most striking historical landmarks.

Piping champion Angus MacColl will perform music associated with the historical site.

Organisers promise their appearance at the Oban venue will offer an opportunity to enjoy the best of Scotland's traditional music captured in iconic historical surroundings.

Attendees can even have a go at our national instrument, with sample lessons from some of the world's greatest pipers.

Then, Piping Live! returns to the Glasgow International Piping Festival in Glasgow between August 6-12, with the band part of a star-studded line-up.

Now in its ninth year, the festival is the biggest of its kind in the world, with thousands of music fans, musicians and pipers from around the globe descending upon Glasgow for the week-long celebration of traditional and modern piping music.

Piping Live! director Roddy MacLeod said: "We are delighted to be part of the year of Creative Scotland and to give audiences across Scotland a taster of what Piping Live! has to offer."

"We look forward to bringing the instrument to new audiences and encouraging the public to pick up the pipes themselves."

"At Piping Live! we programme an exciting range of events to showcase all aspects of the instrument from the traditional to the contemporary and Piping Live! on Tour will give a little taster of the event from the crème de la crème of our finest solo pipers."

For more information, see [www.pipinglive.co.uk](http://www.pipinglive.co.uk).

### WIN TICKETS TO SEE

Ann Duggan

...a fantastic evening of music

Dubbed as the first lady of blue-collar blues, singer Ann Duggan is coming to the Corran Halls in Oban on Friday, August 17, 2012, 8pm. This electrifying evening of music will see Ann perform a range of heart-felt ballads and roadhouse rock songs with her guitarist Rob Hines. Ticket prices start from £8.

The Oban Times is giving five lucky readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to the show. To enter, simply answer this easy question, complete the entry form below and post it to: Oban Times, Ann Duggan Comp, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB. Entries must be submitted by Friday, August 10, 2012.

**Question:**  
At which Oban venue will Ann Duggan perform on August 17?  
a) Argyllshire Gathering b) Oban Phoenix Cinema c) Corran Halls

Answer: ..... Name: .....

Address: .....

Tel: ..... Email: .....

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(Source: Ilegit data January - June 2009)

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### Sheriff court trials postponed after witnesses fail to appear

TWO TRIALS at Fort William Sheriff Court were postponed on Monday after essential witnesses failed to appear.

Joanne Kemp, aged 31, of 87 Kennedy Road, Fort William, was due to stand trial accused of assaulting a man in her house by hitting him with a glass to his injury on April 21. The alleged victim did not turn up to give evidence.

The prosecution of Danius Laurinavicius, of 11 Canon Gillies Place, Arisaig, was also moved after two key witnesses failed to turn up.

The 45-year-old Lithuanian denies assaulting his partner by punching her on the head and face and throwing her to the floor, all to her injury.

He is also accused of behaving in a threatening and abusive manner by shouting, swearing and throwing items around the house.

The alleged incidents happened in a house on June 11.

Both trials are now due to be held on September 27.

### Renowned Kyle poet in running for top award

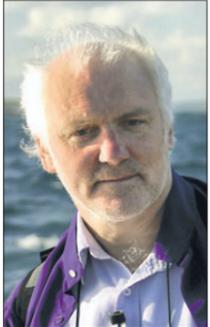
PUBLIC voting closes on Monday in the Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Book Awards 2012 - with a renowned Gaelic poet from Kyle in the running for the £25,000 top prize.

Angus Peter Campbell has already beaten off stiff competition from the likes of Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy to win the poetry category and £5,000 with his latest collection *Aibisidh*.

BBC Radio 4 presenter Dame Jenni Murray will unveil the overall winner at the Edinburgh International Book Festival on August 17. Mr Campbell is one of four category winners hoping to scoop in the top accolade.

Other contenders are Ali Smith, fiction; Janice Galloway, non-fiction, and Simon Stephenson (first book).

To vote, visit <http://www.scottishbookawards.com/vote>.



Angus Peter Campbell from Kyle: in running for top book award.

### Skye childcare centre boost

THE FÁS Mòr childcare centre in Sleat on Skye is to receive £48,000 under a three-year deal with Bòrd na Gàidhlig to build up its service to south Skye.

The agreement will help the centre meet National Gaelic Language Plan objectives for boosting Gaelic use among young children.

The Bòrd and Highland Council joint fund the facility at the Gaelic college, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

Fàs Mòr manager Lisa Corse said it was vital the children were immersed in a Gaelic environment outside of school.

She said: 'We are able to boost the confidence and fluency of children and that helps increase the confidence parents without Gaelic have in Gaelic medium education.'

### Glass thrower fined £495

AN ARGUMENT during a poker game in a Fort William pub ended with a man throwing a glass at two other players.

Allan Kennedy, of 8 Nevis Road, Inverloch, was fined £495 after pleading guilty to culpably and recklessly throwing the glass in the Volunteer Arms on April 25.

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie told Fort William Sheriff Court: 'There appears to have been some sort of altercation and words were exchanged.'

'He [Kennedy] walked over to the bar, picked up a glass and threw it in the general direction of those people. It didn't smash and nobody was injured as a result.'

Fining the 44-year-old, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'Throwing a glass at somebody is a serious matter.'



The main prizewinners celebrate their success after an exciting day of competition. 20\_f31piping02

## Cruinneachadh Festival of Piping hits the high notes

By STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

CRUINNEACHADH Loch Abar - The Lochaber Gathering Festival of Piping proved to be another competition of exceptionally high standard in the Nevis Centre, Fort William, on Saturday.

Winner of the coveted An Tuagh Oir - The Gold Axe - for premier grade piobaireachd was Euan MacCrimmon from Inverness, who edged out Pipe Major Gordon Walker from Galston.

Roy Bridge Bridge enjoyed a double success when brothers Sandy and Finlay Cameron won several awards.



Judges Iain MacFadyen, left, and Robert Wallace, right, congratulate organiser Allan MacColl on staging another successful event. 20\_f31piping03

Sandy, 15, long a rising star in the piping world, won the piobaireachd and march, strathspey and reel competitions while 10-year-old Finlay was the youngest competitor.

Elsewhere, Skye and Lochalsh scored success through James Roxburgh from Kyle and Seamus O' Baoighill from Sleat.

Event organiser, Allan MacColl from Corpach, told *The Oban Times*: 'The Lochaber Gathering has a history going back hundreds of years and then died out.'

'But I started it again in 1995 and it has been going strong ever since.'

'It ranks very high on the piping calendar and this year

drew competitors from as far afield as Australia, Vancouver and the USA. It's that kind of calibre.'

Presenting the trophies, Councillor Brian Murphy said the competition 'seemed to be growing in stature'.

He added: 'Highland Council is delighted to support it and I hope it will continue for many years to come.'

Councillor Murphy thanked Margaret Ford for her singing during the interval, Nevis Centre staff, sponsors and Allan MacColl and his band of volunteers, without whom the event would not be possible.

Cruinneachadh Loch Abar Lochaber Gathering Festival of Piping 2012 results: 18 and Under - Piobaireachd - An Tuagh Umha (Bronze Lochaber Axe): 1 Iain Crawford, Strathaven; 2 James Roxburgh, Kyle of Lochalsh; 3 Rebecca Tierney, Strathaven. MSR - Lochaber Gathering Salver: 1 Iain Crawford; 2 James Roxburgh, Kyle of Lochalsh; 3 Cameron Strain, Airdrie. Hornpipe and Jig - Clansman Garage Shield: 1 James Roxburgh; 2 Iain Crawford; 3 Rebecca Tierney. 15 and Under - Piobaireachd - Dugald MacColl Memorial Trophy - 1 Sandy Cameron, Roy Bridge; 2 Seamus O' Baoighill, Isle of Skye; 3 Brighde Chaimbeul, Kyle of Lochalsh. MSR - McCallum

Chanter - 1 Sandy Cameron; 2 Seamus O' Baoighill; 3 Brighde Chaimbeul. Hornpipe and Jig - Lochaber Gathering Medal - 1 Seamus O' Baoighill; 2 Brighde Chaimbeul; 3 Sandy Cameron. Youngest Competitor - Neil Johnstone Memorial Trophy - Finlay Cameron, Roy Bridge. Senior Results - P/A Grade Piobaireachd - An Tuagh Oir - 1 Euan MacCrimmon, Inverness; 2 Pipe Major Gordon Walker, Galston; 3 Gordon McCready, Stevenston; 4 Jenny Hazzard, Edinburgh. B/C Grade Piobaireachd - An Tuagh Airgead - 1 Edward McIlwaine, Vancouver; 2 Gordon Barclay, Inverness; 3 Colin Campbell, Aberlour; 4 Liz Cherry, USA. P/A Grade March - Lochaber Gathering Gold Medal - 1 Peter Hunt, Stevenston; 2 Cameron Drummond, Perth; 3 Pipe Major Gordon Walker; 4 Gordon McCready, P/A Grade Strathspey and Reel - Leek's Taxis Trophy - 1 Gordon McCready, Stevenston; 2 Pipe Major Gordon Walker; 3 Cameron Drummond; 4 Euan MacCrimmon. B/C Grade MSR - Clydesdale Bank Trophy - 1 Colin Campbell; 2 Decker Forrest, Isle of Skye; 3 Mark MacKenzie, Queensland; 4 Gary Carruthers, Glasgow. Open Hornpipe and Jig - Lochaber Gathering Shield Trophy - 1 Pipe Major Gordon Walker; 2 Euan MacCrimmon; 3 Cameron Drummond; 4 Jenny Hazzard.

# Care home cash thief avoids jail

## Sheriff shows leniency to woman who stole £2,810

A SHERIFF has shown leniency towards a Ballachulish woman who admitted stealing nearly £3,000 from a local old folk's home.

Jill Sutherland was working as financial administrator for Abbeyfield Society Care Home in Ballachulish when she embezzled £2,810 from the business between January 1 2008 and December 20 2010.

The 43-year-old cried throughout a 15 minute hearing at Fort William Sheriff Court, where she was appearing for sentencing.

Sutherland had admitted taking the money at a previous court hearing at Fort William on July

By RICHARD HADDOCK  
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

3. Procurator Fiscal Laura Ryan told the court that Sutherland was caught after three separate payments had been noted in the care home's accounts, which had not been paid into the bank.

Defence solicitor Laura Russell said her client had borrowed funds from family members to pay back the money and had handed in a cheque for £2,810 to the court.

Ms Russell added that Sutherland was currently looking for employment in the area to pay back the money to her family.

Sutherland, of Brae Cottage, Brecklet, initially pled guilty to a charge of embezzling £6,480 from Abbeyfield before pleading guilty to taking the lesser amount.

Sheriff Douglas Small told her: 'This is a very serious offence, it was a gross breach of trust. I've decided not to impose a custodial sentence.'

'You have no previous convictions and you have shown a considerable amount of remorse, guilt and shame for this offence, as well you should.'

Sheriff Small sentenced Sutherland to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work in the community.

## Bemused Roy Bridge residents see red over Transerv lights

ROY BRIDGE residents have been left unimpressed after tall lampposts were sited next to existing ones on the A86 trunk road through the village.

The new posts went up in April - but now villagers are asking contractors Transerv to throw some light on why they have not taken the old lampposts away.

One resident, who did not wish to be named, said: 'No-one consulted us on whether we wanted new lights. We are a nice little village and the huge new ones look hideous - especially as they are cheek by jowl to the older, slightly shorter ones. It seems a waste of money.'

Local community councillor Ian Matheson said: 'It's a pity Transerv don't get its priorities right. There's an electronic 30mph speed limit that has not worked for ages and it seems they have spent a lot of money putting chevrons all over the place.'

'The lampposts have not got off to a good start - the head of one has fallen off already.'

A Transerv spokesman said: 'Our engineers are dealing with the problem.'

'There was a technical issue which meant they were unable to move the old lights as early as planned. However this has now been resolved and we are confident we will be able to do the work within the next few weeks.'

## Appin man given prison warning

AN APPIN man who drunkenly threatened the owner of a Ballachulish bar after being asked to leave has been fined £495.

Iain Black, of Burnside, pled guilty to behaving in a manner likely to cause a person fear or alarm by uttering threats of violence and repeatedly swearing at the woman at the Laroch Bar on

April 7. The 52-year-old fisherman was told to leave the bar after his behaviour was deemed 'strange' by staff members, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Fiscal Alison Wylie said: 'He was incoherent and making strange gestures.'

Black left the pub but re-entered shortly after, and became

aggressive towards the pub's owner, shouting and swearing at her and making threats.

After hearing Black had nine previous convictions for similar incidents, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'You're very likely to be considered for a custodial sentence if you appear for a matter like this again.'

## Arnish yard celebrates jobs boost announcement

THE ISLE of Lewis economy has received a welcome boost with news that the Arnish fabrication yard near Stornoway is to share in a 350-job bonanza.

Fife-based yard owners Burntisland Fabrications (BiFab) is to double its workforce after signing two contracts for a production

platform with Premier Oil, which is developing an oil field west of Shetland.

Bi Fab's yards at Methil and Burntisland will share the work.

Na h-Eileanan an Iar (Western Isles) MP Angus MacNeil welcomed the announcement. He said: 'This is great news for the

company and especially for the yard at Arnish in Lewis, which will hopefully see new jobs being created and also guarantees work at the yard for the next 18 months.'

'This will be a huge boost to the local economy and is a compliment to the skilled workforce at Arnish.'



Anna Trafford, left, is taking over from Liz Wilshaw, right, as Friends of Nevis co-ordinator.

## Friends of Nevis welcomes appointment of new leader

FRIENDS of Nevis (FoN), the group set up to protect and maintain the Ben Nevis and Glen Nevis area, has a new co-ordinator.

Anna Trafford takes over from Liz Wilshaw, who stepped down yesterday (Wednesday). Ms Trafford resigned as chairwoman of the FoN board of trustees to apply for the post.

Ms Wilshaw said Anna would do 'a fantastic job' in taking FoN 'from strength to strength'.

She added: 'Many thanks to everyone who has supported FoN and me personally over the last few years and I do hope you will continue to be involved in the protection, preservation and care of this wonderful area so that future generations can continue to enjoy the landscape and all it has to offer.'

FoN will maintain its office base at Lochaber Rural Complex alongside The Nevis Partnership,

which recently won £4million from the Heritage Lottery Fund's Landscape Partnership Scheme.

The cash will fund a variety of projects, including restoration of the lower half of the Ben Nevis mountain track over the next six years.

Meanwhile, four volunteer workdays from August 17-20 have been organised to repair paths on and around Ben Nevis.

FoN can help with free camping, subsidised accommodation and possibly some travel expenses for those coming from outwith the area.

Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult family member and sturdy footwear and waterproofs are needed.

All safety and work equipment will be provided, together with supervision and training. For more information contact Friends of Nevis at [info@friendsofnevis.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofnevis.co.uk) or Anna on 01397 701088.

## Board reviews nightclub door entry policy

THE HIGHLAND Licensing Board is reviewing its policy of governing door entry to nightclubs, which in Inverness city centre currently requires admission by midnight.

The board is seeking views on whether the policy should continue and, if so, if it should be extended throughout the Highlands.

Evidence in support of responses is encouraged and should be sent to Ailisdair Mackenzie, Clerk to the Licensing Board, Tigh na Sgìre, Park Lane, Portree, Isle of Skye IV51 9GP. Email [ailisdair.mackenzie@highland.gov.uk](mailto:ailisdair.mackenzie@highland.gov.uk). Telephone 01478 613826. Deadline for responses is September 14.

## National boss praises Fort William Chamber

FORT William Chamber of Commerce has won praise for its work from a national business boss.

Scottish Chambers of Commerce chief executive Liz Cameron told over 30 members at Ben Nevis Distillery last Thursday that the chamber 'was a shining example of what can be achieved by quality business leadership'.

She added: 'It is one of the leading lights in our quality network across Scotland. I am excited by and fully support their continuing ambitious plans to take the business to the next growth stage.'

Ms Cameron and Gregor Muir of M&S Dental also gave a presentation on how his firm has expanded to employ more than 30 staff. The chamber will next meet in the Moorings Hotel on August 30 at 12.30pm. John Hutchison will give a presentation on a US town which rebranded itself.

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**Morvern Lines**

ALTHOUGH it's a far cry from Morvern to the beautiful hills of North Carolina and the Grandfather Mountain Games, the link was made a few weeks ago by Alasdair Whyte from Salen, Mull, whose grandparents, Mr and Mrs Alasdair Jackson, ran the well known farm of Fiunary, Morvern, overlooking the Sound of Mull for many years.

Alasdair, who won the gold medal at the Royal National Mòd in Dunoon in 2006 at the age of 19, was invited by An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaganach to take part in this year's Grandfather Mountain Gaelic Song and Language Week where he taught and lectured on songs and place names.

Brought up on the island of Mull, Alasdair took an interest in Gaelic song from an early age. Following his initial education at Tobermory High School, he gained a CertHE Cùrsa Comais from Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in 2005 and then an MA in Gaelic and Celtic Civilisation at the University of Glasgow, graduating with first class honours in 2009.

In November 2010, he was employed by the University of Glasgow on the digital archive of Scottish Gaelic project and is about to start researching for a PhD on the subject of medieval place names of Glen Forsa, Mull.

Alasdair is one of a rare breed of composers of contemporary Gaelic songs. He recorded four songs in an album of new compositions entitled Oran Ur Do Mhuile in 2009 and his own debut album is to be released later this year.

Alasdair has performed in many venues in Scotland as well as throughout Europe and is keeping alive the old Bardic traditions of which Mull and Morvern were justly famous.

WITH the rise in water temperatures bringing an increased food supply, many more basking sharks are being seen in the Sound of Mull by local dive and fishing boats.

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the University of Exeter have joined forces in an exciting new satellite tagging project which will help to solve some of the mysteries about basking shark behaviour.

Twenty basking sharks are being tagged this year off Canna, Coll and Tiree for the first time. Once the sharks have been marked with these special detachable labels their movements can be followed online in close-to-real time.

Click on the SNH webpage and follow the links.

PLANE watchers in Morvern have been enjoying some spectacular low-flying by several RAF Hercules Transport planes out on exercise from North Connel Airport, near Oban.

Flying so slow that it is almost impossible to believe they can remain airborne, these gigantic aircraft trundle up Loch Aline, through the Arinas Valley over Loch Teacuis and Loch Sunart and along the Sound of Mull.

Iain Thornber.

**High quality support for Argyll mothers and babies brings UNICEF award**

ARGYLL and Bute's Community Health Partnership has been awarded the Baby Friendly Award by UNICEF, giving it international recognition as providing high quality support to mothers and babies.

Established by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Baby Friendly Initiative is a global

programme which provides a practical and effective way for health services to improve the care provided for all mothers and babies.

In the UK, the initiative works with health professionals to ensure that mothers and babies receive high-quality support to enable successful breastfeeding.

The award is given to health facilities after an assessment

by a UNICEF team has shown recognised best practice standards are being met.

Pat Tyrrell, lead nurse for Argyll and Bute CHP, said the recognition is testament to the hard work from staff and local women committed to increasing the number of babies who are breastfed in Argyll and Bute.

'We are absolutely delighted to receive this recognition and

I would like to pass on my congratulations to everyone who was involved,' she said.

Karen Mackay, NHS Highland's Infant Feeding Advisor paid tribute to those involved.

She said: 'This is a fantastic achievement for Argyll and Bute CHP and demonstrates the very high standards of care offered to ante-natal and breastfeeding

women as well as the ongoing commitment to improving the health of mothers and babies.'

Sue Ashmore is the Baby Friendly Initiative programme director. She said: 'We are delighted that Argyll and Bute CHP has achieved full Baby Friendly status.'

'Surveys show us that most mothers want to breastfeed but don't always get the support they

need. Mothers at Argyll and Bute CHP can be confident that their midwives/health visitors will provide the highest standard of care.'

Anyone wanting more information or support with breastfeeding should contact infant feeding advisor Karen Mackay on 01463 704842 or by email at Karen.mackay3@nhs.net.

**Arisaig games provide another memorable day**

MONTHS of hard work and planning were rewarded last Wednesday as Arisaig Highland Games served up another memorable day.

The games committee and their small army of volunteers had been casting anxious eyes to the skies earlier in the week, but fears of rain proved groundless as bright and sunny conditions prevailed throughout.

The event, also the 8th Clanranald Gathering, got underway with Lochaber Schools Pipe Band leading the procession into the scenic ground at Traigh Farm.

Ranald Alexander MacDonald, 24th Chief of Clanranald, sons Ranald Angus and Andrew Ivor and their families led the column.

The atmosphere quickly built up and by mid-afternoon a bumper crowd was lining the arena three and four deep.

Fear a taigh, Arisaig-born man William MacLennan, provided spectators with expert and informative commentary over the mic on the day's proceedings.

For Mr MacLennan, who is headmaster at St Mary's Primary School (Barr) in Newry, Northern Ireland, the Games are a permanent fixture in his diary.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'I come back every year for the school holidays, the whole seven weeks. It's a wonderful chance to renew old acquaintances and meet friends and family. Keeping in touch is very important for me - home is where the heart is.'

Highlights away from the

**REPORT AND PICTURES**

by

STEPHEN NORRIS

snorris@obantimes.co.uk



Senior piping judge Iain MacFadyen and winner Decker Forrest from Camuscross in Sleaf are all smiles after the competition. 20\_130games01



Donald MacLeod of Glasgow, whose family hails from Loch Broom, scored well in the senior piping. 20\_130games10

traditional heavy events, sports, Highland dancing and piping competitions included a performance from Mòd gold medal-

ist Margaret MacLellan (Ford) from Mingarry in Moidart.

Margaret, a Gaelic medium teacher at Acharacle Primary School, drew warm applause for her beautiful rendition of the Gaelic air Oran Arasaig, written by Moidart tailor John MacIntyre.

Across the field in their own marquee, local children from Fèis Oigridh na Mara (Youth of the Sea Fèis) treated their appreciative audience to traditional music sessions throughout the afternoon.

To prepare for the big day, the children spent two days practising in Arisaig Primary School with tutors Ewen Henderson and Sileas Sinclair.

Mallaig coastguard team, headed by station officer Ian MacNaughton, again manned the first aid tent - and were delighted to receive a £500 donation from Marine Harvest business support manager Steve Bracken.

On the field, Fort William heavy athlete David Hart won the local competition and the Whitehead trophy, while Arisaig sprinter Ross Douglas swept the boards in the sports.

In the senior piping, Decker Forrest from Camuscross on Skye won three of the four disciplines, while Sandy Cameron from Roy Bridge triumphed in the junior section.

Speaking after the event, games committee member Ealasaid MacDonald said: 'Everybody did their bit - people worked really hard to put the games on. It gives us all great satisfaction when it comes off well.'



David Hart of Fort William was best local heavy athlete. 20\_130games12



Lochaber Schools Pipe Band led the procession on to the games field. 20\_130games03



Ranald Alexander MacDonald, Captain and 24th Chief of Clanranald, centre, and family members gathered for an Oban Times photocall. 20\_130games07



Fear an taigh William MacLennan made an excellent job of keeping the big crowd entertained and informed. 20\_130games02



Arisaig man Tommy MacEachen competed in all the heavy events - at the age of 76. 20\_130games04



The boys' under-12 race. 20\_130games08



Margaret MacLellan sang Oran Arasaig beautifully in Gaelic. 20\_130games06

Arisaig Highland Games results:  
PIPING (OPEN) Piobaireachd - 1 Jonathan Graham; 2 Donald MacLeod; 3 Ed Melwaine. March - 1 Decker Forrest; 2 Jonathan Graham; 3 Greig Wilson.

Strathspey & Reel - 1 Decker Forrest; 2 Jonathan Graham; 3 Donald MacLeod. Jig - 1 Decker Forrest ; 2 Donald MacLeod; 3 Greig Wilson. Arisaig Challenge Cup for Piobaireachd - Jonathan Graham; Canon Iain Gillies Memorial Trophy - Jonathan Graham; Neil Smart Trophy for light music - Decker Forrest.

PIPING (JUNIOR) March - 1 Sandy Cameron; 2 Thomas Roberts; 3 Finlay Cameron. Strathspey & Reel - 1 Sandy Cameron; 2 Thomas Roberts; 3 Finlay Cameron. Cameron-Head Cup for junior piping - Sandy Cameron.

HIGHLAND DANCING (OPEN) Adult (16+ Years) Highland Fling - 1 Cara MacKenzie; 2 Katie Wright; 3 Laura Urquhart. Sword Dance - 1 Katie Wright; 2 Cara MacKenzie; 3 Laura Urquhart. Sean Truibhais - 1 Cara MacKenzie; 2 Katie Wright; 3 Laura Urquhart. Strathspey & Reel - 1 Cara MacKenzie; 2 Laura Urquhart; 3 Katie Wright. Hornpipe - 1 Cara MacKenzie; 2 Katie Wright; 3 Laura Urquhart. Irish Jig - 1 Katie Wright; 2 Cara MacKenzie. Robert Cuthbertson Shield - Cara MacKenzie.

Junior 2 (Up to 16 Years) Highland Fling - 1 Isla Mitchelson; 2 Megan Dale; 3 Rachel Adam. Sword Dance - 1 Isla Mitchelson; 2 Melissa Fife; 3 Megan Dale. Sean Truibhais - 1 Isla Mitchelson; 2 Rachel Adam; 3 Melissa Fife. Strathspey & Reel - 1 Melissa Fife; 2 Isla Mitchelson; 3 Emma MacKenzie. Hornpipe - 1 Isla Mitchelson; 2 Melissa Fife; 3 Morven MacKellaig. Irish Jig - 1 Melissa Fife; 2 Isla Mitchelson; 3 Emma MacKenzie. Marjorie MacDonald Cup - Isla Mitchelson.

Junior 1 (Up to 11 Years) Highland Fling - 1 Kirstin Mitchelson; 2 Jamie-Lee Laverty; 3 Megan O'Donnell. Sword Dance - 1 Kirstin Mitchelson; 2 Jamie-Lee Laverty; 3 Anna MacKellaig. Sean Truibhais - 1 Kirstin Mitchelson; 2 Anna MacKellaig; 3 Megan O'Donnell. Strathspey & Reel - 1 Kirstin Mitchelson; 2 Megan O'Donnell; 3 Anna MacKellaig. Hornpipe - 1 Kirstin Mitchelson; 2 Jamie-Lee Laverty; 3 Anna MacKellaig. Irish Jig - 1 Kirstin Mitchelson; 2 Megan O'Donnell; 3 Jamie-Lee Laverty. David McDermott Memorial Trophy - Kirstin Mitchelson.

Local Junior 2 (Up to 16 Years) - 1 Caitlin Muir; 2 Aimee Sneddon; 3 Kelsey MacBeth. Sword Dance - 1 Aimee Sneddon; 2 Kelsey MacBeth; 3 Jenna MacDonald. Flora MacDonald's Fancy - 1 Aimee Sneddon; 2 Kelsey MacBeth; 3 Jenna MacDonald. Sean Truibhais - 1 Jenna MacDonald; 2 Kelsey MacBeth; 3 Caitlin Muir. Keith Eddie Cup - Aimee Sneddon.

Local Junior 1 (Up to 11 Years) Highland Fling - 1 Jamie-Lee Laverty; 2 Megan O'Donnell; 3 Anna MacKellaig. Flora MacDonald's Fancy - 1 Jamie-Lee Laverty; 2 Megan O'Donnell; 3 Anna MacKellaig. Donald Post Cup - Jamie-Lee Laverty.

HEAVY EVENTS (OPEN) Putting 16lb Ball - 1 Beau Fay 45'6"; 2 David Hart 38'4"; 3 Ray O'Dwyer 33'9". Putting 22lb Ball - 1 Beau Fay 35'; 2 David Hart 31'4"; 3 Ray O'Dwyer 28'. Throwing 28lb Weight for distance - 1 Beau Fay 73'5"; 2 Peter Whitehead 61'9"; 3 Angus MacPhail 61'1". Throwing 16lb Hammer - 1 David Hart 102'10"; 2 Beau Fay 100'9"; 3 Angus MacPhail 94'4". Tossing the Caber - 1 Ray O'Dwyer; 2 Peter Whitehead; 3 Beau Fay. 56lb Weight over the bar - 1 Beau Fay 14'; 2 Peter Whitehead 13'; 3 Ray O'Dwyer 12'6". Allan MacDonald Trophy - Beau Fay. Creg Mhor Caber Trophy - Ray O'Dwyer.

Local - Putting 16lb Ball - 1 David Hart 38'4"; 2 Andrew Johnston 31'7"; 3 Donald MacDonald 26'. Putting 22lb Ball - 1 David Hart 31'4"; 2 Andrew Johnston 27'8"; 3 Donald MacDonald 23'8". Throwing 28lb Weight for distance - 1 Peter Whitehead 61'9"; 2 Angus MacPhail 61'1"; 3 David Hart 59'7". Throwing 16lb Hammer - 1 David Hart 102'10"; 2 Angus MacPhail 94'4"; 3 Peter Whitehead 88'2". Whitehead Trophy - David Hart.

TRACK AND FIELD (OPEN) - 100 yards - 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Aaron Gibson; 3 Euan MacDonald. 200 yards - 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Aaron Gibson; 3 Connor McRae. 440 yards - 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Aaron Gibson; 3 Mitchell Edgar. Mile race - 1 Andy Kitchen; 2 David Txopereza; 3 Connor Rejzel. High Jump - 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Mitchell Edgar; 3 Donald MacDonald. Hill race - 1 Ewan Henderson; 2 Andy Kitchen. Ladies race - 1 Frankie Austin; 2 Kate Kitchen; 3 Anna Cleeve and Clara Hickey.

Local - 100 yards - 1 Ross Douglas; 2 David Hart; 3 Remy Cargill. 200 yards - 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Connor McRae; 3 Mitchell Edgar. Long jump - 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Connor McRae; 3 Mitchell Edgar. Triple Jump - 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Mitchell Edgar; 3 Connor McRae. Astley Nicholson Cup - Ross Douglas; Robert Dempster Trophy - Ross Douglas; Tony Moynihan Trophy - Connor McRae. Boisdale Art Competition - (11 - 13 years) - 1 Nell McEoin; 2 Damien Bowman; 3 Jonathan Tevendale. (14 - 17 years) - 1 Molly Duncan; 2 Finn Robinson; 3 Caroline MacKinnon.

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# Argyll renewable energy projects being stalled by network capacity

'These projects have the potential to generate £1.5 million per year for local communities'

RENEWABLE energy projects in Argyll are being limited to a fraction of their possible output because of concerns over grid capacity, despite the government's commitment to 20 per cent of energy produced from renewable sources by 2020.

Community renewable projects in the area are currently being limited to 50kW of their potential capacity, a situation that will not be resolved until around 2017 when upgrade works will be

underway. In some cases this means that projects are being put into jeopardy as the revenue generated from 50kW would not be enough to cover interest payments on the loan required to construct the project.

A joint statement by community groups from Mull, Iona, Islay, Kerrera, Gigha, Jura, Tarbert and Skipness calls for the planned grid upgrade to take place sooner.

A spokesman said: '10MW

of community energy projects in Argyll are currently being blocked due to grid constraints.

'Two of these projects are awaiting planning consent decisions, one is fully consented and the remainder will be submitting planning applications in the coming months. These projects have the potential to generate £1.5 million per year for local communities.'

He added: 'In addition to making a significant contribution

to meeting national renewable energy targets, communities in Argyll currently have a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure long term, substantial and independent income streams from renewable energy.

'We believe it is in the wider public interest to ensure this happens and we want to put Argyll communities at the forefront of renewable energy development.'

A spokesman for the Office of

the Gas and Electricity Markets said: 'There is a situation that areas of the network and therefore areas of the country have less capacity and less ability to accommodate new connections than others.'

'We are aware of the difficulties that some customers are facing and we will be addressing this in our next price control from 2015.'

'They obviously didn't expect these projects to be happening

when the last price control took place and if they upgrade the network without knowing that the projects will come then customer bills will go up if the projects don't take place.'

'The problem is if people put these demands on the network before an upgrade has taken place then customer's lights start going out.'

A Scottish Government spokeswoman said: 'The Scottish Government is determined to

ensure communities all over Scotland reap the benefit of renewable energy.'

'We are working with community groups and the Scottish distribution network owners to find ways to help communities in areas where the grid capacity limits potential renewable energy developments and Scottish Government funding will be available for pilot projects to test ways to solve this issue.'

## Western Isles' scam nets £1,500

WESTERN Isles police are warning shop and garage staff to be on their guard against a Paypoint scam after a local business was conned out of £1,500.

The alert comes after a fraudster claiming to be a Paypoint engineer called the premises to say their machine needed updating over the phone.

He managed to get a staff member to print off UKASH vouchers from the Paypoint terminal and give him the voucher codes.

According to police, he 'successfully accessed a four figure sum'.

Anyone who has received similar calls is urged to contact their local police station.

## Police seize vehicle in Fort William

A VEHICLE has been seized by Fort William police after the driver was charged with driving with no insurance on Achintore Road, Fort William, at around 12pm on Wednesday July 25.

## Man arrested in town centre

A 54 YEAR-old man was charged with a number of offences including threatening a police officer following a disturbance at an address in Fort William town centre in the early hours of Tuesday July 24. Police and an ambulance were called to the address.

# Overseas objectors muddy waters of local planning process

Fish farms main target of 'spurious' objections

PLANNING applications in Argyll and Bute are being inundated with objections from people around the world.

Fish farms are the biggest target for overseas objectors, with the site at Ardmaddy receiving more than 800 objections but only a handful from the local area.

Objections have come from throughout the UK, USA and a variety of European countries, with a small minority from within 50 miles of the site.

Most of the objections are in the form of a standardised letter, easily copied from a website.

In a number of cases, people have submitted more than one objection, boosting the total number of objections against the application. As there is no age limit to commenting on an application there are also instances of people sending in objections on behalf of their children.

**EXCLUSIVE REPORT by FAITH ORR**  
forr@obantimes.co.uk

Others have provided the same address with slightly altered names, while some names are nearly a jumble of letters or are illegible.

Scott Landsburgh, chief executive of the Scottish Salmon Producers' Organisation said: 'It is absurd and unthinkable that councillors should be asked to consider the views of people from as far away as the other side of the world.'

'It would appear that the majority of respondents have completed an online template letter, most probably circulated by an anti-fish farming activist with a spurious argument. This nonsense is an abuse of the local authority consultation system.'

'Salmon farming is a sustainable industry which is delivering new jobs and major investment into the local economy - it should be supported.'

The proposed fish farm at Loch Tuath off the Isle of Gometra has also received objections from around the UK, although has received many more letters of support from locals.

**Online petition**  
However, many objections refer to an online petition with more than 1,000 signatures, mostly from overseas - as far away as Australia, the USA and Russia.

A council spokeswoman said: 'The decision for an application to go to a hearing is not determined by numbers of representations, but on a number of planning conditions.'

'It is for a councillor as decision maker to decide what weight he or she would give to a particular

representation on the basis that all planning representations should be considered no matter where or from whom they come - weight given should be determined by planning issues raised. The Scottish Government would be responsible for any legislative change.'

A spokesman for the government said: 'The planning process is designed to be inclusive and allow individuals and communities to make representations on proposed developments that may affect them.'

'The Scottish Government currently has no plans to review who can make representation for, or against, a planning application.'

'It is for planning authorities to review each representation and to consider and assess the relevance of any planning issues raised by the correspondent.'



Pipe Major Kevin Moore and Drum Major Elizabeth Ghent lead the Can-Am Pipes and Drums over the old bridge in Glencoe. 20\_131canam01

## Can-am Pipes and Drums come to Glencoe

GLENCOE was a riot of tartan and sound on Sunday afternoon as the Can-Am Pipes and Drums performed in the village as part of their Jubilee Tour of Scotland 2012.

In an emotional day for band members and locals, 40 pipers and 20 drummers drew tears from many in the estimated 250-strong crowd with a beautiful rendition of 'Amazing Grace' at the Celtic Cross at Upper Carnoch.

Ros MacDonald of Glencoe Heritage Trust described the day as 'tremendous'. She said: 'I have spoken to quite a few people and they said they had never seen anything quite like it. It was a very emotional day. They are coming back in two years' time.'

Pipe Major Kevin Moore, a 53 year-old construction manager from Hamilton, Ontario, traces his Scottish ancestry through his mother, Ann Murray from Carnynte, Glasgow. He said: 'Going up to the war monument and seeing the names of two Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada, Princess Louise Regiment, was a very special moment.'

NEWSDESKS: 01631568000  
01397 703003

## Bridge of Orchy poison case takes legal twist

AN ESTATE manager who in April admitted possessing an illegal and deadly pesticide at his Auch Estate home could have his guilty plea overturned.

Tom McKellar, 50, of Fir Park Cottage, Auch Estate, Bridge of Orchy, last appeared in court on April 18 when he admitted possessing carbofuran on July 17 2009. The substance, a neurotoxin, was banned in the UK in 2001.

Last week, lawyers acting on behalf of McKellar argued the guilty plea should not have been lodged as his client - previously represented by David McKie - did not know what the substance was. Asking that the court instead lodge a not guilty plea, which if accepted would see the case go to trial instead of sentencing, new agent Cameron Tait said his client believed the substance to be phostoxin, a pesticide used to control moles.

However, procurator fiscal Kate Fleming argued simply having the substance was an offence in itself, adding that ignorance was no excuse in the eyes of the law.

Sheriff Douglas Small said the case would require some consideration and adjourned the hearing until September 7.

McKellar was found in possession of the substance after a golden eagle was found dead on Glen Udlaidh with carbofuran in its system.

Although there was no direct link between McKellar and the poisonings, he was visited by police in the course of their enquiries.



Ruth Moody enjoys one of her retirement gifts at the Soroba House Hotel on Friday, with husband Iain, right, and Phillip White, chairman of the centre's board of trustees, raising a glass to her efforts. 15\_131ruthmoody1

## Stalwart of North Argyll Carers' Centre retires

Hundreds of carers passed through her hands

HAVING worked tirelessly first to establish and then to run North Argyll Carers' Centre on Albany Street, Oban, Ruth Moody is set to take a well earned rest.

Friends, carers and colleagues converged at the Soroba House Hotel, Oban, on Friday to celebrate Ruth's considerable efforts over the years and to wish her well as she retires from managing a facility which enjoys widespread support throughout the area.

Many a laugh was had and, inevitably, a tear was shed as chairman of the board of trustees, Phillip White, relived some of the most memorable moments of Ruth's career with those gathered.

He said: 'The centre is regarded, quite rightly, as Ruth's baby. It started from quite humble beginnings in what's been described to me as a cupboard.'

'It's from there it moved to Albany Street, being opened in January 2001 by Princess Anne. Being January there were concerns about the ice so they bought salt and sprinkled it about. Some was left over and was kept in a container in a cupboard in the centre. People were later wondering why they had been given foul tasting tea and we realised we'd mistaken it for sugar.'

'There have always been laughs like that throughout and the centre has gone from strength to strength over the years. That is thanks to this lady.'

'What Ruth is leaving in North Argyll Carers' Centre is a wonderful legacy and we'd all like to thank you, from the board, the staff and more importantly, from the many hundreds of carers who've passed through your hands throughout the years.'

An emotional Ruth thanked everyone for their words and afterwards said: 'It has been the most amazing place to work but I will thank the board all the way because without them we couldn't have done it.'

'They helped make this dream come true.'

'I'm retiring, but I'm coming back in September to do what I really love, counselling people and assisting them through difficult times.'

'I don't know how to thank you all.' Ruth thanked everyone who has helped or supported her at the centre, adding her support of successor Morag MacLean.

She said: 'Morag is a breath of fresh air and I'm really pleased for her. The centre is definitely in safe hands.'

## Teenager admits vandalism

A FORMER Fort William teenager has admitted breaking into and vandalising a garden centre in the town, causing £1,000 of damage.

Denver Small, of 16 Shore Street, Inverness, and three others broke in to Nevis Garden Centre, North Road, on June 22 with intent to steal. The 17-year-old also pled guilty to maliciously damaging a window of Lochaber Leisure Centre the same night. Sentence was deferred for six months to allow Small time to pay compensation.

Sheriff Douglas Small warned Small the deferral did not mean he would escape punishment.

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- Highland Swordsmanship Demonstrations\***  
Sun 12th August - 12pm to 4pm
- Mull Gaelic Choir\***  
Sat 18th August - From 2pm
- Duart's Pipers & Highland Dancing Day**  
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# The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

## Oban needs road investment

THE U-TURN by Argyll and Bute Council on the proposed development road for Oban will be warmly welcomed by some residents of the town, condemned as a backward move by others, while the majority will sit on the roadside fence as usual.

Oban, in common with most of the west coast, is increasingly dependent on the tourism sector to sustain its economy. Tourism by nature involves travel and it has long been accepted that ease of travel is a key factor in deciding destinations.

With limited resources at their disposal, council movers and shakers are right in reviewing the prioritisation of projects and the new small bite, nibble-away-at-the-problem policy may be more attractive in the short term than the huge mouthful of funding that a development road would swallow up. However, there is no getting away from the fact that Oban's ageing and creaking road network was designed for the horse-and-cart era and has failed miserably to keep up with changes to the rest of the town's infrastructure.

If Oban, and many other west coast towns, are to maintain a modest place on the Scottish tourism map it has to tick the boxes of being an attractive and easy option in terms of quality of service outlets, warmth of welcome, and above all, ease of travel.

Let's have the publicly popular short-term fixes by all means but don't lose the vision of a destination by design.

### GLASGOW LETTER

#### Piping Live

WITH more than 150 events spread over seven days and only a few days to go until the festival starts on Monday August 6, Glasgow is ready for the ninth year of Piping Live, a week of wonderful varied music.

Some of the events are ticketed but many others are free and whether or not you have an interest in traditional music there is something for you to enjoy. George Square will be a major hub with live music every day, together with stalls promoting Scottish food. A particular highlight in the square will be the presentation of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo at noon on Tuesday and this year they will be paying a sparkling tribute to Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Gaelic will also have a part to play in the festival with spotlights on the fascinating history between piping, Scottish Gaelic and Irish Gaelic. There will be a Gaelic conversation cafe each day at 1.30pm in the National Piping Centre.

The main evening concerts for the week are: Monday: Piping on the Clyde, Renfrew Ferry, 7pm, cost £5. Opening Night Concert, John McSherry Band and Michael McGoldrick, John McCusker and Kris Drever, Strathclyde Suite, 7.30pm. Tuesday: R T Shepherd and Son International Quartet Competition, Strathclyde Suite, 7.30pm. Wednesday: Orain nam Pìobairean - Kathleen MacInnes and friends and Breabach, National Piping Centre, 7.30pm. 'Pre Worlds' Concert promoted by Glasgow Skye Association Pipe Band and featuring Boghall and Bathgate Pipe Band, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Main Auditorium, 7.30pm, cost £19.50/£17.50. Thursday: Pipes and Strings, Blazin' Fiddles and the Asturian group Tejedor, Strathclyde Suite, 7.30pm. Pipes of Peace featuring the Field Marshall Montgomery Pipe Band alongside Canadian Dowco Triumph Street Pipe Band, Clyde Auditorium, 7.30pm, cost £18.50. University of Strathclyde Piping Recital Challenge - Chris Armstrong, Angus MacColl, Gordon Walker and Niall Stewart, 7.30pm, Todd's Bar, £12. Friday: New Folk Friday - Niteworks and RURA, 7.30pm, The Arches. Saturday: After the Worlds Shindig featuring the Lorne MacDougall Band and the Vatersay Boys, Old Fruitmarket, 8.30pm. Saturday is, of course, the World Pipe Band Championships Day in Glasgow Green starting 9am.

Each week day evening in the National Piping Centre at 10pm the Festival Club will feature guests and visiting performers, cost £5. For the

first time fans across the globe will be able to experience the excitement of the festival live and online on Friday August 10 from 12pm-6.30pm.

#### Exhibition

MOIRA MacLean from Lewis, a graduate of Gray's School of Art, Aberdeen, has steeped herself in the traditions, customs and folklore of the Western Isles and as part of the Merchant City Festival until Sunday August 5 her exhibition showcasing this culture can be viewed at 35 St Andrew's Street, Glasgow. The exhibition is open from noon to 5pm.

#### Karen Matheson at Oran Mor

AS PART of the West End Festival, Karen Matheson's concert in Oran Mor was cancelled at very short notice and the re-arranged concert, as promised, will now take place at the same venue on Wednesday August 15.

#### Diary dates

Excluding Piping Live  
**Thursday August 2:** Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm - Barbara Dymock Band, Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, Falkirk Town Hall. Ceilidh Trail, Family Ceilidh Dance, Whiting Bay, Arran, 7.30pm.  
**Friday August 3:** Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, Albert Halls, Stirling, 7.30pm.  
**Sunday August 5:** Ceilidh Trail, Canal Inn, Falkirk, 4pm to 6pm.  
**Tuesday August 7:** Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh, 7.30pm - Mike McGoldrick, John Doyle, John McCusker, Ceilidh Trail, George Hotel, Inveraray, 8.30pm.  
**Wednesday August 8:** Summer Ceilidh, Tolbooth, Stirling, 8pm.  
**Friday August 10:** Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, Cramond Kirk, Edinburgh. Trad Trail, Stirling Castle, 1.30pm to 2.30pm and 3pm to 4pm.  
**Saturday August 11:** Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, North Berwick. Trad Trail, Stirling Farmer's Market.  
**Sunday August 12:** Ceilidh Trail, Clanscape, Killin, 2pm-5pm. Trad Trail, Museum of Rural Life, East Kilbride, 1pm to 2pm and 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

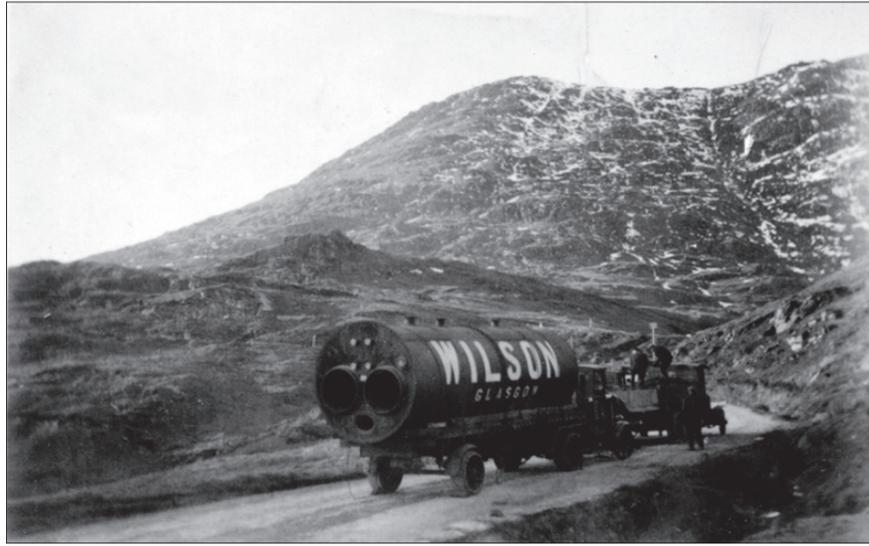
**Pub scene**  
 IN THE Islay Inn this weekend music will be provided by Crooked Reel on Friday and Penny Dogs on Saturday while in the Park Bar it will be Willie Cameron/ Martin Pottinger on Friday, Willie Bradley, Martin Pottinger, Donald MacCrae and Islay MacFaggart on Saturday and Scott Harvey on Sunday.  
**Neil Murray. Tel: 0141 954 8105. Email: neilmurray@yahoo.co.uk.**

### YOUR LETTERS

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

### PRESS POLICY

WE AT The Oban Times do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing the biggest local newspaper in the West Highlands. It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB giving your day-time telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications. The Oban Times adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct. The views expressed in The Oban Times are not necessarily those of this newspaper.



## Rest and Be Thankful - 1920s

Last week's story on The Rest and Be Thankful prompted reader Gordon Clark of Fort William to look out these photographs of his late father who told him many stories of his travels on the Rest as a heavy lorry driver. The above photograph shows tandem haulage units working together in the 1920s. It's difficult to image how he managed the hairpin. Note the brake blocks at the back! The Oban Times welcomes submitted prints and images of a bygone era for publishing. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

## Letters to the editor

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

www.obantimes.co.uk

Telephone: 01631 568000  
 Fax: 01631 568001

### Thank you Oban Police

Sir,  
 I am annoyed with some readers complaining about Oban Police force.

Last year I was living in a dangerous environment in Oban. It got to the stage where my life was in grave danger.

Had it not been for Chief Inspector Auld and his police officers tackling drug dealers, Oban would not have been safe again.

Last year Chief Inspector Auld gave a talk to the Oban branch of the Scottish Women's Rural Institute. He said Oban police deal with issues according to what is top of the list of complaints. So when things were dangerous for me living in Oban - before Chief Inspector Auld came to Oban - Oban was rife with drug dealers, but parking complaints were down because we had traffic wardens.

When Chief Inspector Auld came to Oban, the complaint on top of the list was drug dealing and that is what he and his team dealt with first, and efficiently at that.

I do not have a problem with the parking issues in Oban. Drugs destroy peoples lives; a parked car in a parked bay does not.

In response to Raymond Shaw's comments in your July 26 issue, perhaps Chief Inspector Auld was having a quick work break from the job he usually does and what Mr Shaw saw was the result of a Chief Inspector's productive break.

Thank you Oban Police and if you do land up giving me a parking ticket for over-staying time in a parking bay - serves me right!

### Name and address supplied. Get back to the front line

Sir,  
 In *The Oban Times*' letters column of July 26, someone referred in a humorous way to the fact that Oban and the Isles Police Commander, Chief Inspector Auld, had time in a busy week to issue a parking ticket.

I welcome the fact the Chief Inspector Auld, unlike the vast majority of his counterparts in Strathclyde Police, is willing to take on the patrol duties of a constable even down to issuing a parking ticket.

Indeed, how much better would our council services be if our executive directors and councillors took on board the example set by Chief Inspector Brian Auld by getting back to the front line of service delivery to see the true extent of council decisions on their ability to deliver services.

**Fred Hall, Councillor Ward 4, Oban, South and the Isles.**

### Protecting fish farms from seals

Sir,  
 Contrary to the inflammatory remarks from activists, salmon farmers believe deterrence is the most effective way to manage persistent predators.

Single-issue pressure groups would have readers believe that predator nets are the solution, but they are generally ineffective and can cause unnecessary death of wildlife and poorer welfare conditions for fish.

Measures to exclude seals from farms include research trials

and investment of millions of pounds on non-lethal measures, such as acoustic devices, which are both more effective and more expensive than predator nets.

However, it is inevitable that from time to time a rogue seal may be able to bypass all efforts to exclude them.

Scotland hosts one of the world's largest populations of seals and the number reported under licence by anglers, netmen and fish farmers represents approximately 0.4 per cent of the total 130,000 population. Of the 461 seals shot as a last resort in 2011, 48 per cent were by anglers and netmen and 52 per cent were at fish farms. Fish farmers have a moral, ethical and legal responsibility to protect their fish. As a rogue seal can cause enormous suffering to thousands of fish, farmers have to be able to protect their stock in the same way as a chicken farmer would protect their livestock against foxes.

**Scott Landsburgh, chief executive, Scottish Salmon Producers' Organisation.**

### Providing protection for all animals

Sir,  
 I am shocked and saddened at Mr Robins' accusation that people who buy 'RSPCA-endorsed Scottish farmed salmon...pay for bullets to shoot seals.' It simply is not true.

It upsets the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) greatly that your article reports that more than 300 seals were shot in the past 18 months by Scottish salmon farmers.

The RSPCA was set up to help and protect all species of animals and is therefore equally concerned about the welfare of farmed salmon as well as animals such as seals, which may prey upon them. Indeed, RSPCA wildlife centres often take a leading role in rescuing and rehabilitating seals.

As such all Freedom Food salmon members must record and demonstrate that rigorous measures are taken at all times to prevent predator attacks on their salmon.

Currently most salmon farms use tension nets, reducing the need for other types of anti-predator control. Whilst Mr Robins would like seal exclusion nets to be made compulsory, these nets can cause injury to seals and sea birds in some circumstances and therefore tension nets are preferable.

However it is a sad reality of salmon farming that from time to time a seal may be able to bypass all efforts to exclude them, including tension nets, which may result in an attack on the fish.

The RSPCA doesn't want any seals to be shot but sadly there are occasions when there may be no other option to prevent further suffering to the fish. About 65 per cent of Scottish salmon farms are Freedom Food approved and the number of seals shot on these farms, as a last resort, stood at 10 per cent of the total reported by Marine Scotland. Therefore the RSPCA's welfare standards are clearly helping to reduce the numbers of seals shot.

However, the shooting of one seal is still of course one too many and the RSPCA and Freedom Food are working closely with the Salmon, Aquaculture and Seals Working Group, of which we were founder members, to

try and find new ways to reduce any need to shoot seals.

**John Avizienius, Deputy Head of the RSPCA's Farm Animals Department.**

### Three-point turn to get round bend

Sir,  
 I note from the item in last week's *Oban Times* that there are problems with HGVs using the old military road when landslides close the A83.

I can remember when the MacBraynes buses used this route, up to about 1942 I think, and the buses could only get round the hairpin bends by doing a three-point turn.

For a small boy this was exciting if sitting at the back as this would be out over the abyss! Did this perhaps inspire the makers of the Italian Job? **Andrew MacGregor, Isle of Colonsay.**

### Lack of school age pipers

Sir,  
 Having just returned from Fort William where I adjudicated at the Lochaber Gathering Piping Competition I was struck by the lack of pipers of school age

competing in the junior events. Given that there is a juvenile band in the area and a schools instructor of piping, I would have thought it reasonable to expect more support for this major competition.

It is not so many years ago under the guidance of the late Pipe Major Evan MacRae that the Fort William area was a hotbed of young talent.

It now seems a pity that this town, at the heart of piping history for 500 years, is being left trailing behind Argyll where wonderful work is done by many tutors including Ian McKerrall, Campbeltown, Stuart Liddell, Inveraray, and Angus MacColl, Oban.

The lack of entries is all the more puzzling when Highland Council does so much to support Lochaber Gathering and a council representative is always on hand to present the prizes.

Perhaps the council could put out a circular to all the schools piping instructors they employ in the region telling them of the competition and encouraging them put their charges forward. Competition is healthy, and one sure way of keeping the children's interest in our national music alive. **Robert Wallace, Principal, The College of Piping, Glasgow.**



## Beachd Ailein

Ailean Caimbeul

THA AM morair Leveson air an fhianais mu dheireadh a chluinntinn a thaobh na ciad pàirt den rannsachadh air cultar, cleachdaidhean agus beusèolas nam pàipearan agus tha e air gealltainn co-dhùnidhean is molaidhean fhoillseachadh a thaobh na ciad pàirt sin cho luath 's is urrainn dha. Ged a dhearb e gun èist e ri tuilleadh fianais ma nochdas dad a' th' air a mheas riatanach, tha dùil ri aithisg bhuaithe ro dheireadh na bliadhna.

Tha e furasta dhuichumhneachadh gum bheil còrr air bliadhna bho dh'aimeach am Prìomhaire Daibhidh Camshron an sgrùdadh air dol-a-mach pàipearan-naidheachd co-cheangailte ri cùis farclhuais fònaichean. A' fosgladh an rannsachaidh air 14 Samhain 2011, thuir am Morair Leveson gum bheil 'pàipearan' a' cumail sùil dheatamach air an t-saoghal phoblach. Ri linn sin, ma thèid na meadhanan ceàrr, tha buaidh aig sin oirnn uile.

Tha sin, theagamh, a' fàgail ceist shimplidh aig cridhe an rannsachaidh seo, cò tha sgrùdadh an luchd-sgrùdaidh?

'S e uallach na ciad pàirt den rannsachadh sgrùdadh a dhèanadh air na ceangalan eadar pàipearan agus a' mhòr-shluagh, luchd-poilitigs agus am poileas agus molaidhean a dhèanamh air riaghailtean smachdachaidh èifeachdach. Ach feumaidh na riaghailtean sin saorsa nam pàipearan a ghleidheadh aig an aon àm 's a tha na beusan obrach is àirde proifeiseantachd cuideachd a' dol an gnìomh. Cha bhì sin idir furasta!

Thar ochd mìosan, chuala an rannsachadh bho 650 fianais a chruthaich còrr air sia mìle duilleag fiosrachaidh agus tuigear mar sin carson a thuir Leveson gum faodadh fianaisenan a-nise dhòl air aig gum beatha àbhaisteach ach nach eil an obair aige fhèin is aig na siamhar chomhairlichean neo-eisimeileach a tha cuide ris ach a' fòiseachadh.

Ge b' e dè a mholas aithisg Leveson a thaobh riaghailtean, feumaidh e bhith nas èifeachdaiche na bha Coimisean Gheàrreanach nam Pàipearan, buidheann a thuir rium fhìn uaireigin nach robh dad ceàrr le fear-naidheachd a' càineadh luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig mar 'gràineil'. Cha robh sin ach 'sgrìobhadh làidir' (robust journalism) thuir id! Bidh an dàrna pàirt a' sgrùdadh ire na dol-a-mach mi-laghal aig News International agus bhuidhean eile, ach cha thèid sin air adhart chun an crìochnach rannsachadh a' phoileis air a' chùis.

Aig àm sgrìobhadh seo, tha am poileas mar-thà air nochdadh gum bheil ochnair gum bhith a' freagairt ochd-deug casaid co-cheangailte ri farclhuais fònaichean.

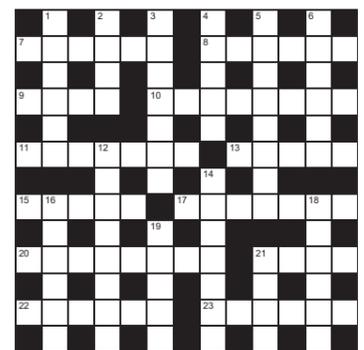
HAVING completed the scheduled hearings in the first part of his enquiry, Lord Leveson and his advisers face an enormous challenge in considering more than 6,000 pages of evidence and drafting recommendations for 'more effective policy and regulation that supports the integrity and freedom of the press while encouraging the highest ethical standards'.

Whatever they propose must be better than the totally ineffective Press Complaints Commission which appeared to most members of the public to exist in defence of the industry while ignoring the rights of the people.

When some years ago I complained to that body about a press article which described Gaelic speakers as abhorrent it responded with the view that this was merely 'robust journalism'!

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

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



### Across

- 7 Chicken, not edible! (6)
- 8 Jewelry metal (6)
- 9 Throw in a game (4)
- 10 Figure found on board (8)
- 11 Give water (7)
- 13 Church assembly (5)
- 15 This is on the cake (5)
- 17 Associate (7)
- 20 Early flower, in winter weather (8)
- 21 Booty (4)
- 22 Shrubby plant with a milky juice (6)
- 23 He found it!! (6)

### Down

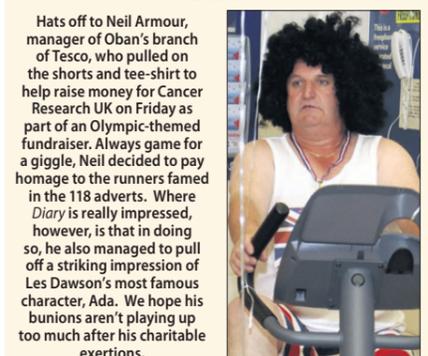
- 1 Devoid of people (6)
- 2 Cry out (4)
- 3 Teach (7)
- 4 Compound formed from organic acid and alcohol (5)
- 5 Reply to expulsion of air! (5,3)
- 6 Smooth, in music (6)
- 12 Contagious skin disease (8)
- 14 One who takes as one's own (7)
- 16 Provider of shade (6)
- 18 Milky (6)
- 19 Holding one's piece (5)
- 21 Breed (4)



## Last week's solution

## Times Diary

BANDWAGONS are something of an internet sensation and it is fair to say *Diary* has grown exceptionally tired of one particular trend, Keep Calm posters. It seems everyone has churned out at least one unfunny variant on the alleged Royal poster, with n'er a hint of wit hidden among the words. However this version, spotted in Braemar by an *Oban Times* reader, certainly raised a chuckle with *Diary* - Dinna Fash Yersel and Keep The Heid. Much better.



### Hats off to Neil Armour, manager of Oban's branch of Tesco, who pulled on the shorts and tee-shirt to help raise money for Cancer Research UK on Friday as part of an Olympic-themed fundraiser. Always game for a giggle, Neil decided to pay homage to the runners faced in the 118 adverts. Where *Diary* is really impressed, however, is that in doing so, he also managed to pull off a striking impression of Les Dawson's most famous character, Ada. We hope his bunions aren't playing up too much after his charitable exertions.



The *Oban Times* is read far and wide - as this Easdale resident has proven. Graham Anderson, who has a cottage on the island but lives in Aberdeen, took the paper all the way to Mexico on holiday with him. He says he relies on *The Oban Times* to keep him up to date with the island where his grandmother, Annie Macdougall, was born.

**Countdown to Isle of Skye Highland Games**

PORTREE is gearing up to host the 135th Isle of Skye Highland Games next Wednesday. The Games are one of the highlights of the local calendar, regularly attracting thousands of visitors to 'The Lump', a natural amphitheatre above the town, to watch the heavy events, Highland dancing and

**Baseball bat fight trial postponed**

THE TRIAL of two men accused of fighting with a baseball bat in Fort William has been postponed for a second time after two Crown witnesses failed to appear.

Sandy Campbell, aged 25, of 6 Brown Court, Fort William, and John Campbell, aged 43, of 40 Carlisle Road, Crawford, Biggar, deny behaving in a threatening or abusive manner by fighting in Brown Court and Campbell Court on March 24.

The case was delayed in late June after John Campbell was unable to attend Fort William Sheriff Court due to health reasons.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'I won't put this trial off again.'

The trial is now due to be held on September 13, with a hearing set for August 29.

**Organisers appeal to Belladrum music festival-goers**

ORGANISERS of the Belladrum music festival are asking attendees to keep themselves and their friends safe this weekend.

The sold-out Beaulieu-based event is expected to draw 15,000 festival-goers and Northern Constabulary's Archie Henderson asked those attending to take precautions.

He said: 'The policing effort will be geared towards ensuring revellers enjoy themselves, without compromising their own or other's safety.'

'We will deal robustly with any instances of disorder, anti-social behaviour or drug misuse.'

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Finlay and Sandy Cameron: trophy winners at Cruinneachadh Loch Abar. 20\_031piping01

**Roy Bridge piping brothers celebrate trophy success**

ROY BRIDGE piping brothers Sandy and Finlay Campbell were among the trophy winners at the Cruinneachadh Loch Abar - The Lochaber Gathering Festival of Piping in the Nevis Centre, Fort William, on Saturday.

Sandy, 15, won the piobaireachd and march, strathspey and reel competitions while 10-year-old Finlay received a cup as youngest competitor.

Mum Rhona told *The Oban Times*: 'The boys really enjoyed their day, it was a really nice

competition. It's nice when they both win - wee brother is always chasing big brother!' Euan MacCrimmon from Inverness edged out Pipe Major Gordon Walker from Galston in the premier grade piobaireachd to take the coveted An Tuagh Oir - The Gold Axe. Meanwhile, competition judge Robert Wallace, principal of the College of Piping in Glasgow, issued a plea for more Lochaber pipers to come forward. See full coverage, page 3, and Letters, page 6.

**War tribute artist reported to police in Glen Nevis**

Artwork of Afghanistan memorial crosses taken down by council staff after complaint

AN ARTIST thought Glen Nevis was the perfect place to commemorate fallen British soldiers in Afghanistan - but ended up in Fort William Police Station after a complaint from the public.

Self-taught Brian Carey uses biodegradable plastic tubing to make 422 tiny crosses, each representing a British death in the 10-year war.

Tied with red, white and blue ribbon, the fragile memorials are inscribed with the soldier's name, place of death and how he or she died.

Most are khaki green. Purple crosses are in memory of the 10 most recent dead, blue marks out 'friendly fire' victims, pink denotes female victims and white honours the sniffer dogs killed. Mr Carey, 51, from Auchinleck in Ayrshire, has previously placed the artwork - entitled '422 Man/Woman Down' - on 'The Squinty Bridge' in Glasgow and next the A76 near his Ayrshire home without objection - but it was a different story in Lochaber.

The former lorry driver from Auchinleck arrived in Glen Nevis with wife Sheena last Wednesday to begin making the crosses at their tent. Without prior permission, they put 50 on the River Nevis footbridge at the Highland Council-owned Glen Nevis Visitor Centre - but by Friday every one had gone.

Mr Carey called in to ask if anyone knew what had happened to the crosses, only to be told they had been removed and police informed.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'The guy in the visitor centre was pretty hostile. He was not interested at all in the cause of

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

these soldiers who have lost their lives and said the police were looking for who had done it.

'I gave him my name and said I'll go straight down to the police station myself, which I did. I have had no problems anywhere except Lochaber.'

No action was taken against Mr Carey, who put more crosses up at Nevis Bridge and along the river nearby.

On Saturday he also fixed two dozen crosses to railings on High Street in the town's West End and found visitors and locals, including House of Clanjamfrid owner Drew Purdon, 'very supportive'.

Mr Carey said: 'When I told [Mr Purdon] what it was all about he was right behind it. I just want to make people more aware of what is happening and show

support for the relatives.'

Mr Purdon told *The Oban Times*: 'I don't know how anybody could have found it offensive. I thought that it was rather sad that he was making a statement in a commemorative way and ended up being reported to police. Welcome to Fort William, the land of the free.'

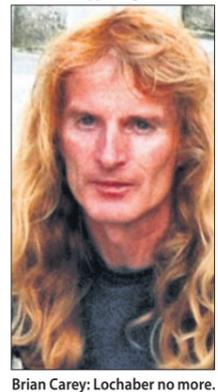
Mr Purdon added: 'It is very low profile, he did not make a song and dance about it and was only on hand to explain to people why they were there and the reasons for it. Sometimes it's easy to forget about what's going on out there, we have had

casualties here in the war.' A Highland Council spokesperson strongly disputed any suggestion staff were hostile towards Mr Carey and said a female visitor, not the council, had contacted police after becoming distressed at what Mr Carey was doing.

The spokesperson said: 'There was no way a member of staff was aggressive. There was more than one witness to that and we gave him back all the crosses. It was only in response to a complaint to police from a member of the public that we took them down.'



Brian and Sheena Carey putting up the artwork along the River Nevis footbridge.



Brian Carey: Lochaber no more.

support for the relatives.'

'I thought that it was rather sad that he was making a statement in a commemorative way and ended up being reported to police. Welcome to Fort William, the land of the free.'

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The spokesperson said: 'There was no way a member of staff was aggressive. There was more than one witness to that and we gave him back all the crosses. It was only in response to a complaint to police from a member of the public that we took them down.'

**Shinty returns to An Aird**

AN AIRD in Fort William will host its first shinty game in over a year this Saturday when Kinlochshiel and Inveraray meet in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-final at 4.05pm.

The pitch, the home of Fort

William Shinty Club, has been out of commission since last July for repairs by Highland Council. The Fort has been forced to use Black Parks in Inverloch since then. The match is live on BBC ALBA. See shinty, page 21.

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LISMORE

THE SUN shone on Sgioba Luaidh Inbhirchluidh, the Inverclyde Waulking Group who visited Ionad Naomh Moluag - Lismore's Heritage Museum - to perform some of their Gaelic work songs, in particular those sung by women while waulking the tweed.

Waulking is the finishing stage in the production of Harris tweed when the wet cloth is beaten rhythmically to shrink and soften it, the work being accompanied by songs which were a way of keeping the rhythm, lightening the work and passing on items of news.

The group, based in Greenock, was once part of Greenock Gaelic Choir. It stayed together after the choir disbanded as waulking the tweed was such fun.

Group members now travel all over Argyll and beyond keeping communities in touch with this ancient craft. Waulking may now be forgotten on Lismore but the last handloom weaver, John MacDonald of Balimakillan, was still weaving blankets in 1883, aged nearly 80.



Members of Inverclyde Waulking Group during their visit to Ionad Naomh Moluag.

A WELL-ATTENDED church sale of work on July 20 raised £1,270 for church funds.

Produce, crafts and home baking made the event very successful.

ISLANDERS were saddened to learn of the recent death of James MacCormick (Jimmy) of Killandrist, a much-loved and respected member of the community whose funeral was held at the Parish Church on July 25.

He will be missed and sympathy is extended to his family.

LISMORE Luminiere held a spectacular film festival, showing 10 films over four days, including War Horse, Best Exotic Marigold Hotel and How To Train Your Dragon.

The community cinema group is now running monthly film days. Christina Cass of Lismore Luminiere said: 'Amid the paper marigolds, Bombay mix and popcorn, locals and visitors enjoyed the most recent entertainment. The turnout was fantastic, laughter and tears filled the air and we are all looking forward to our next film weekend.'

The idea blossomed when Suzie Queripel, from Pix in the Stix, who has been coming to Lismore since she was a child, was chatting to locals about their own work in East Lothian.

Regional Screen Scotland provided funding as well as the loan of cinema equipment to allow Pix to bring film to rural communities.

Christina added: 'Pix in the Stix has offered us the chance to use their experience to trial out community cinema and bring the magic of film to Lismore.'

'We have been able to keep the equipment for 12 months, at the end of which we can apply for funding to get our cinema if that what the community wants.'

Lismore Luminiere will next show films on September 1 and 29, November 2 and 3 and December 1 and 29.

DUNBEG

THE CLOSING service and presentation of prizes of Dunbeg Primary School was held in Dunbeg Church, conducted by the Reverend George Cringles.

The contribution of this year's primary seven leavers was recognised through: helping younger pupils, participating in quizzes and public speaking

competitions, organising fundraising activities and achieving Fairtrade status.

Fergus Matheson, former head boy of Oban High School, who worked alongside the pupils last term through his role as a rugby development coach, presented the prizes.

Prizes: PTA Leavers Tokens - Emily Carnie; Records of Achievement - Emma Drummond; Citizenship Shields - James Emslie; P7 Photograph - Stewart Inglis; CDs - Eilidh MacAulay; Sports Leader Certificate - Callum Milliken; Ethan Sharp, Caelan Sloan, Hugo Stahl; James Johnstone Quaich for Art - Emily Carnie; Rotary Primary Schools Quiz Quaich - James Emslie, Ethan Sharp, Caelan Sloan, Hugo Stahl; Public Speaking Award - Ethan Sharp; Gordon MacPherson Memorial Shield for Best Beginner Swimmer - Jack Watson; Swimming Cup - Hugo Stahl;

Gordon MacPherson Memorial Cup for Clan Football Sports Shield - Lorn Linthe MacLean Family Shield for Musical Achievement - Emma Drummond; HIMDF Folk Group Competition - Dunbeg Folk Group; Agnes Connelly Shield for Recorder - Dunbeg

Recorder Group; Margaret Watson Cup for Gardening - Hugo Stahl; Jordan Family Cup for Caring - Jodie Jeffery; Mary Graham Cup for Citizenship - Callum Milliken; Helen Paton Cup for Endeavour - Callum Milliken.

ISLAY

DURING this year's tenth anniversary of Ionad Chalum Chille Ile, the Gaelic centre is considering and reinforcing its commitment to Islay Gaelic.

During the week beginning July 23, the centre launched a project for recording the unique words and phrases used by native speakers of Islay Gaelic, and to study the place of Islay Gaelic within the wider Celtic world.

The Islay dialect bridges northern Scottish Gaelic and the Irish languages, due to many cultural and geographic influences and arrivals in Islay over the centuries which have led to the development of the island's distinctive idiom.

ISLAY Children's and Families Association (ICFA) has thanked Islanders for helping them develop a park in Port Ellen.

The charity, established in 2010, received £805.80

from Florence Grey, who had been involved in a similar community initiative several years ago.

ICFA would like to thank everyone who has contributed to fundraising to date; Laphroaig Swing Park Fund, Maureen and John MacDonald, The Lodge, Angela Small (The Steven Miller Memorial Fund), The Islay Hotel, Laphroaig Distillery, Diageo, Sarah MacMillan, John Mactaggart, Iain Laurie, the Surgery, the Nippy Chippy, Port Ellen Playing Fields and many members of the local community for their continuing support.

The group also thanked Kirsten Laurie of South Islay Development for the advice and assistance she has provided.

ANOTHER busy, sporting weekend is coming up, with the Ardbeg Islay Half Marathon to be held on Saturday August 4 and the annual Ride of the Falling Rain, the island's 100 mile cycle run organised by The Washing Machine Post which starts from Debbie's Mini Market, Bruichladdich, on Sunday August 5.

If water sports are more of interest, Islay Rowing Club will also hold a race day on Sunday.

GLENUIG

WORLD-renowned piper Allan MacDonald returned to his native Genuig on Saturday with a re-creation of the fabled recording Highland Voyage, based around the legendary TV series *Para Handy*.

Since its release in 1962, it has been successful as an album, tape and now CD. The original recording featuring Duncan Macrae as the skipper, Roddy McMillan as the mate, John Grieve as the cook and Alex Mackenzie as the engineer, is a musical journey aboard a puffer with characters loosely based on those in Neil Munro's *Para Handy* stories. Genuig Hall was the venue.

CONNEL

MOTORISTS are treating the Falls of Lora viewpoint as a 'park and ride', according to Connel Community Council. Community councillors have received complaints about drivers using the short stay parking places at the scenic spot as a car park for day trips.

Chairman Sandy Dunlop said: 'The issue has yet to be discussed with the rest of the members and hopefully the problem will be resolved soon.'

PORTREE



Frances Priest's bespoke tableware: coming to Atlas Arts.

ATLAS Arts in Portree is presenting a talk by Frances Priest on Saturday in the fourth of its series of seven artists' talks taking place from May to November.

Ms Priest's recent work includes New Manor Ware, a bespoke table setting developed during a residency at Yorkshire Artspace and designed for the Banqueting Room at Sheffield Manor Lodge Turret House.

Priest explored the ornate plasterwork ceiling of the Turret House with various community

groups, and sketches from that study informed the design of the Manor Ware patterns.

Priest also worked with students and staff in the Freeman College Whittle Tang Cutlery Department to create the steel and ceramic cake slices that are included in the bespoke table setting.

Everyone is welcome to attend the event at Tigh-na-Sgìre in Park Lane at 2pm, but spaces are limited. To book, email admin@atlasarts.org.uk or telephone 01463 720886.

NORTH UIST

North Uist Highland Gathering 2012

PIPING trophies: Sir Roderick MacDonald Trophy Under 18 Strathspey and Reel - Mairi MacInnes, Carinish; Mullhagery Trophy Under 15 6/8 March - Chloe Steele, South Uist.

Donald MacDonald Trophy Chanter (Uist & Barra) - Anndra MacIsaac, South Uist; North Uist Piping Society - Mairi MacInnes, Carinish; Calum Iain Campbell Memorial Trophy, Piobaireachd - Greg Canning; Piper Major John MacLean Memorial Trophy - Decker Forrest, Skye; Royal Celtic Society Prize - Decker Forrest, Skye.

Athletics trophies: Balranald Trophy, Tug of War Men - Fisher 8; North Uist Games Association, Tug of War Women - Sollas; Angus J MacDonald Hosta Trophy, 16lb Shot - Ranald Fraser, Lewis; Westford and Tennent Caledonian Trophy, Heavy Wrestling - Andrew Currie, Carinish; RC MacAulay Balelone Trophy, Lightweight Wrestling - Angus MacInnes, Sollas; Coinneach MacLeod Trophy, Youth Events - Jamie Quarm, Claddach; Earl Granville MC Trophy - Angus MacIntosh; Lochmaddy Fire Service Shield, Best Female Athlete - Lucy MacKenzie; Caterfrost Trophy, Best Local Girl Athlete - Anna M Beaton, Carinish; Murdo MacCuish Memorial Trophy, U 16 Girls Hill Race - Nyearee Troughton, Carinish; Cupa Sgìre Sholais, U 16 Girls Relay - Carinish; MacLeod Trophy - Angus Ferguson, Claddach; Dr Bower Trophy - Magnus Fraser, Carinish; North Uist and Berneray Association Trophy - Lee Thompson, Lochmaddy; David MacBrayne Trophy - Ranald Fraser, Lewis; Duke of Hamilton Trophy - District Highest Points - Carinish; Cuach Sheonnaidh Bhan - Andrew Currie.

Dancing trophies: Premier 15 years and Under - Jodie MacMillan; Intermediate

- Marion MacCorquodale; 16 years and over - Sinead Scobie. Novice Under 11 years - Isla MacDonald; Novice Over 11 years - Ailsa Campbell; Primary, 6 years Plus - Elizabeth Munro; Beginners - Rose Scott.

Piping competition results: Chanter Beginners, under one year tuition: 1 Aoife ni Bhaighnall, Skye; 2 Rachel MacLean, Carinish; 3 Lianna Steele, South Uist. Chanter Beginners, under two years tuition: 1 Eoseph Caimbeul, Kyle; 2 Paul Monk, Benbecula; 3 Finlay MacVicar, Carinish. Chanter (Uist and Barra) - 1 Alasdair I MacIsaac, South Uist; 2 Millie Denchy, Barra. Novice 2/4 March U 16 - 1 Kirsty MacLean, Carinish; 2 Alasdair Sharp, Ploekton; 3 Fergus MacVicar, Carinish. Junior March U15 - 1 Brighde Caimbeul, Skye; 2 Seumas O'Boyle, Skye; 3 Robbie MacIsaac, Falkirk. Junior Strathspey and Reel U15 - 1 Brighde Caimbeul, Skye; 2 Seumas O'Boyle, Skye; 3 Anndra MacIsaac, South Uist. Junior 6/8 March U15 - 1 Chloe Steele, South Uist; 2 Anndra MacIsaac, South Uist; 3 Rachel MacDonald, Benbecula. Junior March U 18 - 1 Haley MacKay, Benbecula; 2 Michael Steele, South Uist; 3 Mairi MacInnes, Carinish. Junior Strathspey and Reel U18 - 1 Mairi MacInnes, Carinish; 2 Eireann MacKay, Skye; 3 Connor MacAulay, South Uist. Piobaireachd - 1 Greg Canning, Edinburgh; 2 Connor Sinclair, Crieff; 3 Decker Forest, Skye; 4 Ashleigh MacMichael, N Ireland. Marches - 1 Ashleigh MacMichael, Northern Ireland; 2 Decker Forest, Skye; 3 Andrew Carlisle, N Ireland; 4 John A Morrison, South Uist; Strathspey and Reels - 1 Ashleigh MacMichael, N Ireland; 2 Decker Forest, Skye; 3 Andrew Carlisle, Northern Ireland; 4 John A Morrison, South Uist. Jigs - 1 Decker Forest, Skye; 2 Lachie Dick, Berneray; 3 Jamie Hawk, Edinburgh; 4 Greg Canning, Edinburgh.

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ISLAY LETTER

Home gathering

ALL ROADS led to Bowmore Village Hall on Saturday where Glasgow Islay Association held its homecoming gathering as part of its continuing 150th anniversary celebrations.

President Malcolm Campbell welcomed the large audience and introduced guest chairman Alistair Carmichael, the Lib Dem MP for Orkney and Shetland.

Alistair, who is also the Deputy Chief Whip in the House of Commons, proved a splendid chairman and looked obviously pleased to be among his ain folk.

In a well-received address, he recalled his boyhood in the Mull of Oa where his parents are hill farmers and referred to the once prevailing social and economic problems in the Highlands and Islands which led to an exodus to the cities and the eventual formation of the territorial associations including An Comunn Ileach.

Following his opening remarks, the chairman and his mother Mina received tokens of appreciation from Abby Brown and Hannah Gillies.

The chairman's wife could not attend as she had veterinary commitments in Orkney.

The evening's piper was Katie MacNiven from Lagavulin, and the choral opening was provided by Bowmore Primary School Choir, led by Helen Gillies.

More choral input came from Coisir Og Ghàidhlig Ile, under the baton of Arlene McKerrrell, and from Coisir Ghàidhlig Ile, conducted by Iseabail Mactaggart.

The solo singers were Mòd gold medallists Bette Belle, Port Charlotte, and Dugie Gillespie, Portnahaven, a former president of the association.

There was also lively input from the wind band comprising of pupils from Bowmore primary and Islay high schools, directed by Scott McDermott.



Gathering chairman Alistair Carmichael MP, centre, with his parents Mina and Alistair, and Abby Brown and Hannah Gillies who carried out the presentations.

his broadcasting band upped the tempo and kept all on the hop at the ensuing dance.

Among the special guests was honorary patron Lord Robertson of Port Ellen who forewent attendance at the Olympic's opening ceremony to attend the island function. Also present was the association's other honorary patron Professor Sir William Stewart, accompanied by Lady Stewart.

During the evening a bottle of specially distilled malt whisky, brainchild of James MacEwan of Bruichladdich Distillery and containing products from the island's eight distilleries, was auctioned and raised £825.

This was bottle No 1 in a collection of 150 numbered bottles which will sell at £120, with the proceeds going to the association to hand out to charitable causes of their choosing.

On Sunday morning, the office bearers and committee members attended a service of dedication at the Round Church in Bowmore. This was conducted by parish minister the Rev Dr Rob Barlow.

Also taking part in the proceedings was the current president and Peter Campbell, the immediate past president.



Glasgow Islay Association president Malcolm Campbell with Pauline and Robert MacKenzie. Robert, a former president, heads the 150th anniversary organising committee.

songstress Libby Morris did more than justice to a Gaelic version of the 23rd Psalm.

The events of last weekend were greatly enjoyed by the participants and the air of celebration was contagious and will remain long in the memory.

The anniversary celebrations continue on September 7 when association members will be guests at a civic reception hosted by Glasgow City Council in the City Chambers, George Square.

Birthday ceilidh

IONAD Chalum Chille Ile, the island's St Columba Gaelic Centre, will celebrate its tenth anniversary on August 10.

The celebration will take the form of a Ceilidh Mhòr which will feature local entertainers along with the Ella Kirkpatrick ceilidh band.

Wedding bells

SINCERE congratulations to family members Gemma MacDougall and Paul Donachie who tied the knot in the Round Church, Bowmore, on July 27.

A great time was had by all at the reception at Ballygrant and the newlyweds will be having an even greater time as they honeymoon in Mauritius. **Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX. Tel: 01496 810 658.**

# Lorn Agricultural Show

**FANTASTIC NEW SCENIC LOCATION TRALEE, BENDERLOCH.**

**NEW ATTRACTIONS TO THE SHOW INCLUDE:**

- Tractor Pulling-a test of strength
- Back to Front Cycling (where your bike does the reverse of what you ask it!!)
- Quad Bike & Trailer Reversing Competition
- Tossing the Sheaf
- **Quad Pods**
- Young Handlers Competition

**+ THE OLD FAVOURITES**

- **Oban High School Pipe Band, 12.30pm**
- Terrier Racing
- **Oban's biggest Dog Show at 1pm**  
Registration from 11am until 12.30pm
- Bonnie Baby Competition, approx 2.30pm
- Bouncy Castle
- Climbing Wall
- Balloons
- Tombola Stalls etc.
- Children's Handicrafts, (schedule available from Benderloch Shop)
- Bremner Cup Overall Show Champions followed by Prizegiving.
- Stock judging commences 10am.

Many thanks to the Keil crofters for the use of the Common Grazings and to Mr Hugh MacColl. To sponsors, Argyll & Bute Council, Argyll & The Islands Agricultural Trust, Aggregates UK, Oban Livestock Centre, Hodge Fencing, Fusion Marine for use of the benches and all other very valued sponsors.

Down Your Way

Aberfeldy

WORK starts this week on replacing the roof on Aberfeldy's cinema, the Birks, and the chairwoman of the group behind the project cannot contain her excitement.

After six years of working to restore the picture house, which closed more than 30 years ago, the end is in sight for the Friends of the Birks Cinema, which hopes to open the building at the end of March next year.

It hit and exceeded its £1.8million fundraising target at the start of the year - despite being £100,000 short just weeks before the deadline - and chairwoman Charlotte Flower is delighted the community is still behind the project.

She said: 'I think, for the builders, the novelty has worn off. The cinema is right in the square and the most prominent building there and the most prominent building project there as well.'

'I think a while ago some people were saying 'yeah, yeah, but will it happen?'

'I understood that. The fact it is now going ahead means people are now saying 'yeah!'

Work on Aberfeldy's cinema and community café progresses as Oban prepares to open its own community picture house, Oban Phoenix Cinema.

That project is being watched closely by the Friends, who wish it well.

Meanwhile, the operating company to run the cinema is now established, with three board members joining from the Friends, along with six new members from the community.

'That's a real step forward,' said Charlotte. 'We're now about to start advertising for the position of cinema manager and staff to run the cinema, which is very exciting.'

'It's all moving very fast now and we're aiming to open at the end of March - certainly in time for Easter. It's not a great deal of time - a matter of months now. But we are on course with the timescale and our builders, Hadden Construction, have been brilliant.'

Costing in excess of £2million, the Birks project is one of the most ambitious community cinema revivals in the country, serving a relatively niche rural population.

In the course of working towards their ultimate goal, the Friends attracted a membership of 450 and has won the support of Hollywood A-list actor Alan Cumming.

So did Charlotte and the Friends find the scale of the project intimidating at times?

'I'd be an idiot to say it doesn't. That's why it was critical we had a good team in place; both the board of directors and the management team at the cinema.'

'But it is very exciting, both for the local area and for the visitors. This is another jewel in the crown for Highland Perthshire.'

ABERFELDY'S Wade's Park will this weekend play host to the 2012 Atholl and Breadalbane Agricultural Show and Highland Gathering, with hopes high this year's event will be the best yet.

The Gathering will be officially opened by Chieftain Derek Finlay, of Grandtully Castle near Aberfeldy, with a variety of events to keep every member of the family entertained.

The Coupar Angus Pipe Band and the display team from Ridgeside Falconry will return by popular demand to provide entertainment across the event, which is sure to attract a big crowd.

The fourth year the event will be held at Wade's Park, the event gets underway at 9am on Friday, when the horse and pony classes for everyone aged from 4 to 64. Show classes and working hunter classes follow, with the fancy dress on horseback taking place after lunch.

The equestrian theme will be rounded off with the mounted games.

There will also be a pet show at 1pm for all species and ages, while all day there will be entertainment from the funfair, bucking bronco and various stalls.

Farmers take to the area on Saturday, competing in the sheep and cattle championships from 9am.

Highland ponies and Clydesdale horse judging also begins at the same time. By lunchtime, the various champions will be decided, coming together for the judging of the champions of champions.

Traditional Highland Games events start from 11am, when Highland dancers and heavyweight athletes start their participation. A host of vintage tractors will also be on hand for agricultural motoring enthusiasts.

The afternoon will feature a full programme of Highland games, beginning with the arrival of the Coupar Angus Pipe Band, which will march from Aberfeldy square, over Wade's Bridge, into the park.

The pipe band then leads the Chieftain and members of the Clan Menzies on a march around the arena, before being officially declared open.

Thereafter, there will be open Highland dancing and piping competitions, a hill race, wrestling, tug o'war, terrier racing and the carrying of the Menzies Stone.

SOME of the area's most talented artists are converging on Fortinghall on the outskirts of Aberfeldy this week for the annual Fortinghall Art Exhibition.

Most of the 29 artists exhibiting at the popular event are from Aberfeldy, with all demonstrating their undoubted skill in their own particular discipline in the village's Molteno Hall.

Running until Sunday August 5, the event is open to the public and last year attracted more than 1,500 visitors to see the varied works on display.

Among the visitors to the event last year was Philip Archer, principal of Leith School of Art in Edinburgh, who opened the exhibition.

While most of the artists live in the local area, their backgrounds vary massively, with almost every corner of the globe represented.

Among them is Kate Kirby, a painter in oils and mixed media who grew up in Piltochy before moving to Argentina for a few years, in between studying at the Leith and Cyprus Schools of Art and Edinburgh College of Art.

She recently returned to the area and will show a series of paintings at the event.

Her work won't be far from that of Kari De Koenigswarter, who was born in Mexico but now divides her time between her home in Glen Lyon and her studio in Leith.

Kari uses her passion of nature to create evocative and striking images, painting using pure colour pigments, beeswax, gold leaf and oil.

She is a previous recipient of the Scott-Kestin Wildlife Award.

Artistic groups are also represented, with wood engraving and printmakers, The Splinters, among the exhibitors.

Established three years ago, this is their third exhibition and this latest show adopts the theme of a calendar, with each member of the Highland Perthshire group taking two months each.

The origins of the illustrated calendar lie in the medieval 'Book of Hours' - usually as an addition to a Psalter or book of psalms. Photography is represented by native Swede Jonas Noren, James Grant and Dave Hunt while sculptors Heather M Cumming and Morag B Cumming and jeweller Anne Lyndsay will be displaying some of their crafts.

For more information on the event, log on to fortinallart.co.uk or drop into the Molteno Hall by Sunday.

Senior prizewinners Colin Campbell of Aberlour, left, and John Angus Morrison from South Uist.

INVERNESS Highland Games held the solo piping competition in the grounds of Eden Court Theatre on Saturday July 21.

Inverness Piping Society runs the event on behalf of Highland Council.

Results:  
Junior MSR - 1 Cameron MacDougall (Nigg); 2 Edward Lavender (Lake District); 3 Charles MacDonald (Inverness); 4 Calum Brown (Aberdeenshire); 5 James Roxburgh (Kyle). Junior Piobaireachd - 1 Cameron MacDougall; 2 Charles MacDonald; 3 Edward Lavender; 4 Calum Brown; 5 James Roxburgh. Senior MSR - 1 Liz Cherry (Pennsylvania, USA); 2 Colin Campbell (Aberlour); 3 Craig MacKenzie (Beaulieu); 4 Avens Ridgeway (Maine, USA); 5 John Angus Morrison (South Uist). Senior Piobaireachd - 1 John Angus Morrison; 2 Colin Campbell; 3 Liz Cherry; 4 Avens Ridgeway; 5 Steve Spencer (Inverness). Senior Hornpipe & Jig - 1 Colin Campbell; 2 Craig MacKenzie; 3 Steve Spencer; 4 Liz Cherry; 5 John Angus Morrison.

Overall Inverness Champion after a very close competition was Colin Campbell, who also won the Bratach a'Phioibaire (The Piper's Banner). Colin had tied on points with Liz Cherry, but his higher placing in the piobaireachd took precedence.

Overall Junior Champion was Cameron MacDougall (Nigg by Tam). Piobaireachd judges were Tom Speirs and Rona Lightfoot. Judging the ceol beag were Major John Allan, MBE and Pipe Major A A Venters.



John Booth explains to Mr Stevenson how the island's electricity grid works, as Eigg Electric trustees look on in the Eigg Electric control building.

Environment minister joins Eigg celebrations

ENVIRONMENT minister Stewart Stevenson visited Eigg last Wednesday during celebrations marking the 15th anniversary of the island coming under community ownership.

Mr Stevenson was shown how more than 80 per cent of Eigg's electricity is generated by local renewable sources such as solar, wind and hydro.

Eigg Electric director John Booth briefed the Minister on how the network worked and exceeded government renewable energy targets.

Mr Booth told *The Oban Times*: 'I described how the system works and gave him some performance graphs and charts explaining how well we had done since it started. He seemed impressed.'

Eigg has enjoyed 24-hour electricity since the project went online in 2008.

Prior to that, islanders had to rely on an intermittent supply from expensive diesel generators.

Mr Stevenson arrived on Eigg from Rum, where he was briefed on the heritage trust's 'Greening Rum' project to boost the island's food sustainability and energy efficiency.



Senior prizewinners Colin Campbell of Aberlour, left, and John Angus Morrison from South Uist.

Inverness Piping Society solo contest

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The Canadians enjoyed a short service in Glengarry Parish Church.

AROUND 40 Canadians made Invergarry one of their ports of call on a European pilgrimage.

The group had expressed a keen interest in including 'a typical Highland village' in their travels and approached local people to fix a good time for the visit.

The party arrived at Glengarry Parish Church from Glasgow amid preparations for the recent flower festival and had lunch in the village hall, followed by a tour of the Heritage Centre.

It is believed some of the Canadians had a family connection with Glengarry, possibly dating back over two centuries.

While volunteers were working on the floral arrangements, the party held a short service with their own organist playing the organ.

They had with them a collection of pilgrim hymns, some of which were known to the flower arrangers - who broke off from their labours to sing along.

Invergarry woman Helen Allen said: 'It was a lovely and unusual 'extra' to our day of preparations.'

**CONNEL**

Volunteers at Connel Surgery's coffee shop say some of their regular customers feared they had closed after the surgery erected a new sign.

The new sign, which is more visible than the previous one, clearly indicates the various services at the Connel hub.

However, volunteer Ann Colthart says the change confused some of the coffee shop customers. She added: 'We recently found out some of the people thought we had closed, even though it still says 'coffee shop' on the new sign.'

'We want to assure everyone that they are welcome.'

The coffee shop has a team of 20 volunteers.

GLENORCHY

VOLUNTEERS helped clear the ground of The Glebe in Dalmailly in preparation for planting the community orchard.

Obviously the rain didn't deter anyone helping out, as a good number of volunteers cleared the bracken, hacked branches and pruned bushes.

Glenorchy and Innishail Community Orchard group was previously granted £250 from the community council to buy fruit trees.

The group is presently looking for further funding to buy 50 trees. The places of plantation are to be: The Glebe, Dalmailly Primary School, Portsonachan Village Hall, Bridge of Orchy Community Garden and Dalmailly Golf Club.

The group would like to thank everyone who volunteered on Sunday to clear The Glebe.

Why fly? The gull was quite happy travelling on the basking shark's back.

EXCITEMENT is mounting on Canna as the date of the fèis draws nearer.

From August 6 to 11 the island will be hosting events celebrating Gaelic culture, storytelling, music and song.

On the Saturday, at a day-long family ceilidh, renowned musicians and songsters will get everyone up and dancing. Entertainers include Margaret Bennett, Bill Innes, Fiona J Mackenzie and Gilliebride MacMillan.

Tickets for the ceilidh day are £10 with children under 16 going free. The venue is licensed and food and drink will be provided by the Gille Brighde.

There will also be limited accommodation and camping available. For more information contact sconnor@nts.org.uk.

CORPACH

CORPACH author David Cargill will have signed copies of his first novel, *The Statue of Three Lies*, available at lunchtimes at Coal Community Centre every weekday over the coming weeks.

The book is ebook of the month with [lovereading.co.uk](http://lovereading.co.uk). Mr Cargill, 83, will soon be publishing his second novel *Gauntlet of Fear*.

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PLOCKTON

AFTER over two months of mostly dry and calm weather at Plockton it broke on Sunday and Monday July 22 and 23 with gales and rain.

The Malts Cruise - a two-week sailing voyage combining exceptional cruising around the wild and remote Hebridean waters with a journey of discovery into the world of scottish single malt whisky made Plockton one of their stops for the first time, which meant the harbour was full to capacity with more than 30 extra yachts.

The Plockton Small Boat Sailing Club organised a barbecue for the 85 sailors at the club boatshed on the evening of Monday July 16.

Plockton and District Community Council met in Plockton Hall on July 2. Business:

- Burnsides access - improvements to the access are still awaited.
- Roads - Harbour Street and Station Road need attention.
- Plockton railway station - the railway police had visited Plockton High School and received an excellent response from volunteers to form a committee to adopt the station.
- Village seats and tables - Highland Council would be asked for funding to paint and renovate them.
- New fish farm at Airigh-drishaidh - The community council has objected to the plans for the fish farm and also for the lack of consultation.
- Sewage problems at Burnside - Scottish Water is trying to solve this problem which has been there since the houses were built two years ago.

Next meeting: September 10.

WEST Highland College's Plockton campus is to launch a new specialised music course at the start of the new term in September.

The Applied Music BA (Hons) course is being run with the nearby National Centre for Excellence in Traditional Music and will offer students a mixture of instrumental tuition, residencies, independent and on-line study.

Course tutor Becky Milne said: 'It's ideal for anyone who would like further tuition in the main instruments of the Scottish tradition with some of the country's top experts while studying sound engineering, listening skills, theory and harmony.'

Canna Criomagan

EVERYTHING in the garden is rosy... well, in the case of Canna House it's kind of 'lettucey', too.

Graham the gardener's hard work is paying off and residents and visitors to the island - whether staying in a self-catering cottage, stopping by on a yacht or just popping in for day trip on the ferry - now have the luxury of being able to buy produce direct from his vegetable patch.

Bags of freshly picked mixed leaves, radishes, mangetout and chard are among the offerings on sale in the garden shop - that is if the Gille Brighde restaurant hasn't already snapped them up and put them on the menu.

Fresh, local, seasonal and organic - and you can have a chat with the chap who grew them while you buy. What could be better than that?



Graham the gardener surveys his Canna vegetables. Photograph by Olivia Uney.

WE ARE used to lots of visitors coming into the bay at Canna, but we had a big number of a different - rather larger kind - last week.

The island seemed to be surrounded by basking sharks and as well as feeding in large numbers - at least 10 were seen at one point - in the bay behind the bridge, a few were even seen coming into Canna harbour and feeding around the yachts.

Although they are sharks, baskings feed only on plankton and can grow to an enormous size - one seen was about 20 feet long.

These truly are the gentle giants of the sea - as evidenced by a gull hitching a ride on one shark's back.

Why fly? The gull was quite happy travelling on the basking shark's back.

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Tickets for the ceilidh day are £10 with children under 16 going free. The venue is licensed and food and drink will be provided by the Gille Brighde.

There will also be limited accommodation and camping available. For more information contact sconnor@nts.org.uk.



Why fly? The gull was quite happy travelling on the basking shark's back. Photograph by Olivia Uney.

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Next week Down your Way comes from **Portree** with reporter Stephen Norris. You can contact Stephen on 01397 703003 email: [snorris@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:snorris@obantimes.co.uk)

# August in Skye & Lochalsh



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THE ISLE of Skye is internationally renowned for its breathtaking landscape, vibrant culture and heritage, and abundant wildlife.

Known in Gaelic as Eilean a' Cheo (The Misty Isle), Skye is steeped in history and romance, and offers plenty for the modern day visitor.

Bonnie Prince Charlie and Flora MacDonald, whisky, mountain climbing and walking, the Gaelic college Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the clans and castles and the welcoming locals.

dominated by the dramatic Cullin mountain range, which contains 12 Munros and is a popular destination from climbers and walkers from across the country.

The largest population centre in Portree, which has a scenic harbour and great views of surrounding hills. Further south Broadford is home to the Isle of Skye music festival and offers plenty of bed and breakfasts for visitors.

The town of Dunvegan in the north west is the location of the stunning Dunvegan Castle and is the seat of the Clan McLeod chief.

A ferry service runs one of the most famous ferry routes in the country between Mallaig and Armadale in Sleat eight times a day Monday to Saturday, and six times daily on Sundays.

The island can also be reached by road over the famous Skye Bridge over Loch Alsh, which is now toll-free after a long campaign from locals.

On the other side of the bridge from the island lies Lochalsh, a traditional and tranquil part of the Highlands. The area offers great walks with spectacular views and a warm welcome from the locals, as well as the

original ferry 'over the sea to Skye' from Glenelg to Kylesterra.

The small island of Raasay lies to the east of Skye and is just a short ferry ride from Sconser, with 10 crossings daily.

Raasay - birthplace of famed Gaelic poet Sorley MacLean - recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of the island's largest settlement Inverarish.

A street party was held on Friday afternoon, with the revellers enjoying foods, drinks and sunshine while they shared fond memories of the village, followed by a family ceilidh.

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Much of the landscape of the island is



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Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in Sleat, which offers one of the many scenic views on the island.

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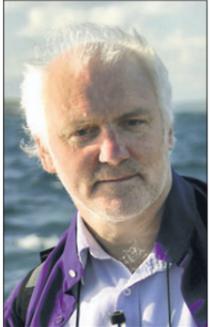
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**Sheriff court trials postponed after witnesses fail to appear**

TWO TRIALS at Fort William Sheriff Court were postponed on Monday after essential witnesses failed to appear. Joanne Kemp, aged 31, of 87 Kennedy Road, Fort William, was due to stand trial accused of assaulting a man in her house by hitting him with a glass to his injury on April 21. The alleged victim did not turn up to give evidence. The prosecution of Danius Laurinavicius, of 11 Canon Gillies Place, Arisaig, was also moved after two key witnesses failed to turn up. The 45-year-old Lithuanian denies assaulting his partner by punching her on the head and face and throwing her to the floor, all to her injury. He is also accused of behaving in a threatening and abusive manner by shouting, swearing and throwing items around the house. The alleged incidents happened in a house on June 11. Both trials are now due to be held on September 27.

**Renowned Kyle poet in running for top award**

PUBLIC voting closes on Monday in the Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Book Awards 2012 - with a renowned Gaelic poet from Kyle in the running for the £25,000 top prize. Angus Peter Campbell has already beaten off stiff competition from the likes of Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy to win the poetry category and £5,000 with his latest collection *Aibisidh*. BBC Radio 4 presenter Dame Jenni Murray will unveil the overall winner at the Edinburgh International Book Festival on August 17. Mr Campbell is one of four category winners hoping to scoop in the top accolade. Other contenders are Ali Smith, fiction; Janice Galloway, non-fiction, and Simon Stephenson (first book). To vote, visit <http://www.scottishbookawards.com/vote>.



Angus Peter Campbell from Kyle: in running for top book award.

**Skye childcare centre boost**

THE FÁS Mòr childcare centre in Sleat on Skye is to receive £48,000 under a three-year deal with Bòrd na Gàidhlig to build up its service to south Skye. The agreement will help the centre meet National Gaelic Language Plan objectives for boosting Gaelic use among young children. The Bòrd and Highland Council joint fund the facility at the Gaelic college, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. Fàs Mòr manager Lisa Corse said it was vital the children were immersed in a Gaelic environment outside of school. She said: 'We are able to boost the confidence and fluency of children and that helps increase the confidence parents without Gaelic have in Gaelic medium education.'

**Glass thrower fined £495**

AN ARGUMENT during a poker game in a Fort William pub ended with a man throwing a glass at two other players. Allan Kennedy, of 8 Nevis Road, Inverloch, was fined £495 after pleading guilty to culpably and recklessly throwing the glass in the Volunteer Arms on April 25. Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie told Fort William Sheriff Court: 'There appears to have been some sort of altercation and words were exchanged. He [Kennedy] walked over to the bar, picked up a glass and threw it in the general direction of those people. It didn't smash and nobody was injured as a result.' Fining the 44-year-old, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'Throwing a glass at somebody is a serious matter.'



The main prizewinners celebrate their success after an exciting day of competition. 20\_f31piping02

**Cruinneachadh Festival of Piping hits the high notes**

By STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

CRUINNEACHADH Loch Abar - The Lochaber Gathering Festival of Piping proved to be another competition of exceptionally high standard in the Nevis Centre, Fort William, on Saturday. Winner of the coveted An Tuagh Oir - The Gold Axe - for premier grade piobaireachd was Euan MacCrimmon from Inverness, who edged out Pipe Major Gordon Walker from Galston.

Roy Bridge Bridge enjoyed a double success when brothers Sandy and Finlay Cameron won several awards.

Sandy, 15, long a rising star in the piping world, won the piobaireachd and march, strathspey and reel competitions while 10-year-old Finlay was the youngest competitor.

Elsewhere, Skye and Lochalsh scored success through James Roxburgh from Kyle and Seamus O' Baoighill from Sleat.

Event organiser, Allan MacColl from Corpach, told *The Oban Times*: 'The Lochaber Gathering has a history going back hundreds of years and then died out.'

'But I started it again in 1995 and it has been going strong ever since.'

'It ranks very high on the piping calendar and this year



Judges Allan MacColl, left, and Robert Wallace, right, congratulate organiser Allan MacColl on staging another successful event. 20\_f31piping03

drew competitors from as far afield as Australia, Vancouver and the USA. It's that kind of calibre.'

Presenting the trophies, Councillor Brian Murphy said the competition 'seemed to be growing in stature'. He added: 'Highland Council is delighted to support it and I hope it will continue for many years to come.'

Councillor Murphy thanked Margaret Ford for her singing during the interval, Nevis Centre staff, sponsors and Allan MacColl and his band of volunteers, without whom the event would not be possible.

Cruinneachadh Loch Abar Lochaber Gathering Festival of Piping 2012 results: 18 and Under - Piobaireachd - An Tuagh Umha (Bronze Lochaber Axe): 1 Iain Crawford, Strathaven; 2 James Roxburgh, Kyle of Lochalsh; 3 Rebecca Tierney, Strathaven. MSR - Lochaber Gathering Salver: 1 Iain Crawford; 2 James Roxburgh, Kyle of Lochalsh; 3 Cameron Strain, Airdrie. Hornpipe and Jig - Clansman Garage Shield: 1 James Roxburgh; 2 Iain Crawford; 3 Rebecca Tierney. 15 and Under - Piobaireachd - Dugald MacColl Memorial Trophy - 1 Sandy Cameron, Roy Bridge; 2 Seamus O' Baoighill, Isle of Skye; 3 Brighde Chaimbeul, Kyle of Lochalsh. MSR - McCallum

Chanter - 1 Sandy Cameron; 2 Seamus O' Baoighill; 3 Brighde Chaimbeul. Hornpipe and Jig - Lochaber Gathering Medal - 1 Seamus O' Baoighill; 2 Brighde Chaimbeul; 3 Sandy Cameron. Youngest Competitor - Neil Johnstone Memorial Trophy - Finlay Cameron, Roy Bridge. Senior Results - P/A Grade Piobaireachd - An Tuagh Oir - 1 Euan MacCrimmon, Inverness; 2 Pipe Major Gordon Walker, Galston; 3 Gordon McCready, Stevenston; 4 Jenny Hazzard, Edinburgh. B/C Grade Piobaireachd - An Tuagh Airgead - 1 Edward McIlwaine, Vancouver; 2 Gordon Barclay, Inverness; 3 Colin Campbell, Aberlour; 4 Liz Cherry, USA. P/A Grade March - Lochaber Gathering Gold Medal - 1 Peter Hunt, Stevenston; 2 Cameron Drummond, Perth; 3 Pipe Major Gordon Walker; 4 Gordon McCready, P/A Grade Strathspey and Reel - Leek's Taxis Trophy - 1 Gordon McCready, Stevenston; 2 Pipe Major Gordon Walker; 3 Cameron Drummond; 4 Euan MacCrimmon. B/C Grade MSR - Clydesdale Bank Trophy - 1 Colin Campbell; 2 Decker Forrest, Isle of Skye; 3 Mark MacKenzie, Queensland; 4 Gary Carruthers, Glasgow. Open Hornpipe and Jig - Lochaber Gathering Shield - 1 Pipe Major Gordon Walker; 2 Euan MacCrimmon; 3 Cameron Drummond; 4 Jenny Hazzard.

**Care home cash thief avoids jail**

Sheriff shows leniency to woman who stole £2,810

A SHERIFF has shown leniency towards a Ballachulish woman who admitted stealing nearly £3,000 from a local old folk's home. Jill Sutherland was working as financial administrator for Abbeyfield Society Care Home in Ballachulish when she embezzled £2,810 from the business between January 1 2008 and December 20 2010. The 43-year-old cried throughout a 15 minute hearing at Fort William Sheriff Court, where she was appearing for sentencing. Sutherland had admitted taking the money at a previous court hearing at Fort William on July

By RICHARD HADDOCK  
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

3. Procurator Fiscal Laura Ryan told the court that Sutherland was caught after three separate payments had been noted in the care home's accounts, which had not been paid into the bank. Defence solicitor Laura Russell said her client had borrowed funds from family members to pay back the money and had handed in a cheque for £2,810 to the court. Ms Russell added that Sutherland was currently looking for employment in the area to pay back the money to her family.

Sutherland, of Brae Cottage, Brecklet, initially pled not guilty to a charge of embezzling £6,480 from Abbeyfield before pleading guilty to taking the lesser amount. Sheriff Douglas Small told her: 'This is a very serious offence, it was a gross breach of trust. I've decided not to impose a custodial sentence. You have no previous convictions and you have shown a considerable amount of remorse, guilt and shame for this offence, as well you should.' Sheriff Small sentenced Sutherland to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work in the community.

**Bemused Roy Bridge residents see red over Transerv lights**

ROY BRIDGE residents have been left unimpressed after tall lampposts were sited next to existing ones on the A86 trunk road through the village.

The new posts went up in April - but now villagers are asking contractors Transerv to throw some light on why they have not taken the old lampposts away.

One resident, who did not wish to be named, said: 'No-one consulted us on whether we wanted new lights. We are a nice little village and the huge new ones look hideous - especially as they are cheek by jowl to the older, slightly shorter ones. It seems a waste of money.'

Local community councillor Ian Matheson said: 'It's a pity Transerv don't get its priorities right. There's an electronic 30mph speed limit that has not worked for ages and it seems they have spent a lot of money putting chevrons all over the place. The lamps have not got off to a good start - the head of one has fallen off already.'

A Transerv spokesman said: 'Our engineers are dealing with the problem. There was a technical issue which meant they were unable to move the old lights as early as planned. However this has now been resolved and we are confident we will be able to do the work within the next few weeks.'

**Appin man given prison warning**

AN APPIN man who drunkenly threatened the owner of a Ballachulish bar after being asked to leave has been fined £495.

Iain Black, of Burnside, pled guilty to behaving in a manner likely to cause a person fear or alarm by uttering threats of violence and repeatedly swearing at the woman at the Laroch Bar on

April 7. The 52-year-old fisherman was told to leave the bar after his behaviour was deemed 'strange' by staff members, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Fiscal Alison Wylie said: 'He was incoherent and making strange gestures.' Black left the pub but re-entered shortly after, and became

aggressive towards the pub's owner, shouting and swearing at her and making threats. After hearing Black had nine previous convictions for similar incidents, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'You're very likely to be considered for a custodial sentence if you appear for a matter like this again.'

**Arnish yard celebrates jobs boost announcement**

THE ISLE of Lewis economy has received a welcome boost with news that the Arnish fabrication yard near Stornoway is to share in a 350-job bonanza.

Fife-based yard owners Burntisland Fabrications (BiFab) is to double its workforce after signing two contracts for a production

platform with Premier Oil, which is developing an oil field west of Shetland. Bi Fab's yards at Methil and Burntisland will share the work.

Na h-Eileanan an Iar (Western Isles) MP Angus MacNeil welcomed the announcement. He said: 'This is great news for the

company and especially for the yard at Arnish in Lewis, which will hopefully see new jobs being created and also guarantees work at the yard for the next 18 months.'

'This will be a huge boost to the local economy and is a compliment to the skilled workforce at Arnish.'



Anna Trafford, left, is taking over from Liz Wilshaw, right, as Friends of Nevis co-ordinator.

**Friends of Nevis welcomes appointment of new leader**

FRIENDS of Nevis (FoN), the group set up to protect and maintain the Ben Nevis and Glen Nevis area, has a new co-ordinator.

Anna Trafford takes over from Liz Wilshaw, who stepped down yesterday (Wednesday). Ms Trafford resigned as chairwoman of the FoN board of trustees to apply for the post.

Ms Wilshaw said Anna would do 'a fantastic job' in taking FoN 'from strength to strength'.

She added: 'Many thanks to everyone who has supported FoN and me personally over the last few years and I do hope you will continue to be involved in the protection, preservation and care of this wonderful area so that future generations can continue to enjoy the landscape and all it has to offer.'

FoN will maintain its office base at Lochaber Rural Complex alongside The Nevis Partnership,

which recently won £4million from the Heritage Lottery Fund's Landscape Partnership Scheme.

The cash will fund a variety of projects, including restoration of the lower half of the Ben Nevis mountain track over the next six years.

Meanwhile, four volunteer workdays from August 17-20 have been organised to repair paths on and around Ben Nevis.

FoN can help with free camping, subsidised accommodation and possibly some travel expenses for those coming from outwith the area.

Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult family member and sturdy footwear and waterproofs are needed.

All safety and work equipment will be provided, together with supervision and training. For more information contact Friends of Nevis at [info@friendsofnevis.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofnevis.co.uk) or Anna on 01397 701088.

**Board reviews nightclub door entry policy**

THE HIGHLAND Licensing Board is reviewing its policy of governing door entry to nightclubs, which in Inverness city centre currently requires admission by midnight.

The board is seeking views on whether the policy should continue and, if so, if it should be extended throughout the Highlands.

Evidence in support of responses is encouraged and should be sent to Ailasdair Mackenzie, Clerk to the Licensing Board, Tigh na Sgìre, Park Lane, Portree, Isle of Skye IV51 9GP. Email [ailasdair.mackenzie@highland.gov.uk](mailto:ailasdair.mackenzie@highland.gov.uk). Telephone 01478 613826. Deadline for responses is September 14.

**National boss praises Fort William Chamber**

FORT William Chamber of Commerce has won praise for its work from a national business boss.

Scottish Chambers of Commerce chief executive Liz Cameron told over 30 members at Ben Nevis Distillery last Thursday that the chamber 'was a shining example of what can be achieved by quality business leadership'.

She added: 'It is one of the leading lights in our quality network across Scotland. I am excited by and fully support their continuing ambitious plans to take the business to the next growth stage.'

Ms Cameron and Gregor Muir of M&S Dental also gave a presentation on how his firm has expanded to employ more than 30 staff. The chamber will next meet in the Moorings Hotel on August 30 at 12.30pm. John Hutchison will give a presentation on a US town which rebranded itself.

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Joy Dunlop will perform as part of a quintet of Argyll musicians for Faileasan.

# Musicians tour promoting songs from Argyll

'I feel that our Gaelic songs and culture are overlooked by the majority'

FIVE of Argyll's most talented musicians are helping to reinvigorate songs from the county that have been overlooked through the passage of time. The Faileasan (Reflections) project will bring Argyll musicians to Tobermory, Oban and Dunoon to showcase tunes that many people will have never heard. Helping to bring the tunes back to life will be singer Joy Dunlop and pianist Andrew Dunlop, both from Connel; guitarist Sor-

ren Maclean, from Mull; piper Lorne MacDougall, Carradale, who will also play whistles and Oban's Young Traditional Musician of the Year Rona Wilkie. Joy, who is leading the project, said: 'I wanted to showcase Argyll and its cultural heritage, as I feel that our Gaelic songs and culture are overlooked by the majority, and unknown to most outwith the area. We've got a wealth of talent in Argyll, and I wanted to showcase this too, through professional musical

performances. It's been really enjoyable working on new material and with different folk who are obviously all so talented. 'I've chosen material from throughout the whole of Argyll and the islands, including two new songs, and I was really

lucky to be able to spend time digging through the resources in the School of Scottish Studies archive.' The quintet is only scheduled to play the three venues this year but there are plans to visit other venues in 2013.

Faileasan will be visiting Tobermory's An Tobar on August 28, the Corran Halls, Oban on August 29 and Dunoon Burgh Hall on August 30. Joy will then perform at Best of the West Festival at Inveraray Castle next month.

# Art project unveils at Oban cinema's official opening

A COMMUNITY art project is to be unveiled at the opening of the Oban Phoenix Cinema at the first screening of *Brave*. Anna Twigg and Michelle McEwan, of new business Artefactum, asked people and businesses in Oban to contribute to the picture. Each person painted one of the 165 squares and were given an image to copy. The completed painting is to be unveiled at the opening of the cinema and will help to raise

awareness of the business. The project so far has proved to be successful. Michelle said: 'Most businesses on George Street have taken part. Our finished painting will have a barcode attached that smart phones can recognise. That will then link the user to the page containing a digital form of the painting. You can then select a grid reference that will show which business painted that grid and a video of them painting it.' So far the pair have received

multiple donations, instead of having to paint. Artefactum will give this money to the cinema. The new business will involve encouraging members of the community to take part in creative arts, Anna said: 'We want to get a lot of the community involved that means they could be as young as pre-schoolers or 100 years old. Anyone can take part whether it's art, theatre, music or dance. Our main aim is to expand the business to make a creative arts centre.'



Owen Thomas paints The Oban Times square on Artefactum's community project, watched by Anna Twigg, left, and Michelle McEwan. 15\_131painting1

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# BBC ALBA gears up for sell-out Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival

MUSIC fans are in for a treat this weekend as BBC ALBA brings exclusive coverage of the sold out Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival. Travis and The Wombats will join a host of homegrown and international acts on the channel screens one of Scotland's biggest music festivals live. With hosts Fiona MacKenzie, Niall Iain MacDonald and Sarah Cruickshank two special two-hour shows - Belladrum 2012: Cridhe Tartan - on Friday and Saturday will be followed by a look back on the best of the weekend action on Sunday evening. Viewers can look forward to highlights and live coverage from the Garden Stage, and inviting performers from The Hothouse Stage, The Grassroots Stage and The Seedlings Stage the Belladrum Barn and Campervan for a chat and impromptu acoustic sets.



BBC ALBA presenters Fiona MacKenzie and Niall Iain MacDonald prepare for the channel's Belladrum coverage.

McLaughlin and the Outsiders, while Donald MacDonald and The Islands will play live in the Barn on Saturday night. The live coverage features The Wombats, Travis, Frightened Rabbit, Beverley Knight, The Buzzcocks, We are Scientists, The Blackout, Willie Mason, Treacherous Orchestra, Nina Nesbitt, Finding Albert and Brown Bear and the Bandits to name but a few. Show producer, said: 'Belladrum Festival is a great gig to cover. And we're delighted to be back at Belladrum this year, live on BBC ALBA. 'There's a guaranteed blistering line-up for every musical taste, the acts love the feel good atmosphere of the place and play their tartan hearts out to fantastic crowds.' Producing a heartland Highland festival like Belladrum in Gaelic, live on BBC ALBA is 'dirrach sgoinneil' - just brilliant.'

On top of back stage interviews and banter, Belladrum's 'Mystery Special Guest' will drop by the Belladrum Barn live on Friday night with Iain



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 Choose a top West End show from our fabulous selection which includes Billy Elliot, Blood Brothers, Jersey Boys, Les Misérables, Let It Be, Mamma Mia!, Phantom of the Opera, Shrek The Musical, The Lion King, Top Hat, War Horse, Wicked and more!  
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**3 days from £329.95pp**  
**London Weekend Break by Air**  
 Friday departures 26 October & 30 November 2012  
 From Edinburgh or Glasgow airports  
 • Return flight from Edinburgh or Glasgow airports to London\*  
 • Airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to the hotel  
 • 2 nights stay at the 4 star Tower Guoman hotel with continental breakfast  
 • Free time in London for shopping and sight-seeing

**3 days by Rail, from £209.95pp**  
**Buckingham Palace**  
 Friday departures, 14 & 28 September 2012  
 From Oban from £229.95pp  
 From Glasgow from £209.95pp  
 • Return standard class rail travel to London from Oban or Glasgow  
 • Admission to the State Rooms of Buckingham Palace  
 • Entrance to the 'Diamonds: A Jubilee Celebration' exhibition  
 • 2 nights stay at a choice of 3 and 4 star London hotels with breakfast  
 • Free time in London for shopping and sight-seeing

**3 days by Rail, from £259.95pp**  
**Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter**  
 Friday departures, 12 October & 2 November 2012  
 From Oban from £279.95pp  
 From Glasgow from £259.95pp  
 • Return standard class rail travel to London from Oban or Glasgow  
 • Admission to Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter on the Saturday  
 • Return coach transfer from the hotel to Leavesden on the Saturday  
 • 2 nights stay at a 4 star London hotel with breakfast  
 • Free time in London for shopping and sight-seeing

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**10 nights from £799 per person**  
**Includes Flights from Glasgow**  
 It's your holiday, so enjoy it your way with the freedom of Freestyle Cruising®. Rise with the sun or sleep 'til late; laze by the pool or workout in the gym; try a new sport or indulge yourself in the spa; enjoy exciting and varied dining experiences; dress up or down just as the mood takes you; party all night in one of the 10 bars and lounges or stroll on deck watching the stars - the choice is yours with Freestyle Cruising®. Madeira offers a contemporary lido in Funchal, glorious botanical gardens and jagged escarpments that form its verdant, mountainous heart. Lanzarote basks in the sun just 70 miles off the African coast whilst Tenerife is a wealth of natural colours and contrasts, from black volcanic sand beaches to the vast snow-capped cone of impassive Mount Teide. With a visit to Malaga and four relaxing days at sea to soak up the sun, you're sure of a captivating Canaries cruise to cherish.  
**Price includes:**  
 • Return flights from Glasgow to Barcelona via London\*  
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 • Airport and port transfers in Barcelona  
 • 9 nights full board\*\* accommodation in a shared stateroom\*  
 • 1 night's pre cruise stay at a 4 star hotel in Barcelona in a twin/double room with continental breakfast

Departures	Inside Stateroom from	Outside Stateroom from	Balcony Stateroom from
<b>2012</b>			
5, 14 & 23 November	£799	£849	£899
2 & 11 December	£799	£849	£899
20 & 29 December	£999	£1,069	£1,189
<b>2013</b>			
7 & 16 January	£799	£849	£899
25 January & 3 February	£819	£869	£919
12, 21 February & 2 March	£849	£899	£949
11, 20 & 29 March	£869	£919	£969

\*Our price includes your flights for which we have allowed a reasonable budget. However, at your time of booking, should the cost of your flight exceed this budget, we reserve the right to charge a supplement, which we will advise you of at this time. \*\*Service charge applies to speciality restaurants, pizza delivery and room service between 12am & 5am. Drinks are not included. A Stateroom and a room in Barcelona for single person occupancy are offered, subject to availability, at a supplement. The price was correct as of Monday 25th June 2012, and can be withdrawn or increased without notice. Please note: that because of flight schedules on some dates it may be necessary to stay additional nights before or after the cruise at a supplement of £50 per person per night.

For more information or to book, please call: **01524 37500**  
 Organised by Omega Holidays, ABTA V4782, ATOL Protected 6081. Single supplements apply. Subject to availability.  
 Quote OBT

For more information or to book, please call: **01524 771701**  
 Organised by Omega Holidays, ABTA V4782, ATOL Protected 6081. Single supplements apply. Subject to availability.  
 Quote OBT

# Concert marks start of busy Oban Music Society season

ON SUNDAY August 5, Ulrike Fenner returns to Oban, this time with Peter Evans for a violin and piano recital in St John's Cathedral.

This will be Ulrike's third visit to Oban and she will be remembered by many as the lead violin in the hugely successful Roxburgh Quartet.

Ulrike Fenner was born in Lubeck, Germany, and studied violin at the Hochschule für Musik in Saarbrücken with Ulrike Dierick where she received a distinction for her final postgraduate recital.

Uli has performed and broadcast with some of the leading musicians in Germany, including clarinetist Eduard Brunner and pianist Stefan Litwin. She also toured throughout France, Italy and Germany as soloist with the Saarländisches Bach Collegium and the Ricercare Chamber Orchestra.

With pianist partner Peter Evans she has given recitals in Saarbrücken, London and throughout Scotland.

For the past 13 years, Uli has lived in Edinburgh where she teaches pupils of all ages, including many from the music department of Edinburgh University. She is also leader of the ECAT Ensemble and has appeared as guest with the Scottish Ensemble, the Hebrides Ensemble, the Orchestra of Scottish Opera, the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

Peter Evans enjoys a varied career as pianist, chamber musician, conductor and teacher.

He studied at Edinburgh University and the Vienna Hochschule. Since returning to live in Scotland in the mid 1970s he has given concerts throughout Britain and Europe as well as the USA, the former USSR, Japan and Kenya. He has also given masterclasses at festivals in both Britain and the USA.

Peter has made more than 80 broadcasts for BBC Radio, several

appearances on BBC Television and commercial recordings for Hyperion, Unicorn-Kanchana, BMG Classics, Linn, NMC and ASV Records. He has been principal conductor of Edinburgh's Meadows Chamber Orchestra since its formation in 1972, is co-founder and was for twelve years an artistic director of the Hebrides Ensemble and was for six years a member of the Scottish Arts Council.

Other long associations include hundreds of concerts with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and 15 years of touring, broadcasting and recording with the cellist Steven Issleris.

This is the first concert of a very busy season for Oban Music Society and it will be a good opportunity to renew membership for the coming year. The concert starts at 3pm and everyone is welcome.

The programme contains works by Bartok, Schubert, Grieg, Smetana and Brahms.

## what's on guide

20th July - 5th August	Galley Gig Fest
Galley of Lorne, Ardfern	Live music every night
Come for a meal beforehand in our lochside restaurant	
Friday 3rd August	Gunna Sound
Markie Dans	9.30pm
Saturday 4th August	Michael Clark
Markie Dans	9.30pm
Sunday 5th August	Quiz
Markie Dans	
Saturday 11th August	Kongero
Glenuig Hall	Followed by Ceilidh Dance 8.30pm

## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

The Oban and Lorn Lions Club  
**Great Oban Bay Raft Race**  
 Saturday 11th August  
 Registration of rafts from 1.15pm onwards.  
**Starts from the George Street Beach at 3pm**  
**When the tide is right!**

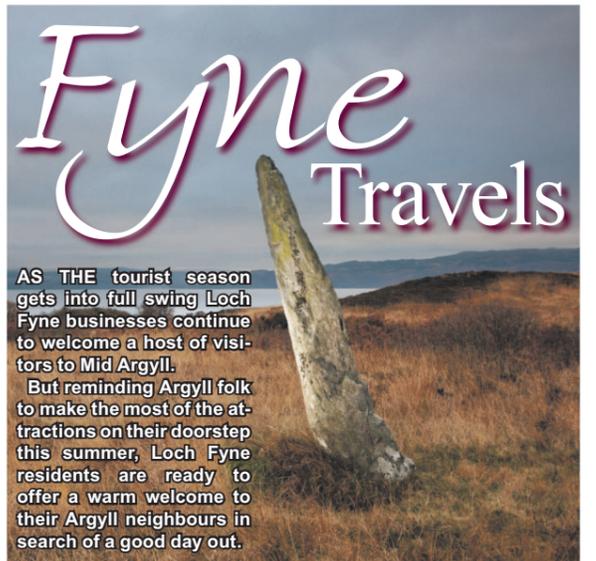
**Oban U3A**  
 Tuesday 7th August, 2012  
 at 10.30am, Soroba House Hotel, Soroba Road, Oban  
 A warm welcome to members new and old for our Monthly coffee and chat meeting.

**FASNACLOICH GUN CLUB**  
**Open Shoot**  
**Saturday 4th August**  
**12.00 start**

**CRAIGNISH FESTIVAL**  
**Festival Weekend, Ardfern**  
**4th and 5th August, Galley of Lorne. Free.**  
 Sat. 3pm: Pirate Parade then live music  
 Sun. 10am: Crafts and farmers market.  
 noon: Giant Reel of the 51st / evening: Live Music at the Galley  
 a great weekend for everyone!  
[www.craignishartsfestival.org.uk](http://www.craignishartsfestival.org.uk)  
 C3 Scottish Charity no. SC035761

An Comunn Gàidhealach  
**CRUACHAN BRANCH**  
**SUMMER CEILIDH**  
 Thursday 2nd August  
 Taynuilt Village Hall  
 at 8pm  
 Admission £4: Members & Children (5-16 yrs) £2

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



**AS THE tourist season gets into full swing Loch Fyne businesses continue to welcome a host of visitors to Mid Argyll.**  
**But reminding Argyll folk to make the most of the attractions on their doorstep this summer, Loch Fyne residents are ready to offer a warm welcome to their Argyll neighbours in search of a good day out.**

At the top of Inveraray's visitor attractions is Inveraray Jail. A living museum with actors portraying life in a 19th century prison, the jail allows visitors to interact with the jail matron and courtroom judge.  
 Also home to one of the UK's finest set of church bells, Inveraray's Bell Tower is another popular attraction, providing the setting for the world record-breaking bell-ringing peal in April.  
 The bell tower, built in 1931, can be enjoyed alongside the architecture of Inveraray's old town and its whitewashed buildings, built hundreds of years ago.  
 Also home to some of the most beautiful gardens in Scotland, Loch Fyne's Crarae Garden, Ardkinglas Estate and Inveraray Castle's stunning grounds are the perfect escape for horticultural enthusiasts.  
 With a number of boutiques, outdoor clothing shops and gift shops, Loch Fyne is also a shopper's paradise with a wealth of handcrafted jewellery, soaps, candles and household items on offer.  
 After a hard day sightseeing along the banks of Loch Fyne a host of local eateries will be waiting to revive the weary day-tripper. From coffee to fish and chips, Indian cuisine and fine dining, Loch Fyne has something to suit everyone.

**Fyne Cakes**  
 Luxury Handmade Cakes  
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 Please call 01369 860259  
 or e-mail  
[anne@strachur-51.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:anne@strachur-51.wanadoo.co.uk)

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 Tel/Fax: 01546 606 292  
 email: [info@cocklesfinefoods.com](mailto:info@cocklesfinefoods.com)  
[www.cocklesfinefoods.com](http://www.cocklesfinefoods.com)



Atlantis Leisure mascot ALF meets some of the younger Olantis Relay participants. 16\_131olantis01

## Eighty step out on Oban Olantis Relay

MORE than 80 people trudged through Oban in the rain in a bid to cover every street in the town, as part of an Olympic-themed anniversary event for Atlantis Leisure.

The Oban leisure centre is celebrating its 20th anniversary in the year of the London Olympics, so married the two occasions to create the Olantis Relay.

On Saturday teams of walkers were allocated streets to walk along in a bid

to cover every road in the town, before finishing at Atlantis Leisure, where they joined in a fun day of events.

Throughout the day the leisure centre hosted an inflatable pool party, water walkers, a bungee run, bouncy castle and human table football, which even got the adults involved.

Along the Olantis Relay route, the walkers stopped off at various food and drink stations and were given Lidl

goodie bags. Sponsors of the event were Lidl, George Street Fish and Chip Shop, Julie's Coffee House, Oban Chocolate Factory, Birchwood Filling Station and CGL. Organiser Claire Hutchison thanked all the teams who took part: Oban Otters, Healthy Options Cameron's Team, Oban Basketball Club's Atlantis Hawks, Jog Scotland, Katie's Team, Backpackers, Aussie GB Team and The Toy Cupboard.

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 A perfect day trip  
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 18 Holes of golf only £5  
 contact the shop for tee off  
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**Join Today**  
**Full Membership only £150**  
 & if you rejoin in 2012 we will give you the £150 back!  
 Free 5 minute swing analysis and advice with our PGA Professional Terry Burgoyne  
**Free instruction for beginners**

Four out of five adults use their local paper to find out what's on  
 Source: Consumers' Choice V, The Newspaper Society  
 ★★★★★ "Your local paper - a must-see"  
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 closer to home

**FYNE ALES**  
 ARGYLL SCOTLAND  
 Sample our award winning ales at our new brewery tap and visitor centre. Take a tour of the brewery or enjoy the sun with a pie and a pint in the courtyard.  
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[www.FYNEALES.com](http://www.FYNEALES.com)  
 01499 600120 jamie@fyneales.com Achadunan, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BJ  
 On the A83 at the head of Loch Fyne

**Go Wild at Crarae!**  
 Sun 5 Aug, 11am-5pm

Bring your family to a celebration of Crarae's wildlife! There'll be plenty to keep the whole family entertained, from a birds of prey flying display and a red squirrel exhibition to a ranger led adventure where you'll discover more about the critters at Crarae! The Scottish Midge Forecast and makers of Smidge will be there too, to make sure that we're not bothered by the less welcome wildlife!!  
 Ranger walks at 11.30am and 2.30pm - places limited so early booking recommended.  
 Usual entry prices apply.  
 Crarae Garden, Inveraray, PA32 8YA Tel 0844 493 2210.



the National Trust for Scotland  
 a place for everyone  
 For information on family events throughout Scotland visit  
[www.nts.org.uk/families](http://www.nts.org.uk/families)  
 The National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty is a charity registered in Scotland. Charity Number SC007416.

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES  
**Pet Idol**  
**COMPETITION ENTRY FORM**  
 Pet's name .....  
 Breed of pet (optional) .....  
 Owner's name: .....  
 Address: .....  
 Tel: .....  
 Email: .....  
 I agree to all terms and conditions applied to this competition .....   
 The Oban Times would like to send you special offers and details of our forthcoming promotions.  
 If you would prefer not to receive information from us, please tick here   
 Please post to The Oban Times, Pet Idol Entry, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.  
Pets entered for this competition must be owned by the person submitting the entry. Alternatively, entrants must have written permission from the pet owner. Only one entry per pet. The competition is free to enter via post or online. Photos must be of the pet only. We will not accept photos which include people with the pet. Poor quality photographs, which are out of focus, difficult to see the pet, ripped, torn or folded, will not be accepted as an entry and will be returned to the sender providing a stamped addressed envelope is supplied by the entrant. By entering the competition, the pet owner gives consent to the reproduction of your pet's photograph in The Oban Times Pet Idol features in the paper and online and in any other related Oban Times Pet Idol promotions. If you do not wish for your pet's photo to appear in the newspaper or online then you should not enter the competition. The closing date for entries will be announced in a future issue. This is a voting contest. The overall winner will be the pet which receives the most votes in the grand finale. The Oban Times cannot take responsibility for the safe delivery and safe return of the entrant's photograph. Photos posted in without an enclosed stamped addressed envelope will not be returned. The winner must be willing to take part in publicity. The Oban Times Ltd has the right to publish details of all entrants. Employees of Wyvex Media Ltd and their immediate family are not eligible to enter. The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. Full terms and conditions online at [www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol](http://www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol). Value of goody bag will vary between £30 and £50 depending on type of pet.

**Win £100 cash!**  
 plus a goody bag for your pet  
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**Pet Logistics**  
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[www.petlogistics.co.uk](http://www.petlogistics.co.uk) 01631 568781/07786450100  
**The Oban Times Pet Idol Competition 2012!**  
 Calling all pet lovers! The Oban Times is giving you the chance to make your furry loved one famous. We'll soon be printing photographs of your most loveable pets for a number of weeks. This time, it will be up to you, our readers, to vote every week for who you think should win the title of The Oban Times Pet Idol 2012, £100 cash PLUS a goody bag for your pet!  
**How to enter**  
 We are now open for entries! Whether you have a cute cat, darling dog or creepy crawl, you can enter a photograph of your much loved pet by post or online at [www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol](http://www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol). When entering by post, please make sure you write the name of the pet, the town where they live and a contact telephone number on the back of the photo, complete the entry form here and send to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Please make sure that only your pet is in the photograph. Should you wish for your photo to be returned, please also enclose a stamped addressed envelope. We will do our best to return your photo but please make a copy just in case.  
 After you have entered your pet into the competition, look out every week in The Oban Times to see when your pet appears. The closing date for entries will be announced in a future issue. Full terms and conditions online at [www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol](http://www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol).

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)



**PLANNING**

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09.00 - 17.00hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk). Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Refval	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/01410/PP	Erection of new conservatory on existing garage roof and new self supporting deck.	Cala Nan Eun Kilchrean Taynuilt Argyll and Bute PA35 1HD	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
12/01532/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of new vehicular access.	Land to South West of Barranrioch Farmhouse Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4OB	Oban Area Office
12/01573/PP	Erection of extension.	Dalmally Community Centre Dalmally Argyll and Bute PA33 1AX	Sub Post Office Dalmally
12/01581/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Garden Ground of Crannaig A Mhinster Ganavan Road Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 5TU	Oban Area Office
12/01588/PP	Conversion of existing workshop to form ancillary domestic accommodation and formation of decking area	Carding Mill Gallanach Road Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4PD	Oban Area Office
12/01589/PP	Erection of 2 storey side extension	Creagan Breac Corraigbeg Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute PA77 6UZ	Oban Area Office

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Refval	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/01227/PP	Demolition of existing detached store and erection of extension to existing commercial garage	Garage Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6NR	Tobermory Area Office

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09.00 - 17.00hrs Monday to Friday at 67 Chalmers Street Ardsheigh PA30 8DX, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk). Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Argyll and Bute Council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Office Whitegates Road Lochgilphead PA31 85Y. A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

**ARGYLL AND BUTE CHILDREN'S PANEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Would you volunteer your time and expertise to help support vulnerable children and young people? Are you interested in helping produce recommendations on the care and protection of young people which could influence the Scottish Government? Could your knowledge of performance monitoring, interview techniques and the Children's Hearings System make a difference to the children and young people of Argyll and Bute? If the answer is yes then the Argyll and Bute Children's Panel Advisory Committee (CPAC) would like to hear from you. CPACs have an important role to play in the operation of Scotland's unique Children's Hearings System. This relies on volunteers to help support vulnerable children and young adults who need care and protection or who have committed an offence.

Argyll and Bute CPAC needs volunteers to join current committee members in their role selecting panel members, monitoring performance and advising Scottish Ministers.

You don't need formal qualifications to be a volunteer, but it would be beneficial if you have interview experience or are familiar with performance management. Above all you'll need a strong desire to serve your community and be comfortable sharing your opinions with others.

The work of the Committee can be extremely rewarding and will only take up a few hours per month and you will receive training. This training is scheduled to take place on the following dates in Glasgow and successful candidates will be expected to attend on these dates:-

- Friday 31 August 2012
- Friday 14 September 2012
- Friday 12 October 2012

There is no payment for being a committee member although travel and subsistence costs will be paid.

If you think you could form part of the CPAC please contact Fiona McCallum, Depute Clerk to the CPAC, 01546 604392 for an application form and further details.

Applications must be received by 12 noon on Friday 17 August 2012.

[www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk)



**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY and online at [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk)

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
12/02693/FUL	Volunteer Arms Inn 49 High Street, Fort William	Change of use of land to provide outdoor seating
12/02715/FUL	Heatherbank Strontian, Acharacle	Erection of a 5kw wind turbine on a 15m tower (amended position to 10/02211/FUL)
12/02732/S42	Fern Cottage, Spean Bridge	Section 42 application for removal of condition 1 of permission 03/00395/FULLO to remove occupancy restrictions
12/02749/FUL	7 South Laggan Spean Bridge	Extension to house
12/02754/FUL	The Showroom Albert Road, Ballachulish	Alterations, extension and change of use from car showroom to bunkhouse
12/02755/S42	Janika, Onich Fort William	Section 42 application for removal of condition 1 of permission 93/0388/FUL to allow permanent residential use
12/02783/FUL	Oisgeir, Portuairk Kilchoan, Acharacle	Extension to house
12/02789/S42	South Side of Alcan Site Entrance, North Road Fort William	Section 42 application for the variation of Condition Nos 2, 3 and 4 of planning permission in principle 12/01664/PIP in order to widen the range of non-food retail goods and size of retail units to be permitted at the site
12/02793/FUL	Fintaig Water Hydro Scheme, Upper Glenfintaig Nr Spean Bridge	Construction of 90kW micro hydro scheme

Time period for comments is 14 days  
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX  
Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

**Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 Mooring Installation, Loch na Cille, Argyll**

Notice is hereby given that MR J MARSHALL has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of MOORING INSTALLATION at:

Description Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Loch na Cille, Keills, Tayvallich, Argyll	55 57.362N	005 41.793W (WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Bell Ingram, 2 Gibraltar Street, Oban, PA34 4PG.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of this notice or by email: [MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk), quoting reference: **FKBJ188 Mr J Marshall**

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Proposed Assignment of a Croft**

Gwen Sheriff is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to assign the tenancy of the croft at Croft 17, Isle of Eigg PH42 4RL, to Eva Schonveld, of Croft 17, Isle of Eigg PH42 4RL.

If you have any comments on the proposal, you may submit these in writing of some other permanent form to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW (email: [info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk](mailto:info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk)) by the 30th August.

Please note that any comments received by the Crofting Commission are part of an open process and will be made available to myself and any interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**FARMING**

**Highland pony Charlie wins Champion of Champions title at Dunvegan Show**

DESPITE an overcast start to the day, the sun eventually came out to shine on the annual Dunvegan Show last Saturday.

There was a good turnout in sheep classes and the number of horses at the show was well up with 14 competing, although cattle numbers were slightly down. The dog show has grown in popularity each year and was well supported as usual.

Portree High School Pipe Band and local primary school music group The Jaggy Thistles.

Local aerial performance artists The Cuillin Fools gave two amazing demonstrations throughout plus a stilt walkabout performance, while food and drink were served all day by the hard-working committee members and friends to the large numbers of spectators.

Local rally cars and vintage tractors were on also display on the field. The show finished off in traditional style with the weight over the bar and a tug of war, followed by the prize giving.

Committee member Moira Campbell told *The Oban Times*: 'A big attraction were the Bodyzorbz from Argyll Fun Events which were very popular all day. There was good competition indoors with some of the child competitors really excelling themselves.'



Judge Mairi Higginson with Champion of Champions William Gordon and Charlie, and reserve horse champion Maureen Wood and Scruffy. Picture - Nikki Macleod.

**Dippen Limousin is Annual Fair Day champion**

UNITED Auctions held their Annual Fair Day show and sale of 387 cattle at Dalmally on Friday.

An excellent show of quality bred cattle were presented and bullocks averaged £902.64 or 209.52 pk (£861.03 or 195.69 pk last year). Heifers averaged £827.36 or 196.10 pk (£748.24 or 184.07 pk last year).

A superb Limousin cross heifer from Mr Currie, Low Dunashery sold to £1480 and 322pence per kilo to Gordon McGillivray, Lismore.

The show previous to the sale was judged by Mr William Hamilton, Bee Edge Farm, Coldstream, and the following were his awards:

- Limousin bullocks:
- 1: M/S Semple, Dippen.
  - 2: Mr Currie, Low Dunashery.
  - 3: Mr Littleton, Killigruer.
- Charolais bullocks:
- 1: M/S Semple,
  - 2: Mr Glenn, Saddle HF.
- Any other breed of bullock:
- 1: M/S MacCallum, Strathnafanaig.
- Limousin heifer:
- 1: M/S Semple,
  - 2: M/S Ronald, Laggan Farm,
  - 3: Mr Currie.
- Charolais heifer:
- 1: M/S Semple,
  - 2: M/S Ronald,
  - 3: Mr Armour, High Tirfergus.
- Any other breed of heifer:
- 1: Mr Armour,
- Pens of four bullocks:
- 1: Mr H Morrison, Killeonan,
  - 2: M/S Semple,
  - 3: M/S Wallace, Uigle.
- Pens of four heifers:
- 1: M/S Ronald,
  - 2: Mr Littleton.
- Champion calf:
- M/S Semple, Dippen - Limousin bullock - £1200 (263 pence per kilo) to the Judge.
- Reserve champion calf:
- M/S Semple - Charolais bullock - £1190 (236 pence per kilo) to M/S Cameron, Keith.

**Market report DALMALLY**

**United Auctions**

Bullocks  
CharolaisX: £1210(2) Baleggregan  
£1190 Dippen £1180 (4) & £1150(2)  
Baleggregan £1120 (2) & £1100 Dippen  
£1100(2) & £1080 Baleggregan  
£1070 Saddle Home Farm £1060(4) & £1040(4) Dippen £970 (2) East Laggan  
£960 High Tirfergus £950 (4) Saddle Home Farm.  
LimousinX: £1200 Dippen £1180 Killigruer  
£1160 Low Dunashery £1150(3) Cleongart  
£1120 Baleggregan £1110 Dippen  
£1090(2) Baleggregan £1040 (3) Dippen  
£1040 Marchfield £1000 & £990 Low Dunashery £980 (6) Cleongart.  
Aberdeen AngusX: £940 Marchfield  
SimmentalX: £1000(4) Baleggregan.  
Heifers  
CharolaisX: £1240(3) Baleggregan  
£1140 Dippen  
£1130 (2), £1110 (3) & £1080 (4) Baleggregan  
£1050 (2)

& 225p Low Dunashery 223p Uigle 221p(3) 9 Killeonan 220p Marchfield 219p Killigruer 218p Laggan Farm 214p Ardmaleish 214p(6) Cleongart 214p Killocrow 214p Low Dunashery 213p Marchfield 212p Saddle Home Farm 210p Ardmaleish 210p Killigruer.  
SalerX: 200p(5) Curacao. SimmentalX: 214p(3) Rhoin.  
Heifers  
CharolaisX: 217p(4) Baleggregan 214p(2) & 210p Dippen 207p(3) & 206p(2) Baleggregan 203p East Laggan 203p(4) Saddle Home Farm 202p Baleggregan.  
LimousinX: 322p Low Dunashery 214p(2) 263p Dippen 235p East Laggan 231p(2) Cleongart 229p Low Dunashery 225p(2) Uigle 223p & 219p Strathnafanaig 216p Low Dunashery 214p(2) Killigruer 212p Marchfield 211p 9 Killeonan 210p Marchfield 209p Uigle 208p(4) Cleongart 208p Killocrow 208p(3) Low Dunashery 205p(4) Uigle 203p (2) Killigruer 202p Baleggregan 201p(2) Uigle 200p Auchnasavill 200p SimmentalX: 204p(2) Baleggregan 203p Saddle Home Farm.

**RECRUITMENT**

**OBAN U3A**  
The AGM will take place on Tuesday, 4th September, 2012 at 10.30am at Soroba House Hotel, Soroba Road, Oban

**CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING APPLICATION DECROFTING DIRECTION ISSUED**

Mr A M Macphail  
67 Ormsaigbeg,  
Ardnamurchan & Sunart  
0.361 ha - Existing house site  
4.86.37090  
Conditions: 1, 3c, 4  
Conditions

(1) Purchase area within 5 years of the date of direction.  
(3) Complete enclosure of the land with a stock proof fence within 4 months of: (c) acquisition  
(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.

**Proposed Division of a croft by owner/occupier Crofters**  
Jill and Christopher Galbraith are applying to divide the croft at Croft/Kilninan and Kilmore Parish into five parts.  
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 within 28 days from the date of publication of the advert. Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry.

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R A Clement Associates have a vacancy in our very busy office for an office assistant. The position will entail carrying files between the 2 Oban offices, running errands and various administrative duties.  
Please reply by mail, including your C.V. to:  
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5 Argyll Square, Oban,  
Argyll PA34 4AZ

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Not exclusively, but this role will include the provision of advice to the engineering and fabrication industry which supports the growing energy sector in Scotland therefore an engineering background would be desirable.  
If you have a passion for continuous process improvement; great relationship management capability with the drive to achieve results then we need you!  
For more job information and how to apply visit:  
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Closing date: Friday 10 August 2012.  
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**TREE SHOW RESULTS 2012**

**HOME INDUSTRIES HANDCRAFT SECTION**  
Knitted baby's matinee jacket - 4 ply.  
1 Monica Smith 2 Elspeth Gillies  
Knitted child's jumper - Double Knit.  
1 Monica Smith 2 Elspeth Gillies  
Knitted child's toy  
1 Monica Smith 2 Elspeth Gillies.  
Knitted fingerless gloves - any yarn.  
1 Jaqui Bennett 2 Monica Smith  
3 Fiona Dix  
Hand made item of jewellery.  
1 Margaret Gorman 2 Rachel Gwilym  
3 Elspeth Gillies  
8 Photograph of Three horses/poies - any size. 1 Janet Bowler 2 Andy Hayes 3 Margie Brown  
**Three Agricultural Society Cup for most points in Home Industries section**  
Monica Smith, Crosspool  
**Lady Peggy Hoare Salver for best knitted article at show**  
Monica Smith, Crosspool  
**Co-op Special Prize for best exhibit in Home Industries Section**  
Jaqui Bennett's fingerless gloves.  
**Visitor's section**  
Hand made piece of jewellery.  
1 Jeannette MacLeod 2 Catriona Smyth 3 Hannah Samwells  
Small fresh flower Diamond Jubilee Table Arrangement.  
1 Catriona Smyth 2 Jean Thompson  
Photo of Three horses/poies.  
1 Catriona Smyth 2 Jeannette MacLeod 3 Hannah Samwells  
Fruit loaf 1 Catriona Smyth 2 Jeannette MacLeod 3 Jean Wilson  
3 Cheese oven scones.  
1 Jean Wilson 2 Catriona Smyth 3 Victoria Collier  
A large stuffed mushroom.  
1 Catriona Smyth  
4 Truffles  
1 Jean Wilson 2 Victoria Collier 3 Madeline Murray  
Christina MacLean Cameron Memorial Salver - most points in Visitors' Section - Catriona Smyth  
Scarnish Hotel Special prize - best exhibit in Visitors' Section - Jean Wilson's Chocolate truffles  
**PRODUCE**  
Microwave dumpling.  
1 Elspeth Gillies 2 Monica Smith  
Lemon drizzle cake. 1 Monica Smith  
2 Lynne Kerr 3 F MacPhail  
Double chocolate sponge - filled and iced. 1 Monica Smith 2 F MacPhail 3 Joseph Bennett  
A Novelty birthday cake - decoration only. 1 Lynne Kerr 2 Sophie Isaacson 3 Alison Campbell  
Fruit loaf. 1 Fiona MacKinnon 2 Neil Campbell 3 Monica Smith  
3 Oven cheese scones. 1 Mabel MacArthur 2 Pat Campbell 3 Monica Smith



Winner of the Royal Bank of Scotland Trophy for the Champion of Champions at Three Show was Mary Flora MacDonald, Roadside with the Clydesdale gelding, Major. Her twin sister Sandra Brown, Baleyvullin showed the reserve champion Clydesdale Kyphehall Floyd

3 Girdle scones. 1 Mabel MacArthur 2 Flora MacArthur 3 Pat Campbell  
3 Pancakes. 1 Mabel MacArthur 2 Pat Campbell 3 Flora MacArthur  
3 Custard creams. 1 Monica Smith 2 Tina MacArthur 3 Alison Campbell  
A Battenburg cake. 1 Monica Smith 2 Alison Campbell  
An individual savoury pie-short/puff pastry. 1 Sophie Isaacson  
A ramekin dish of pate - own choice.  
1 Lynne Kerr 2 Sophie Isaacson 3 Janet Bowler  
4 Truffles. 1 Monica Smith 2 Lynne Kerr 3 Sophie Isaacson  
6 Hen eggs. 1 Hannah Wright 2 Lynne Kerr 3 Fiona MacKinnon  
6 Duck eggs. 1 Fiona MacKinnon 2 Janis MacArthur  
**Three Agricultural Society Cup for most points in Produce section**  
Monica Smith, Crosspool  
The Rural Cup - most points in Home Industries and Produce Sections - Monica Smith, Crosspool  
Scarnish Hotel Special prize - outstanding item in Produce Section - Monica Smith's Double chocolate sponge  
**HORTICULTURE**  
Potatoes-4 best of variety - round  
1 Jo Vale 2 John Fletcher 3 Peggy Cameron  
Small fresh flower Diamond Jubilee

table arrangement 1 Jo Vale  
Bruton Challenge Cup - most points in Horticulture Section - Jo Vale, Baleyvullin  
Scarnish Hotel Special prize - best exhibit in Horticulture Section - John Fletcher, Balemartine - Basket of mixed vegetables  
**CHILDREN'S SECTIONS**  
Pre School children  
A crown fit for a queen. 1 Max MacKinnon 2 Annie MacLennan 3 Marra Campbell  
A garden on a dinner plate. 1 Abby McDowall 2 Kirsten MacKinnon 3 Matthew McDowall  
3 Decorated marshmallows. 1 Matthew McDowall 2 Rhys Langley 3 Max MacKinnon  
3 Decorated cup cakes! 1 Max MacKinnon 2 Innes Campbell 3 Marra Campbell  
**Three Agricultural Society Cup**  
Pre school. Most Points - Max MacKinnon  
7 years and under  
A crown fit for a queen.  
1 Kathleen Munn 2 Bradley MacCallum 3 Aimee Langley  
A garden on a dinner plate.  
1 Neil Hugh MacKinnon 2 Kathleen Munn 3 Jack MacAskill 2 Kathleen Munn  
3 Decorated marshmallows.  
1 Jack MacAskill 2 Kathleen Munn 3 Neil Hugh MacKinnon  
**Three Agricultural Society Cup**  
- 7 years and under. Most Points - Kathleen Munn  
11 years and under  
A crown fit for a queen. 1 Lynsey Callum 2 Darren MacCallum 3 Lewis McDowell  
A garden on a dinner plate. 1 Lauren MacArthur  
2 Daisy Johnston 3 Finlay MacKinnon  
Handmade item of jewellery from junk material.  
1 Lewis McDowell 2 Daisy Johnston  
3 Decorated cup cakes! 1 Daisy Johnston 2 Lewis McDowell 3 Logan MacKinnon  
3 Oven cheese scones. 1 Ollie MacArthur 2 Lewis McDowell 3 Logan MacKinnon  
**Three Agricultural Society Cup**  
11 years and under. Most Points Lewis McDowell  
16 years and under  
3 Decorated cup cakes. 1 Dan Watson 2 Darren MacCallum 3 Lewis McDowell  
**The MacDonald Memorial Cup**  
- most points in Produce section  
Scarnish Hotel Special prize - best exhibit in Children's section - Kathleen Munn's Crown  
**Visiting Children**  
- Pre School  
A crown fit for a queen. 1 Nicole Campbell  
A garden on a dinner plate. 1 Nicole Campbell  
3 Decorated cup cakes. 1 Nicole Campbell  
**Three Agricultural Society Shield**  
Most Points - Nicole Campbell  
Visiting Children - 7 years and under.  
A crown fit for a queen.  
1 Jamie Brown 2 Seona Brown  
A garden on a dinner plate.  
1 Seona Brown 2 Matthew Pollock 3 Jamie Brown  
3 Decorated marshmallows. 1 Seona Brown 2 Jamie Brown 3 Jamie Ian Yellowley  
3 Decorated cup cakes. 1 Seona Brown  
2 Jamie Ian Yellowley 3 Isla McKeown  
**Three Agricultural Society Shield**  
Most points Seona Brown  
**Visiting Children** - under 11 years  
A crown fit for a queen.  
1 Ian MacDonald 2 Stephanie Bradley  
3 Kirsty MacArthur  
A garden on a dinner plate.  
1 Ian MacDonald 2 Maddie McAlister  
3 Alexander Ewen  
Handmade item of jewellery from junk material.  
1 Alexander Ewen 2 Stephanie Bradley  
3 Nina Boothby  
3 Decorated cup cakes.  
1 Ian MacDonald 2 Kyle Campbell 3 Vaia Campbell  
**Three Agricultural Society Shield**  
Most points Ian MacDonald  
**Visiting Children** - under 16 years  
A garden on a dinner plate.  
1 Hannah Graham 2 Callum MacArthur  
3 Ross McKeown  
Handmade item of jewellery from



Supreme champion in the cattle section went to Alastair and Iain MacInnes, Ruag with Ruag Hettie a heifer calf by Bringle Waldou out of Ruag Cassey

1 A&I MacInnes  
Best Bullcalf - Any Breed  
Autumn Born 1 C MacKinnon 2 C MacKinnon 3 G Campbell  
Best Heifer Calf - Any Breed  
Autumn Born 1 A MacLean 2 A&I MacInnes 3 T MacDonald  
Best Native Bred Male Calf 1 E MacKinnon  
Best Simmental Male Calf  
1 A Paterson 2 A Paterson  
Best Limousin Male Calf  
1 AJ MacLean 2 C MacKinnon 3 G Campbell  
Best Limousin Female Calf  
1 A MacLean 2 AJ MacLean 3 G Campbell  
Best Overall Limousin Calf  
Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol  
Best Charolais Male Calf 1 C MacKinnon  
Best Charolais Female Calf  
1 AJ MacLean 2 L Kennedy 3 L Kennedy  
Best Overall Charolais Calf  
Archie John MacLean, Heylipol  
Best Male Calf - Any other breed 1 D MacLean  
Best Overall British Blue sired calf - Duncan MacLean, Ruag  
**SPECIAL PRIZES**  
MacLennan Motors Salver - Champion Male Crossbred Suckled Calf - Champion - Colin MacKinnon, Kilkenneth  
Reserve - Archie John MacLean, Heylipol  
MacKinnon Memorial Cup - Champion Female Crossbred Suckled Calf - Champion Archie John MacLean, Heylipol  
1 Laura Hayes 2 Jenna MacArthur 3 Emily Armstrong  
Best Turned Out Pony 1 Kathleen Munn - Micah 2 Emily Armstrong - Twitch 3 Laura Hayes - Marcus  
Handy Pony-Riders under 12. Canceled Fancy Dress Open to all ages.  
1 Jenna MacArthur 2 Emily Armstrong 3 Laura Hayes  
**Heavy horses**  
Best Clydesdale Gelding Any age.  
Donald MacInyre Cup 1 Mary Flora MacDonald, Roadside - Major 2 Sandra Brown, Baleyvullin - Kyphehall Floyd  
Best Single Horse Turnout 1 Mary Flora MacDonald, Roadside - Major 2 Sandra Brown, Baleyvullin - Kyphehall Floyd  
**CATTLE SECTION**  
Pure bred cattle  
Best Suckled Cow or In-Calf Heifer 1 A&I MacInnes  
Best Heifer suitable for breeding 1 M&F Armstrong  
Best Calf 1 A&I MacInnes 2 A&I MacInnes  
**Gunnis Cup** - Champion Purebred Cattle - A&I MacInnes, Ruag, British Blue heifer calf - Ruag Hettie, Reserve - A&I MacInnes, Ruag, British Blue heifer calf  
**Young stock person**  
Best Crossbred - Suckled Calf.  
1 Alasdair MacLean 2 Duncan MacLean  
**Annie Cameron Cup** - Champion Young Stock Person Alasdair MacLean  
Crossbred best cattle  
Cameron Calves Cup - Best Suckler Cow 1 AJ MacLean 2 A MacLean 3 E MacKinnon  
Best Heifer suitable for breeding before 1/1/11 1 C MacKinnon 2 C MacKinnon 3 E MacKinnon  
Best Heifer suitable for breeding born after 1/1/11  
1 E MacKinnon 2 T&D MacKinnon 3 A&I MacInnes  
**Druimthraoich Cup** - Champion Kilkenneth  
Reserve - Ewan MacKinnon, Hillcrest  
**John MacKinnon (Builders) Cup** - Best Beef Heifer

Brown 3 E MacKinnon  
Best Single Prime Lamb 1 A&I MacInnes 2 E MacKinnon 3 M Campbell  
**DA MacLean Cup** - Champion Pen of Prime Lambs A&I MacInnes with a pen of 3 Beltex X lambs  
Reserve - Sandra Brown, Baleyvullin with a pen of 3 Suffolk X lambs.  
Blackface sheep  
Best Blackface Ewe 1 MF MacDonald 2 M Campbell 3 S Brown  
Best Blackface Gimmer 1 M Campbell 2 A&I MacInnes 3 MF MacDonald  
Best Blackface Ewe Lamb 1 MF MacDonald 2 MF MacDonald 3 S Brown  
**The Robert Nisbet Memorial Salver** - Blackface Section  
Champion and reserve - Mary Flora MacDonald, Roadside  
Crossbred sheep  
Best Halfbred Gimmer 1 MF MacDonald 2 M Campbell  
Best Halfbred Ewe Lamb 1 MF MacDonald 2 A MacLean 3 MF MacDonald  
Best Scotch Mule Ewe 1 M Campbell  
Best Scotch Mule Gimmer 1 S Brown 2 M Campbell 3 R Munn  
Best Scotch Mule Ewe Lamb 1 MF MacDonald 2 C MacKinnon 3 M Campbell  
**Lachie "Druimthraoich" Quach**  
Best Scotch Mule Sheep  
Sandra Brown, Baleyvullin  
Best Suffolk Cross Ewe 1 S Brown 2 G Campbell 3 M Campbell



Supreme champion sheep at Three Show was a Beltex gimmer, Tressie, from Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol. The gimmer was on her first show outing

Reserve - Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol  
Bernard D. Smith Cup - Overall Champion Crossbred Suckled Calf - Champion - Archie John MacLean, Heylipol with an April born Charolais X heifer calf by Thrunton Equity  
Reserve - Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with a March born Limousin X heifer calf by Castle Eden Comet  
IA MacKinnon Hanlag Cup - Overall Crossbred Champion, United Auctions Ltd, Prize - Champion - Archie John MacLean, Heylipol with an April born Charolais X heifer calf by Thrunton Equity  
Reserve - Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with a March born Limousin X heifer calf by Castle Eden Comet.  
Best House Cup  
Supreme Champion in Cattle Section - Alastair and Iain MacInnes, Ruag with Ruag Hettie a heifer calf by Bringle Waldou out of Ruag Cassey  
Reserve Supreme - Archie John MacLean, Heylipol with an April born Charolais X heifer calf by Thrunton Equity  
Corson Cup - Best Cattle Animal Bred Exhibitor - A&I MacInnes, Ruag  
Three Association Prize - Most Points in Cattle Section - Colin MacKinnon, Kilkenneth  
Flora & Stafford Elgin Shield - Most Points in Cattle Section for Crofters - Colin MacKinnon, Kilkenneth  
**SHEEP SECTION**  
Young stock persons  
Best Crossbred Ewe Lamb suitable for breeding 1 Dougie MacDonald 2 Jamie Brown 3 Jack Brown  
**Heylipol Farm Cup** - Best Young Handler in Sheep Section - Dougie MacDonald  
Prime lambs  
Best Pen 3 Suffolk X Lambs 1 S Brown 2 M Campbell  
Best Pen 3 Prime X Lambs - Any other breed 1 A&I MacInnes 2 S

Best Gimmer - Any other breed 1 E&F Malcolm 2 F MacInnes 3 S Isaacson  
Best Ram Lamb - Any Breed 1A MacLean 2 A MacLean 3 S Brown  
Best Shearing Ram - Any breed 1 F MacLean 2 A MacLean 3 A MacLean  
Blackface older ram - Any Breed 1 A MacLean 2 S Brown 3 S Brown  
**SPECIAL PRIZES**  
MacLeod Construction Cup - Champion Pure Bred Ram  
Champion - Fraser MacLean, Heylipol with Homebred Suffolk Shearing Ram by Strathisla Speed  
Reserve - Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with a homebred Beltex Ram Lamb, Tressie Stig  
Overall Best Pure bred Ewe Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol  
Beltex ewe  
Best Overall Pure Bred Gimmer Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol - Beltex Gimmer  
Best Overall Pure Bred Ewe Lamb Alasdair MacLean Heylipol Beltex Ewe Lamb  
TARFF Valley Cup - Champion Pure Bred Female Sheep  
Champion - Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with Tressie, a Beltex gimmer  
Reserve - Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with Tressie Nipsy a Beltex ewe  
The Druimthraoich Cup - Supreme Champion Sheep at Show  
Supreme - Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with Tressie, a Beltex gimmer on her first show outing  
Reserve - Fraser MacLean, Heylipol with Homebred Suffolk Shearing Ram by Strathisla Speed  
The Society Cup - Most Point in Sheep Section - Sandra Brown, Baleyvullin  
The Royal Bank of Scotland Trophy for Champion of Champions at Show - Mary Flora MacDonald, Roadside with Clydesdale gelding, Major  
**TREE TRACTOR PARADE**  
PRE 1975 1 Donald Archie Brown 2 Graham Campbell 3 Gillesbuig-Kennedy  
1975 - 1990 1 Duncan Cameron  
Champion Tractor -  
Duncan Cameron, Scarnish  
MOSSEY FERGUSON 135  
**TOSSEY THE SHEAF**  
The Omand Motors Shield and Alec Walker Prize  
Gavin Omond

The Oban Times would like to apologise to Three Agricultural Society and to the individuals affected after errors in photographs and captions appeared in the Three Show report in last week's edition.

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Of course the commercial hirer can find this way of acquiring highly specialised plant and equipment an extremely economical activity. Again for those on-off jobs, the odd unusual process, or video equipment for that annual conference, hiring can be the only sensible answer.

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DEATHS

**GRANT** - Sheila Jane of Lonan House, Taynuilt, Argyll, passed away on July 25, aged 80 years. Beloved sister of Jim and Hugh Grant. The funeral will be held at Muckairn Church, Taynuilt, on August 2, at 4.00pm, followed by private cremation at Seafeld, Edinburgh. No flowers. Donations if desired to Macmillan Nurses.

**HARRISON** - Peacefully on July 29, 2012, at his home, Allanmyo, Minard, by Inveraray, with his family by his side, Thomas Harrison, aged 84 years, beloved husband of Catriona MacDougall, loving father of Ann and Kathleen, and much loved grandfather of Alasdair. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service will be held from the family home, today, Thursday August 2, 2012, at 1pm, thereafter to Kilevin Cemetery, Minard. Flowers or donations, if desired, to Save the Children.

**MACKECHNIE** - Peacefully at Durnos Hospital, Salen on July 26, 2012 aged 93 years, Margaret (Maggie) MacKechnie of Bunessan, Isle of Mull, beloved wife of the late Angus, loving sister of Peter Lamont and sister in law of Jean. Sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service was held at Bunessan Church on Wednesday, August 1, 2012 at 12.00 noon thereafter to Suidhe Cemetery.

**MACKINNON** - Iain, peacefully at Gartnavel General Hospital, on Sunday, July 29, 2012. Iain aged 86 years of Blairdarrie, Glasgow (formerly of Hillcrest, Balmphetrish, Isle of Tiree). A much loved husband of Mary Flora, a dear father of Angus, Lachie, Margaret, Christine, Fiona, Linda and Alastair. A wonderful grandfather, great grandfather and brother, will be sorely missed. Funeral service at Clydebank Crematorium, North Dalnottar on Friday, August 3, at 10.30am. Family flowers only. Donations to British Heart Foundation welcomed if desired.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**DYKES** - The family of the late Cathy Dykes wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy and support following their sad loss. Thanks to the doctor and nurses of Craig Nevis Surgery and Community Care Staff for their attentiveness and especially to the staff at Invernevis who made Cathy's last 12 months with them most comfortable with sincere caring. To Mike McFall and staff for their professional advice and subsequent funeral arrangements. Grateful thanks to Rev Dr Malcolm Kinnear and the organist for a comforting and supportive service. To Onich Hotel for catering. Finally thanks to all who travelled from near and far to pay their respects at the Church and Cemetery and donated generously raising £267 for Invernevis Resident's Fund.

**MACCALLUM** - Bill and Mary, Elma and Bill and their families wish to thank their relatives and friends for the many kind expressions of sympathy and the support they received following their sad loss of Minnie [Marion]. Sincere thanks to Rev. Duncan MacDonald for such a comforting service and for reading Iain's moving message from Boston, USA. Thanks to Billy McClymont for efficient funeral arrangements and to Douglas MacNeillage for all his help and support, to the staff at the Park Lodge Hotel for the excellent catering. Thanks to all who attended at the church and graveside in Tobermory last Friday. The retiring collection for RNLI raised £428. Finally thanks to all the staff at the North Argyll Care Home in Oban for the exceptional care our dear mother, mother-in-law, granny and great-granny received over the last twelve months.

**MACCORMICK** - Mary, Linda and Kate would like to thank all family and friends for their cards, flowers and expressions of sympathy following the sad loss of James and for the constant support in the months prior to his passing. Special thanks to Port Appin Surgery, staff at Oban and Beaton hospitals, carers and Macmillan nurses who all helped to make it possible for him to spend his final weeks at home. Our gratitude to the Rev Moira MacCormick for her comforting and personal service. Thanks also to Archie MacGillivray for funeral arrangements and to Beth and team for catering. Finally, thanks to all who joined our family to pay their last respects at Lismore Parish Church and for the generous donations received for Macmillan cancer support which amounted to £1100.

**McCREEVY** - Alistair and Craig would like to thank most sincerely all relatives, friends and neighbours for all their help and support received also flowers, letters and cards during their recent sad loss of Eileen. A special thanks to Rev Dr Roderick Campbell for his most comforting services and to all who paid their last respects at the church and graveside and who donated the sum of £659.00 to the friends of the Beaton.

MEMORIALS

**BARRY** - In loving memory of my dear husband, our dad and grandad John, who passed away August 1, 2002. Another year has come and gone. It's hard to think it's ten years on. Deep are the memories. Precious they stay. No length of time. Can take them away. Remembered always with our love. - Rachel and Alan, Katie and grandchildren. xxx  
**CLARK** - Treasured and precious memories of Graham dearly loved husband, father, father-in-law and grandpa who sadly passed away on August 7, 2006. Also my dear brother and our uncle Alastair MacGregor who passed away August 7, 2009. Dearly loved and greatly missed. - Kirsty, Alison, Rhuaridh, Katie and Coll.

**FORBES** - Cathy who passed away peacefully on July 31, 2010. We think about you every day. And miss you more than words can say. Forever in our hearts. - Roddy, Amanda, Mark and family.

**GUNN** - Treasured memories of Cathie dearly loved mam and granny, who died August 5, 2003 also dad and grampa John, who died 1996 and brother and uncle Calum, who died 1991. Time slips by. But memories stay. Fondly remembered by us all in our own special way. - From all the Gunn family, Tiree, mainland and Australia.

**MACCUISH** - Remembering with love Uncle Angus, died August 1, 2005. Always in my thoughts and prayers. - Maureen.  
**MACFADYEN** - Fondest memories of our brother John died August 2, 2011 and brothers and parents gone before. - Love Helen, Mary and families, Oban, Blantyre, Ashford, Blandford and NZ.  
**MACGREGOR** - In loving memory of Alastair died August 7, 2009. - Hannah, Anne and John, Duncan, Julie and family.  
**MACGREGOR** - In loving memory of Alastair, dad to Ally, father-in-law to Kathleen and grandad to Ewan, Jamie and Rachel. Taken from us August 7, 2009. The Good Shepherd.  
**MACGREGOR** - In loving memory of Catriona who passed away on July 31, 2011. Always remembered. John and Cathie, Oban.  
**MACNEILL** - Cherished memories of Donnie, a much loved husband, dad and grandpa who passed away July 31, 2011. Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear. - From Jean and family, Ardbeg and Port Ellen, Islay.  
**MACPHERSON** - Raymond, tragically passed away August 4, 2001. Loving you is easy. Raymond. We do it every day. It's the heartache of losing you. That never goes away. Love and miss you. - Love Mum, Dad, your sisters and nieces and nephews.  
**MARTIN** - In loving memory of my partner John, died July 31, 2009. Loved and remembered every day. - Love Sharon and family.  
**MCFALL** - Treasured memories of our dear sister Eileen, passed away August 4, 2008. It's four years since that sad day. When the sister we loved was called away. The day, the hour. We could never forget. In our hearts she is with us yet. God Bless. - Kate, Maureen and Alyson. xxx  
Auntie Eileen, too dearly loved to ever forget. Sorely missed. - all families, home and away. xxxxx

**McLACHLAN** - In loving memory of my darling daughter Maria, died August 2, 2008. Dearly loved sister of Colin and Angela, beloved aunty to Billy. Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts. We miss our silent Angel x  
**PRYCE** - Treasured and loving memories of Jim, a dearly loved husband and dad, who passed away August 1, 2003. Memory is a lovely lane. Where hearts are ever true. A lane we often travel down. Because it leads to you. - Anne, Emma and Ailsa.  
**ROBERTSON** - In loving memory of our dear dad and grand dad Charlie, passed away August 7, 1996. Treasured memories of when we were all together. God Bless. - Kate, Maureen, Alyson and families. xxx  
**SHAW / SHEVLIN** - In loving memory of our beloved sister Cathleen, who was taken away from us so suddenly on July 27, 2009. If tears could build a stairway. Memories a lane I'd walk right up to heaven. And bring you home again. - Love always your brothers, sisters and uncle John.  
**SINCLAIR** - Lachie (Lachlan), MacLean Deliveries, tragically left us on August 4, 2010, aged 48 years, loving son, brother, uncle and dad to Jennifer.

Farwell words not spoken. Goodbyes were not to be. But we wish upon a star that you were here. - Flora, Angus, Robert, Magnus, sisters in law, nieces and nephews. x  
My darling son, love and miss you. Tears in silence often flow. - Love always mum. xxx  
**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.  
**STOTT** - Treasured memories of a dear dad and grandpa, Bill, who died August 5, 1999. In our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered everyday. - Daughter Rosemary, son-in-law Ewen and grandsons Ewen and Ross, Tigh-na-Coille, Spean Bridge.

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St Columba Gruline, Mull  
Holy Communion..... 11.00  
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Thought for the week

'Going for gold'

THE BIG EVENT is here! The long-awaited 2012 London Olympic Games are taking place now. Thousands of athletes from scores of countries are being watched, cheered, congratulated and consoled by millions of people worldwide. Few of us are really aware of the amount of training, sacrifice and pain that competitors endure, sometimes over many years, before they arrive at their event. Only a few win anything, only a few take Gold, yet most will have had the focus of 'Going for Gold' in the persistent dedication, rigorous commitment and sheer hard work of exercise, fitness and preparation. Perhaps many of us will be challenged to consider the ways in which we can improve our general fitness (recent surveys highlight how inactive we are as a nation compared to our European neighbours) At this time, we can also take up the opportunity to 'go for it' spiritually. At the heart of the Christian journey are the teachings of Jesus and disciples like Paul to "----be very careful how you live, not like ignorant people, but like wise people, making good use of every opportunity you have----" Then, as now, we need to make wise choices as to how we live. By lifting our 'focus for living' beyond ourselves and onto God, we can find that the characteristics of the athlete, such as aiming for the best, being whole-hearted, and keeping going when things get tough, can play a part in our lives. Following the lifestyle of Jesus equips us for the 'Olympics of Life'.

Good advice

ONCE it is summertime and young Mums are down at the beach building sand castles with the children. The older boys have gone with Grandad because he knows all the best rock pools from which to catch fish. In John, chapter 21, we read the story of how Jesus has just been crucified, and reported to have risen again from the dead. A group of His followers have met together by the great sea of Tiberias. They are bereft of their leader, feeling sad, and undecided as to what should be their role in life now. They made an unanimous decision to go fishing and got their boats ready, cast

their nets, fished all night and caught nothing, and were cold and disappointed in their boat offshore. As they sat there, a man stood on the shore and called out to them, 'Friends, have you caught any fish?' 'No' they answered. The stranger said: 'Throw your net on the other side of the boat and you will find some.' The fishermen took the man's advice, shifted their net, and found themselves straining to hold it as it filled with fish. John the disciple said to Peter, as he looked towards the stranger on the shore. 'It is the Lord' and Peter jumped overboard to wade

to the shore and greet the risen Christ Jesus. These men had a good talk with Jesus that day, as they ate a breakfast of fresh fish. Doubts and fears were laid aside as Jesus explained their roles in life now as fishers of men. Sometimes it seems God's advice is too simple for us. Jesus said to these men: 'Change where you cast your net.' They could have replied that they were fishermen and knew all there was to know about fishing, and so they did, but Jesus knew where the fish were. Take his advice and take Him aboard into your life. Happy holidays, Anne MacArthur, Tiree.

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MacPhee and Partners' Kath McMahon, extreme left, and Kelie Cooper, extreme right, hand over the cheque raised during May to, from left, Lorna Carmichael, Maureen Rokita and Betty Alcorn.

Legal firm show will to help local Riding for the Disabled group

Charity supports people from Lochaber to Campbeltown

OBAN and Lorn Riding for Disabled (RDA) is £1,360 better off thanks to local legal firm, MacPhee and Partners. Throughout the month of May, the company asked locals to make a will or add a codicil to their existing will free of charge, in return for a donation of their choice towards the RDA. The cheque was handed over to the volunteers that help run the group, which welcomes riders from right across the west Highlands, at its annual open day at Achnalarig Stables, Glen-cruitten, on Friday. Presenting the cheque, Kelie Cooper said the RDA was a worthwhile charity to support. She said: 'We asked people to make a donation in lieu of payment for the RDA and it was well supported. 'We picked the RDA because it's a local charity that supports a huge number of people right the way from Lochaber to Campbeltown and people with a host of difficulties across the board. 'On the back of that we were able to remind people about the importance of having a will.' Welcoming the cheque, Allison MacLeod said: 'The money will go towards general running costs. 'It costs about £1,456 a month to run the stables, that's over a period of 11 months.'

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Scott Jackson graduated from Edinburgh University with BSc (Hons) in Physics with Meteorology. Scott is the son of Alistair and Sally and was educated at Rockfield Primary and Oban High School.

Emma Elizabeth MacKillop has graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with a Bachelor of Education in Music (First Class Honours). Emma is the eldest daughter of John and Jane MacKillop, Borlum Farm, Glendoe Estate, Fort Augustus and a former pupil of Lochaber High School. Emma is the grand-daughter of Duncan and Flora MacKillop, Dunoon and Elspeth and the late Alastair McKenzie, Fort William, formerly Swordle Farm.

Mark Millar graduated from the University of Glasgow with a degree of Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) in Mechanical Engineering (Hons). Mark is the son of Bruce and Jill Millar, Benderloch and grandson of the late Pat and Isobel Murphy, Tobermory and Willie and Audrey Millar, Inverlochty, Fort William.

Adam Ewart Brown Graduated from the University of Stirling with BA(Hons) in Economics and Psychology. Adam is the son of Andrew and Ann Brown and grandson of the late Andrew and Barbara Brown, Connel and of Jimmy and Kirsty MacMillan, Oban.

Amy MacAskill graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a B A(2.1) Honours in Risk management. Amy is the elder daughter of Susan MacAskill and the late Malcolm MacAskill, sister of Rowen and grand-daughter of Calum and Jean Maclean, Tobermory and the late Alice and James MacAskill, Oban.

Mark McTighe graduated from Dundee University with a Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Legal Practice. Mark is a former pupil of Taynuilt Primary and Oban High Schools and is the son of John and Sheena McTighe

Michael John Murphy graduated with a BSc Honours 2:1 in Computer Engineering from Glasgow Caledonian University. Michael is the eldest son of Philip and Tina Murphy. Michael is a former pupil of St Columba's Primary and Oban High School.

Rachael Carmichael graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a BSc Honours Degree in Diagnostic Imaging. Rachael is the daughter of Neil and June and granddaughter of Hector and the late Cathie Carmichael and the late Duncan and Anne Cameron

**Brewin Dolphin ends sponsorship of Scottish Series**

**SAILING**

BREWIN Dolphin will not be renewing its sponsorship of the Tarbert-based Scottish Series sailing event that has borne its name for 13 years.

Jamie Matheson, executive chairman at Brewin Dolphin, said: 'While relinquishing sponsorship of the Scottish Series is tinged with sadness, we're hugely proud of what we, Clyde Cruising Club and participants have achieved over the past 13 years.'

'Our partnership with Clyde Cruising Club has significantly raised the awareness of Scottish sailing across the UK and further afield.'

**Coerver coaching weekend held at Lochgilphead**

**FOOTBALL**

A SOCCER training weekend held recently at Lochgilphead Soccer Centre has been hailed a great success by Mid Argyll coaches.

Twenty volunteers and football coaches from across Mid Argyll took part in the world-famous Coerver event, where they learnt more about the Coerver coaching method for young players aged between five and 16.

The coaching workshop coincided with a Coerver camp for pupils of Lochgilphead Soccer School.

Commenting on the event, football coach and parent Alan Millar said: 'The coaching afternoon for the coaches was superb and my son Craig loved the two mornings of Coerver football - he said it was the best course he had ever been on.'

Willie Luke, event organiser at the soccer centre, said: 'I am sure the Argyll coaches now have plenty of excellent material to deliver to the young players in the coming months and additional coaching points to continuously improve their sessions.'

'The players in attendance have a better understanding of ball mastery, technical skills and movement.'

# Lorne win rugby festival in Colonsay

**RUGBY**

OBAN Lorne won the first ever Colonsay Rugby Festival, winning all three of their matches without conceding a point.

Organisers of the event last Saturday welcomed the Oban side, plus Islay and Inverleith to contest the 10-a-side tournament, for which a new pitch had to be set up.

The Colonsay brewery bar sold more beer on the Friday night than it did in the entire 2011 Colonsay Music Festival. The Pantry and General Store also had stalls, and did good business all weekend.

The festival also raised nearly £1,000 for rugby charity Skrum, a charity based in Swaziland which uses the sport as a social tool to encourage health awareness and responsible living amongst vulnerable children.

Oban Lorne had beaten Islay and Inverleith, before winning 12-0 in a tightly contested decider with the Ochaloach Bears, a team representing Colonsay.

The Ochaloach Bears were

unable to compete with Oban's large pack, with the scrum proving a particular area of vulnerability.

Corrie Louw, Oban's captain for the weekend, said: 'We are delighted to have won the first Colonsay rugby 10s tournament.'

Cameron Smith, who plays for Oban, won the player of the tournament award, and was the top try scorer of the weekend with seven scores.

The victory caps a successful summer for Oban, who also won the Highland Sevens and came second in the Islay Beach Sevens.

The Islay team had a proud moment as Douglas Beaumont made his senior debut alongside his father David.

The women's tournament was reduced to one hour-long game, because Oban were unable to bring enough players to field a team. The match was won by the Warthogs who beat the Ochaloach Bears women's team 43-20.

Amanda Byrne, Warthogs cap-

tain, said her team enjoyed the weekend: 'It's been awesome. We've had lovely weather, we won the final, and the open-air ceilidh was really cool.'

The Warthogs are made up of Stirling County and Watsonians players, and looked strong from the outset. Although the Ochaloach fought hard once the Warthogs had taken the lead they never looked back.

Mo Middleton, festival coordinator, was delighted with how the weekend went: 'A lot of hard work went into getting this together and it's been great to see everyone enjoying it.'

'We'd like to thank all the teams for coming. The rugby was great, well done to Oban, and we all had a lot of fun at the party afterwards. I don't think the island's ever seen anything like 50 rugby players coming off the boat. The brewery got slightly taken by surprise by how much beer was drunk.'



Oban Lorne's Angus MacCallum looks to offload as he is tackled during the tournament decider against Colonsay's Ochaloach Bears.



Jeanneau boats Morag Mhor, left, and Bluebell during the parade of sail in Ardmuckinn Bay after the first Jeanneau Rendezvous at Dunstaffnage Marina concluded on Sunday, 07.131jeannaue6

## Jeanneau yachts gather at Dunstaffnage

**SAILING**

A FLEET of 16 Jeanneau yachts sailed into Dunstaffnage Marina on Saturday to inaugurate the first Scottish meet for owners of the boats.

Boats from across the world converged at the Dunbeg marina for the first Jeanneau Rendezvous, with the farthest sailed coming from the USA specifically for the event.

Organised by Malcolm Perrins through the Jeanneau Owners' Network he set up 12 years ago, it is hoped the meet will become a regular fixture in the calendars of Jeanneau owners across the world.

With boats ranging in size from 30-53 feet and Jeanneau's sailboat director, Erik Stromberg, making his first visit to the west coast, Mr Perrins, from Winchester, said it got off to a good start.

He said: 'We decided it would be great to get the boats together for a social gathering at Dunstaffnage. I put together a rough programme it was a great weekend. The weather held out too, which made the difference.'

## Taynuilt lose friendly match in Campbeltown

**FOOTBALL**

Pre-season friendly **Campbeltown Pupils 6 Taynuilt Amateurs 2**

CAMPBELTOWN Pupils eased to a comfortable pre-season friendly win against new West of Scotland League side, Taynuilt. Early goals from Gary Grumoli put the home side on course for victory within 15 minutes of the start.

An own goal added to the visitors' problems in the 17th minute but Mark Robertson scored the first of his, and Taynuilt's, two goals to make it 3-1.

The home side was more composed in possession during a bright second half and Gary Grumoli completed his hat-trick. G Grant added two fine goals as the home side eased to victory. Robertson weighed in with a clever second goal as consolation.



Glencruitten Golf Club provided the first four places in this year's Argyll and Bute Boys Championship, held at Inveraray Golf Club on Saturday. Winner of the gross competition was Robert MacIntyre with 74, ahead of Robert Johnston two shots behind. Third was Alastair MacVicar on 79 shots and fourth was Cameron Milne on 81. Winner in the handicap category was Tobermory Golf Club's Ross MacCrone, 70 (18), ahead of Arran Downie of Cowal Golf Club, 71 (20).

## Plockton Small Boat Sailing Club annual regatta

**SAILING**

PLOCKTON Small Boat Sailing Club began its annual regatta fortnight last Monday but was forced to cancel the evening races because of strong winds.

It was still windy Tuesday afternoon, but local boats were told to reef by Commodore Stanley MacRae for the Douglas Mackenzie Challenge Cuach and as a result only three boats out of the 12 started.

Neil MacRae (Rona) was disqualified for missing out the harbour mark on his way to the dall mark. Joy Mackenna (Searanger) filled up as she was within yards of the finishing line leaving Ian Hay (Seolta) as the winner.

However Ian felt unwell after the race and was flown to Raigmore Hospital, but was discharged and sailed again the next day.

The 1st Pelly Cup for centreboards had five starters with Cameron

Kitson-Jones (29 GBR) first, followed by John Leiper (Saorsa) and Michael Burrell (Guiseag). In the evening four local boats took part in the ladies' race and Sandra Byrne (Scorrybreac) winning for the fifth year in a row from Morag Amos (Eala Bhan) and Joy Mackenna (Searanger) in third.

Ten boats sailed in calm conditions on Wednesday for the Consett cup (non-handicap) and the Alastair Mackenzie Memorial Cup (handicap). Michael Hay sailed the Seolta in place of his father and won, with Alan Burrell (Taeping) second and Morag Amos (Eala Bhan) third.

Joy Mackenna (Searanger) won the Alastair Mackenzie Cup, beating Donald Gillies (Rona) and Sandra Byrne (Scorrybreac).

In the second Pelly Cup race John Leiper (Saorsa), was followed home by Lauren Glasgow (Fantas) and Cameron Kitson-Jones (29 GBR).

In the first Plockton Trophy race Morag Amos, beat Sandra Byrne and Joy Mackenna, the first time ever three ladies occupied the podium places in a local boat race. Eric Webster (Shibumi) won the first Ulluva Cup race.

Boys' race (Thursday): 1 Alastair Sharp; 2 Chris Townend; 3 Calum Reid; 4 Cameron Sharp; 5 Calum Jones; 6 Sean Mackenzie. Girls' race: 1 Grace Claxton; 2 Rebecca Townend; 3 Rowan Sharp; 4 Laura MacLeod; 5 Reanna MacRae; 6 Rebecca Sweeney; 7 Amanda Sweeney.

In the evening in windy conditions ten boats raced in the second Plockton Trophy race. The Taeping capsized and the Eala Bhan hit a rock. 1 - Graham Sharp (Rona); 2 Alexander Mackenzie (Seafort); 3 Sandra Byrne (Scorrybreac); Cameron Kitson-Jones took the second Ulluva Cup race in 29 GBR.

Wet and windy conditions saw Friday's races cancelled, but on Saturday 10 yachts sailed for the Frithard Trophy in light winds. Result: 1 Teo (Saorsa) from Broadford; 2 Michael Hay (Moolie) from Plockton; 3 Calum Matheson (Roxanne) from Portree.

Seven local boats sailed in the long distance race (Matheson Cup). Result - 1, Alexander Mackenzie (Seafort); 2 John Sweeney (Shamal); 3 Joy Mackenna (Searanger). In the third Ulluva Cup and Airghdrishgac Cup race for centreboards seven raced. Result: 1 John Leiper (Saorsa); 2 James Smith (Laser); 3 Cameron Kitson-Jones (29 GBR).

The evening saw Commodore Stanley MacRae host a party for all club members after a successful first week. - CM MacRae

## We're part of your local team

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To find out how we're supporting your local club visit [rbs.co.uk/scottishrugby](http://rbs.co.uk/scottishrugby)



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## Ben plans training trip to the United States

**MOUNTAIN BIKING**



Ben Miller: heading for US

LOCHABER mountain biker Ben Miller is looking overseas to improve the skills that have made him one of the UK's most exciting young cycling talents.

Fresh from a 10th-place finish in the MTB XC National Championships in Aldermaston, the 17-year-old from Duror is planning a training trip to the US to fine-tune his already formidable prowess on two wheels.

The West Highland College pupil has long-term targets of both the Commonwealth Games on home turf in 2014 and the Rio Olympic Games in four years time - but he knows there's plenty of improving to do before he's ready to take on the world's best.

The talented teenager, who benefits from being a member of

the Bank of Scotland Local Heroes programme, said: 'I'm going to America over the Christmas and New Year period where I'll be road and mountain biking.'

'I feel that technically I'm pretty strong, but over the close season I'll be training hard - I'm looking to get fitter and faster.'

After finishing down the field in 19th at the Junior Series race in Kirroughtree in June, Miller bounced back to claim third in round five of the competition at Forfar on July - and he's not about to waste the momentum he has built up this summer.

The Nevis Cycle Club member was a creditable 29th in the 2011 European MTB Championships in Graz in Austria this summer.

Ben said: 'Going to the European Championships has been my best achievement to date so far.'

'My main ambition is to perform in a Commonwealth Games, but the Games in Glasgow in 2014 might be a bit too soon for me.'

Bank of Scotland Local Heroes, in partnership with SportsAid, provides support and funding to 82 of Scotland's most talented developing athletes on their journey to London 2012 and beyond. Since 2008, the programme has supported 1,000 athletes.



## Macaulay Association present sticks and balls to local schools

The Macaulay Association secretary David Hamilton recently presented six camans and twelve shinty balls to Park, St Columba's, Rockfield, Taynuilt and Lochnell primary schools. The Macaulay Association would like acknowledge the help given by Arctemis, MacQueen's Charitable Trust and Oban Cash For Kids.

# Inveraray and Kinlochshiel lock horns in Camanachd Cup semi final

KINLOCHSHIEL are gearing up for arguably the biggest game in the club's history on Saturday – the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-final against Inveraray at An Aird, Fort William.

An exodus of fans from Lochalsh will make it trip to the Lochaber capital for the big game – and 'Shiel coach Johnstone Gill is under no illusions what victory would mean.

He told The Oban Times: 'We have got this far and we are so near the final - it's our first time ever in the semi-final and we are delighted to be there.

'It's exciting not just for the players but for the people of the whole area, they are really hoping we get to the final.

'We had a good following in the last round against Lovat at Kiltarlity and it's well appreciated. They can be quite vocal when they need to be and if we get the same support again we will be delighted.

'The boys will all have to perform on the day to beat Inveraray, who are a very good team and have been there before. They know what to expect on the big occasions – and this is a big occasion.

'Our guys have got to handle that, but we have Finlay, Keith and Paul MacRae as the backbone of the team. I will be expecting a lot from the young boys who have come into the team as well.

'Shiel, though, will be without talismanic keeper Graeme Kennedy, who is suspended, while John Don Mackenzie's thigh muscle injury is much worse than feared and he will be out for the rest of the season.

Gill said: 'He has been told it will be 12 to 14 weeks before he can even start looking at a shinty stick again.'

INVERARAY manager John Smylie hopes it is third time lucky, as he takes the Royal Burgh into their third consecutive Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-final in his third year as manager.

Having been beaten at this stage in each of the previous two years, John and his seasoned team are desperate to make the final.

'I hope it is third time lucky for me as manager,' he said. 'The boys are really up for it because a few of the older ones think it could be their last chance to get to a final.'

The Royal Burgh will meet semi-final opponents Kinlochshiel at An Aird, Fort William, which has not been a happy hunting ground for John in the past.

Kyles Athletic for a place in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup final after a narrow win over Lochaber in the quarter final last weekend.

A solitary goal from Fraser MacKintosh on 59 minutes was all that separated the sides and Newtonmore go on to play Kyles at Mossfield Park in Oban on Saturday August 11.

The game was a much tighter affair than their previous meeting in the MacTavish Cup final in June, when Newtonmore ran out 5-1 winners.

Newtonmore had two reasons to celebrate after the second team downed Kingussie 5-4 to lift the Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup.

'More got off to a flying start and took a 3-0 first half lead through a Calum Stewart goal and two from Evan Menzies. Kings got one back but Stewart scored his second to give his side a 4-1 half time lead.

Kings again came back after the break with two goals but Menzies got his third and Newtonmore's fifth with seven minutes to play to make the score 5-3. Kings pulled one goal back but were unable to get the equaliser before the final whistle.

FORT WILLIAM will have to improve on last week's 1-1 draw at bottom club Bute if they are to have any chance of shocking title-chasing Kyles Athletic at Black Parks on Saturday.

Fort's job will be made no easier knowing that their An Aird home is available again for the first time in over a year – for the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-final between Kinlochshiel and Inveraray.

Coach Peter MacIntyre said: 'At this stage of the season if we could just keep in the top half of the table I'd be happy enough with that.'

'Kyles are going well in the league and are in the semi-final of the Camanachd. They only lost the league title in the final game last season and will be desperate to make up for that.'

'We should have Ryan Campbell and Bryan Simpson back, but we will still be quite a few short – Alex Duncan is still suspended and Gary Innes is working.'

'Last week against Bute, the Grant brothers Kyle, Mark and Cameron all started the game, so that was a first.'

Fort's Allan Knox equalised Robert Ferguson's 70th minute opener with 10 minutes left.

## SHINTY

to keep the title chase alive with two points against Fort William.

KINGUSSIE head into this weekend's game with Glenurquhart knowing third place is very much within their grasp.

Kings sit three points behind Lovat but with three games in hand following the Kiltarlity side's surprise 4-1 loss to Inveraray.

Russell Jones' men had a slow start to the season, losing three of their first four matches. But as the season has worn on the side has gathered momentum and an eight match unbeaten run in the league has Kings brimming with confidence as they try to finish as high up the league as they can.

The two sides met back in May and played out an entertaining 3-3 draw at Drumnadrochit in a game that had everything from a last minute winner to a sending off.

Ronald Ross is likely to miss the game after the recent death of his mother Belle.

Barry revealed his team's only goal left this season is to avoid being relegated as the bottom-placed team. Although it is mathematically possible for the islanders to retain their premier league status, it is almost certain they will be relegated.

LOCHABER manager Barry Martin said his young team enjoyed their 1-1 draw with Fort William, conceding that he is planning for life in South Division One next season.

LOVAT coach Allan MacRae told The Oban Times he was a couple of players short – but was making no excuses.

He said: 'It was a good game and I thought we played quite well but the Inveraray forwards were sharp and took advantage of a couple of slip-ups. They were the more clinical on Saturday, definitely.'

LOCHABER manager Michael Delaney admits this Saturday's clash will play a big role in determining which side wins the league – and promotion to the Orion Group Premiership.

Skye are top with 17 points from 10 games, while Lochaber are third with 13 points from seven games.

Delaney told The Oban Times: 'Skye are where they are on merit, and they've got a big advantage having played more games than us.'



Newtonmore and Kingussie contested the final of the Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup last Saturday. Our picture shows Newtonmore defender Owen Fraser shielding the ball from Kingussie's John Gibson with 'More keeper Sean McQuarrie waiting on any slip-ups. Newtonmore won an enthralling encounter 5-4. Photo: Stevie Tunstall.

Mackenzie said: 'It was a really strange game. We lost three goals in the first 11 minutes, I think our heads were still on the bus. After that we really came into the game and probably should have been ahead at half time. The second half started evenly but in the final quarter we just fell away again.'

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## Successful Irish tour for Under 17s



THIS year's Scottish Hydro Under-17 National District Select Shinty Squad are pictured at the Darver Centre of Excellence, County Louth, Ireland, during their recent shinty/hurling tour. The Scotland boys had a comfortable 56-0 win over Louth Under 17s and the following night beat Dublin Under 17s by 24-3. The tour, which has been taking place for more than 20 years, also included a visit to Croke Park and a visit to Dublin. This year's squad was: Innes MacDonald, Kyles Athletic; Scott MacLeod, Beaully; Shawn Headly, Skye; Ewen Brady, Glenurquhart; Daniel Majej, Oban Celtic; Gary McKerracher, Oban Celtic, Captain; Malcolm Clark, Oban Camanachd; Hamish Anderson, Kingussie; Zachary Coley, Kyles Athletic; Michael MacKenzie, Lovat; Jordan Murchison, Skye; Craig Anderson, Glasgow Mid Argyll; Oliver Macrae, Kinlochshiel; Fraser Heath, Glenurquhart; Finlay MacMillan, Glasgow Mid Argyll; Jack MacDonald, Beaully, and Patrick Toal, Lochaber.

GLENURQUHART will hope to bounce back from last weekend's 6-3 loss to Kyles by beating in-form Kingussie at The Dell.

Glen manager Fraser Mackenzie told The Oban Times he was expecting another tough game. He said: 'It's always a tricky place to go, but The Dell's got a great surface to play on. We want to get last weekend's result behind us and get going again.'

Paul MacLennan and David Girvan will miss the game, and Lewis MacLennan and Eddie Tembo are both doubts after picking up injuries against Kyles.

The Drumnadrochit side fell three goals behind after just 11 minutes last weekend, but improved as the half went on and were level by half time after a James MacPherson hat trick.

But as the game wore on Kyles proved to be strong, scoring three times in the final 19 minutes to take the win.

SKYE CAMANACHD face their toughest North Division 1 test of the season at Paic na Laoch on Saturday against North Division One title favourites Lochaber.

The visitors' cup exploits mean they have played three games fewer than table-toppers Skye, who themselves still have eight league fixtures to fulfil in what is looking an increasingly congested season.

The Portree men are four points clear of Lochaber, but made life a little more difficult for themselves last weekend when they could only manage a 1-1 home draw with second-placed Caberfeidh.

But manager Willie MacRae can fashion a win against what will be formidable opposition – Lochaber lost just 1-0 to Newtonmore in the Camanachd Cup quarter-final replay in their last outing – Skye will give their promotion hopes a massive boost.

game time, Gussie refused to say the league title was won.

He added: 'The loss last weekend was a major blow to Glenorchy and we would now have to drop six points to lose the league but it is never over, until it is over.'

OBAN CELTIC are looking to consolidate fourth place in Marine Harvest South Division One, ahead of this weekend's match against Glasgow Mid Argyll at Ganavan.

The Oban side lost 5-1 in Glasgow earlier this season but have hit a better run of form in recent weeks and could make home advantage count.

Club spokesman David Hamilton said: 'I would like to beat them [GMA] because we still have league position to play for and ensure we are eligible for the Macaulay Cup next season.'

Kieran Gallagher is missing for the Oban side through suspension.

TAYNUILT recorded a famous victory in the Lorn derby, beating rivals Glenorchy for the first time in decades.

Following the 2-1 victory manager Davy Thomson also revealed a win over the Dalnally men was his only goal yet to accomplish before he retired at the end of the season.

The victory was all the sweeter, as it confirmed Taynuilt could not be relegated this season.

Davy told The Oban Times: 'That is the first time I can remember Taynuilt beating Glenorchy. It was a great result for us.'

'We came under a bit of pressure in the second half but George Reid and Willie Gillies in defence played really well, Andrew Servant made some great saves and over the piece we deserved the win.'

Taynuilt's two goals had been recorded as own goals by Glenorchy players Andrew Smith and Scott MacKillop, statistics Davy has described as 'rubbish'.

Taynuilt claim Willie Neilson scored their opener on 20 minutes, despite the best efforts of goalkeeper Smith, while Michael MacQueen got the final touch onto a lobbed pass after an hour to win the match.

A misfiring GLENORCHY have given up their slim chances of winning Marine Harvest South Division One after an unexpected home defeat at the hands of Taynuilt.

Lorne Browne had equalised for Glenorchy but a Taynuilt goal, scored just after the hour mark, signalled the death of the Dalnally men's league challenge. To win the league, Glenorchy would have to win both of their remaining matches and hope Oban Camanachd drop six points from their final five games.

Glenorchy now have a head-to-head battle for second with GMA and travel to Aberdeen this weekend in search of points.

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## Results

Friday 27 July  
Marine Harvest North Division 3  
Strathglass 0 - 4 Beaully

Saturday 28 July  
Aberdeen Considine  
Sutherland Cup Final  
Kingussie 4 - 5 Newtonmore

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup  
Quarter Finals  
Newtonmore 1 - 0 Lochaber

Orion Group Premiership  
Inveraray 4 - 1 Lovat  
Bute 1 - 1 Fort William  
Kyles Athletic 6 - 3 Glenurquhart

Marine Harvest  
North Division 1  
Skye 1 - 1 Caberfeidh  
Strathglass 2 - 3 Inverness

Marine Harvest  
South Division 1  
Strachur 2 - 3 Oban Camanachd  
Glasgow Mid Argyll 7 - 0 Kilmory  
Glenorchy 1 - 2 Taynuilt

Marine Harvest  
North Division 2  
Fort William 1 - 3 Glenurquhart  
Lovat 2 - 5 Glenangary  
Skye 4 - 3 Aberdeen University

Marine Harvest  
South Division 2  
Aberdour 2 - 9 Lochside

Bute P - P Ardnarmurchan  
Ardnamurchan unable to field a team  
points to Bute  
Col Glen 2 - 2 Ballachulish  
Kyles Athletic P - P Glasgow MA  
Argyll Glasgow Mid Argyll unable to field a team points to Kyles Athletic  
Tayforth P - P Inveraray  
Inveraray unable to field a team points to Tayforth

Marine Harvest  
North Division 3  
Caberfeidh 1 - 4 Kilmallie  
Lewis 0 - 5 Boleskine  
Strathspey 1 - 4 Lochcarron

## Fixtures

Wednesday 1 August  
Marine Harvest  
North Division 2  
Lovat v Glenurquhart  
Evan MacRae - 7pm

Saturday 4 August  
Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup  
Semi Final  
Kinlochshiel v Inveraray  
at An Aird, Fort William  
Billy Waterspoun

Orion Group Premiership  
Fort William v Kyles Athletic  
Evan MacRae - 12pm  
Kingussie v Glenurquhart  
Graham Cameron

Marine Harvest  
North Division 1  
Inverness v Caberfeidh  
John MacLeod  
Skye v Lochaber  
Daniel MacRae - 1pm

Marine Harvest  
North Division 2  
Glenangary v Kinlochshiel  
Robert Morrison  
Lochaber v Kingussie  
Colin MacDonald  
Skye v Fort William  
John Matheson - 3.30pm

Marine Harvest  
South Division 1  
Oban Camanachd v Taynuilt  
Dunkie Kerr - 3pm  
Oban Celtic v Glasgow MA  
Robert Baxter - 12pm  
Aberdour v Glenorchy  
David Mitchell - 1pm

Marine Harvest  
South Division 2  
Aberdour v Ardnarmurchan  
Ewan MacDonald - 3pm  
Glasgow MA v Bute  
Duncan Freshwater  
Kyles Athletic v Ballachulish  
Ronnie Campbell  
Tayforth v Lochside  
Euan Pearson

Marine Harvest  
North Division 3  
Kilmallie v Lochcarron  
Graeme MacMillan  
Strathspey v Lochbroom  
Neil Ferguson

Womens Camanachd Association  
Sunday 5 August

Marine Harvest  
National Division 1  
Glasgow MA v Tir Conaill Harps

Marine Harvest  
North Division 2  
Glenangary v Skye

Marine Harvest  
South Division 2  
Glasgow MA v Tir Conaill Harps  
(All throw ups 2.00 unless stated)

## League Tables

The Orion Group Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	13	9	2	2	43	20	20
Kyles Athletic	14	9	2	3	39	28	20
Lovat	15	8	3	4	34	24	19
Kingussie	12	7	2	3	32	21	16
Fort William	14	5	3	6	24	25	13
Inveraray	11	6	0	5	25	22	12
Kinlochshiel	14	5	2	7	33	35	12
Glenurquhart	13	5	2	6	27	35	12
Kilmallie	16	3	2	11	27	44	8
Bute	14	0	4	10	8	38	4

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Skye	10	8	1	1	29	15	17
Caberfeidh	14	7	2	5	39	28	16
Lochaber	7	6	1	0	37	8	13
Beaully	10	5	1	4	22	21	11
Lochcarron	14	4	3	7	21	34	11
Inverness	13	4	2	7	24	37	10
Strathglass	14	1	2	11	23	52	4

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oban Camanachd	9	9	0	0	44	6	18
Glenorchy	12	9	0	3	28	13	18
Glasgow MA	11	8	0	3	36	14	16
Oban Celtic	12	5	1	6	24	28	11
Taynuilt	12	3	4	5	19	30	10
Strachur	14	3	3	8	19	30	9
Kilmory	13	3	2	8	22	36	8
Aberdour	11	2	0	9	10	45	4

Marine Harvest North Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	15	13	0	2	70	15	26
Kinlochshiel	15	7	4	4	30	37	18
Skye	14	7	2	5	35	25	16
Glenurquhart	13	7	2	4	28	24	16
Glenangary	14	7	0	7	29	34	14
Aberdeen Uni	15	5	2	8	30	32	12
Fort William	13	6	0	7	22	27	11
Kingussie	13	4	3	6	28	34	11
Lovat	16	5	1	10	30	43	11
Lochaber	14	2	2	10	32	63	6

Marine Harvest South Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lochside Rovers	15	14	0	1	84	25	28
Kyles Athletic	13	9	0	4	48	24	18
Ballachulish	13	8	2	3	31	20	18
Tayforth	14	8	1	5	44	31	17
Col Glen	16	6	3	7	39	46	15
Inveraray	16	5	3	8	41	47	13
Ardnamurchan	16	5	1	10	42	41	11
Bute	10	4	1	5	27	21	9
Glasgow MA	16	4	0	12	18	84	8
Aberdour	15	3	1	11	27	62	7

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**David equals course record at Glencruitten**



David McCuish won the club championship at Glencruitten

DAVID McCuish won the Glencruitten Championship at the weekend with a record-equaling score of 55.

His total for the four rounds of the championship was 246 - 66, 64, 61, 55, 12 shots clear of Kevin Mackie who had a total of 258 - 66, 61, 66, 65.

David equalled John Wilson's score of 55, which has stood for 28 years, and had a score of 27 for the first nine and 28 shots for the back nine.

Bob MacIntyre won the Ginty Trophy on Saturday with a score of 58 + 1 = 59.

This Saturday is the third round of the George Smith Trophy and the monthly medal. On Tuesday there will be a Stableford competition.

**Tobermory GC**

**GOLF**

MEN'S section: Centenary Trophy third round: 1 Peter MacCrone 74-12-62; 2 Graham Davidson 68-06-62; 3 Donald Brown snr 71-08-63.

Junior section: Summer Challenge third round: 1 William MacCrone 67-07-60; 2 Ross MacCrone 78-18-60; 3 Lewis Wilshire 72-09-63.

Ross MacCrone was the winner of the Argyll and Bute Junior Championship at Inverary (Handicap) with a net 70.

## Mixed bag of tactics at West Highland Yachting Week

The 'stop start' conditions made for frustrating racing

FICKLE winds made for testing sailing conditions for the 114-strong fleet of West Highland Yachting Week that set off from Craobh marina on Sunday, July 29 2012 racing to Oban.

From an initially steady north-west wind making for a good beat and fetch to the Sound of Luing the wind died and backed to the south off Easdale and kites were set for the finish line in the Sound of Kerrera.

It was a mixed bag of tactics with the wind going light in the centre of the run in and some boats winning out by sailing the longer distance round the outside of the fleet.

It had been a similar story for the feeder race from Oban to Craobh. After a promising start with close beating down the Sound of Kerrera, the 'stop start' conditions made for frustrating racing.

However Terry Kirchin's First 40 The Black Prince from Port Edgar stayed on the breeze to the shortened finish line off Luing with Hot Toddy taking second and David Cooper's Trapper 28 Redwing third.

The feeder from Gigha was won by Lizante, James Regan's Jeaneau 42i, with the Irish First 35s5 Slippi Jin of Jim Shields second and Mike Spence's A35 Le Basculer third.

Making a first appearance at

WHYW is Jim McIlraith's head-turning yawl Saboo who lifted not only the win in Class 7 but the Oban Bicentenary Trophy for the best corrected time overall in this race sponsored by Caledonian MacBrayne.

Jim normally heads to the Festival of Sail in Brest but this year the timing and option to sail with the family at WHYW proved the magnet of attraction.

And in Class 8 it was a fitting return to the racing scene for Lochaber sailor Ian Fyfe and Popcorn. After 30 years, 26 of which she was laid up ashore, this Contessa 25 has returned to West Highland Yachting Week and showed she has lost none of her winning form lifting the Class 8 silverware by 15 seconds from Roxy Robson's Contessa 26 Windflower.

The Class 0 fleet was won by John Stamp's new J111 Jacob V who finished the 17-mile race in two and a half hours also lifting the MacBrayne Centenary Challenge Cup for the fastest passage in the fleet. Iain Laidlaw's J97 won Class 1.

West Highland Yachting Week receives sponsorship support from Tunnock's, The Oban Common Good Fund, Argyll and Bute Council, Tobermory Whisky, Tobermory Harbour Association, Caledonian MacBrayne, Scottish Fuels and the

**SAILING**

Crown Estate with help in kind from Flit Self Drive and West Coast Motors.

Results

Class 0 1 Jacob V John Stamp, 2 Carmen II Jeffrey/Scutt 3 No Worries Geoff Bowerman  
Class 1 1 Jaywalker Iain Laidlaw 2 Ajax Anne Campbell 3 Lucky Ned Pepper Graham Anderson

Class 2 1 Farabout Alan Petrie 2 Texa John Watson 3 Sunrise Scott Chalmers  
Class 3 1 Hendrick's Lindsay Doig 2 Spirit Alistair Manderson 3 Amarylis Wilson Malone

Class 4 1 Leomaris of Clyde Ricky Gray 2 Hoodlum Robin Ferguson 3 Mystic Sun Williams/Johnson  
Class 5 1 Leaky Roof II Alan Harper 2 Tangle o'the Isles Joey Gough 3 Strike 3 Mark Taylor

Class 6 1 Glenafon Brian Young 2 Sigmatic Donald McLaren 3 Valhalla of Ashton Alan Dunnett  
Class 7 1 Saboo Jim McIlraith 2 Piecemaker Stuart Hamilton 3 Cool Bandit 2 Craig Anderson  
Class 8 1 Popcorn Angus Fyfe 2 Windflower Roxy Robson 3 Redwing David Cooper  
Class 9 1 Eureka Judy Orr 2 Malindi of Lorne Seonaid Reid 3 Smitheren Tom Wilson.



This giant common skate was caught by Walter MacDonald on board the Oban-based MV Gannet. The female skate, which weighed 177lb, was recently caught between Loch Spelve and Bach Island in the Firth of Lorne. Mr MacDonald used a PENN Senator 116L and a 16/0 multiplier PENN reel for his catch.

## Residential camp for Argyll and Bute youth footballers

ARGYLL and Bute Council's football development service ran its second summer residential camp which proved to be a great success.

Football development officer Martin Rae and his coaching assistant Stewart Maule welcomed 23 boys from across Argyll and two lads came from Livingston to attend the camp which was based in the Oban High School Hostel at Glencruitten.

Along with the football coaching given by the two SFA qualified coaches, the boys were given an introduction to sports

**FOOTBALL CAMP**

science, including fitness testing, nutritional and hydration advice, sports psychology and lifestyle management as well as doing all the day-to-day chores that are expected of a full time professional youth player.

One of the youngsters commented when asked about the camp said: 'It was brilliant, the coaching was great, we had good fun and I met a lot of new friends. I can't wait until next year and I will be telling my friends all about it.'

**Recent results from Oban Sailing Club**

**SAILING**

RACE No 98, July 24, Agg 3. 1 Knutz, Delphia Sport 24, Richard Shellcock; 2 Shadowfax, First 31.7, W.E (Billy) Forthright; 3 Amber Haze, Sigma 33, Eric Chapman and Irena Chapman; 4 Nimrod, Dehler 34, Colin M Crawford.  
Race No 99, July 24, Agg 3 - 1 Hot Toddy, Sadler 25, Ms Alison B Chadwick.



Oban's Alasdair Aitken gets some air time during the fifth round of the Scottish Twinshock Scramble Club at Achnashelloch, Lochgilphead, by permission of Stewart Campbell. Alasdair was one of the local success stories, finishing joint fourth in the over-50s category, while Achnashelloch's own Lewis and Douglas Campbell finished first and second respectively in the Monoshock B Class.

## Saints net another five in pre-season friendly

**Pre-season friendly Oban Saints 5 East Kilbride 0**

OBAN Saints continued their build-up to the new season with a friendly against Central Scottish League side East Kilbride and for the second week in a row the Oban lads netted five goals in another good performance.

Saints had a few players missing for various reasons, but still managed to field a strong squad with new signings Mattie Rippon and Eddie Swift getting the chance to show team manager Iain Jackson what they could do. The clubs had agreed to play three half hours to allow all the players a good amount of game time.

The home side opened the scoring as early as the second minute when Willie Gemmell and Ross Maitland combined to set up Donald Campbell who slotted the ball home.

Saints increased their lead in

the 26th minute after Paul Kerr sent Donald Campbell through with a clever pass but Donald's shot hit the post. The ball fell kindly to Craig MacEwan who crossed into the box and this time Donald made no mistake as he headed the ball home.

Saints had to replace keeper Daniel Cassells who landed awkwardly and hurt his back. Jimmy Jackson took over between the sticks for the remainder of the game and kept a clean sheet.

The Oban side increased their lead with five minutes remaining in the second period when an Eddie Swift shot took a wicked deflection leaving the East Kilbride keeper stranded with the ball ending up in the back of the net.

The visitors were a well beaten team now and Willie Gemmell scored another left footed thirty-yarder for the second week in a row.

With five minutes left Eddie

**FOOTBALL**

Swift raced clear before cutting the ball back for Myles McAuley who bundled the ball over the line to make the final score 5-0.

Manager Iain Jackson was delighted with the performance. He said: 'The whole idea of pre-season games is to get the level of match fitness up to scratch and try out different formations. The boys have trained hard over the last few weeks so it's just a matter of sharpening everybody up in a match situation.'

Saints continue their pre-season build up this Saturday with a tough home game against old rivals Greenock. The match will take place at the rugby pitch with a 2pm kick-off. Referee in charge is John Scott.

Saints play their first competitive SAFL fixture on Saturday, August 11 when they are at home to Lochgilphead Red Star in the Centenary Cup.

## Taynuilt Golf Club

**GOLF**

GENTS' Club Championship Gross 2012 (four-round competition): 1 David Howie - 276 (62, 69, 70, 75); 2 Andrew Digory - 280 (67, 68, 70, 75); 3 Fraser Inglis - 287 (69, 70, 72, 76); 4 Mark Henriksen - 290 (69, 72, 74, 75).

Collaig Cup 2012 (two-round stroke): 1 Richard Bergant - 119 (61, 58); 2 Michael Mullen - 124 (61, 63).

Inverlorn Plate 2012 (two-round stableford): 1 Hugh Nicolson - 75pts; 2 Donald Cattanaich - 74pts.

Ladies ARC Shield (Stableford): 1 Sally Thompson - 36pts (36); 2 Carol MacLarty - 31pts (18).

Action Research and Medal: 1 Ann Urwin - 65 (31); 2 Jill Stewart - 67 (21).

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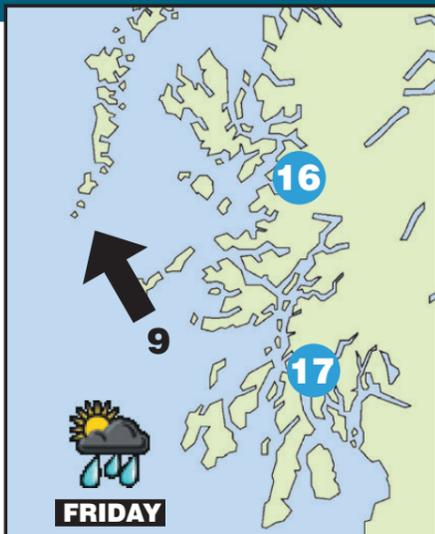
## Weather

**Thursday** Sunny  
Winds moderate southerly  
Temperatures 13°C to 18°C

**Friday** Heavy rain showers  
Winds light south easterly  
Temperatures 12°C to 17°C.

**Weekend** Heavy rain showers  
**Outlook** Winds light north westerly  
Temperatures 13°C to 18°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States  
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate  
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate  
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



## Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 2, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	05.47 3.7 11.59 0.6 10.03 1.2 *** **	
Fri	00.23 0.7 06.21 3.8 12.40 0.5 18.39 4.2	
Sat	01.04 0.7 06.55 3.8 13.19 0.5 19.14 4.1	
Sun	01.42 0.8 07.27 3.8 13.57 0.7 19.48 4.0	
Mon	02.19 0.9 07.57 3.7 14.32 0.9 20.21 3.8	
Tues	02.54 1.1 08.27 3.5 15.06 1.1 20.54 3.6	
Wed	03.31 1.3 08.58 3.4 15.43 1.4 21.29 3.3	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

The Oban Times weather is brought to you in association with



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email: [enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk)

# **The following pages are from the Fort William (Northern) Edition of The Oban Times.**

The Oban Times prints two editions of the paper. There is the main edition as well as the Fort William (Northern) Edition.

Sometimes pages that appear in the Fort William edition do not appear in the main edition (and vice versa).

As an electronic subscriber you get the main edition plus the pages that appear in the Northern edition.

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8106

Thursday 2 August, 2012

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### Countdown to Isle of Skye Highland Games

PORTREE is gearing up to host the 135th Isle of Skye Highland Games next Wednesday. The Games are one of the highlights of the local calendar, regularly attracting thousands of visitors to 'The Lump', a natural amphitheatre above the town, to watch the heavy events, Highland dancing and piping competitions.

### Baseball bat fight trial postponed

THE TRIAL of two men accused of fighting with a baseball bat in Fort William has been postponed for a second time after two Crown witnesses failed to appear.

Sandy Campbell, aged 25, of 6 Brown Court, Fort William, and John Campbell, aged 43, of 40 Carlisle Road, Crawford, Biggar, deny behaving in a threatening or abusive manner by fighting in Brown Court and Campbell Court on March 24.

The case was delayed in late June after John Campbell was unable to attend Fort William Sheriff Court due to health reasons.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'I won't put this trial off again.'

The trial is now due to be held on September 13, with a hearing set for August 29.

### Organisers appeal to Belladrum music festival-goers

ORGANISERS of the Belladrum music festival are asking attendees to keep themselves and their friends safe this weekend.

The sold-out Beaulieu-based event is expected to draw 15,000 festival-goers and Northern Constabulary's Archie Henderson asked those attending to take precautions.

He said: 'The policing effort will be geared towards ensuring revellers enjoy themselves, without compromising their own or other's safety.'

'We will deal robustly with any instances of disorder, anti-social behaviour or drug misuse.'



Finlay and Sandy Cameron: trophy winners at Cruinneachadh Loch Abar. 20\_131piping01

## Roy Bridge piping brothers celebrate trophy success

ROY BRIDGE piping brothers Sandy and Finlay Campbell were among the trophy winners at the Cruinneachadh Loch Abar - The Lochaber Gathering Festival of Piping in the Nevis Centre, Fort William, on Saturday.

Sandy, 15, won the piobaireachd and march, strathspey and reel competitions while 10-year-old Finlay received a cup as youngest competitor.

Mum Rhona told *The Oban Times*: 'The boys really enjoyed their day, it was a really nice

competition. It's nice when they both win - wee brother is always chasing big brother!' Euan MacCrimmon from Inverness edged out Pipe Major Gordon Walker from Galston in the premier grade piobaireachd to take the coveted An Tuagh Oir - The Gold Axe. Meanwhile, competition judge Robert Wallace, principal of the College of Piping in Glasgow, issued a plea for more Lochaber pipers to come forward. See full coverage, page 3, and Letters, page 6.

## War tribute artist reported to police in Glen Nevis

### Artwork of Afghanistan memorial crosses taken down by council staff after complaint

AN ARTIST thought Glen Nevis was the perfect place to commemorate fallen British soldiers in Afghanistan - but ended up in Fort William Police Station after a complaint from the public.

Self-taught Brian Carey uses biodegradable plastic tubing to make 422 tiny crosses, each representing a British death in the 10-year war.

Tied with red, white and blue ribbon, the fragile memorials are inscribed with the soldier's name, place of death and how he or she died.

Most are khaki green. Purple crosses are in memory of the 10 most recent dead, blue marks out 'friendly fire' victims, pink denotes female victims and white honours the sniffer dogs killed. Mr Carey, 51, from Auchinleck in Ayrshire, has previously placed the artwork - entitled '422 Man/Woman Down' - on 'The Squinty Bridge' in Glasgow and next the A76 near his Ayrshire home without objection - but it was a different story in Lochaber.

The former lorry driver from Auchinleck arrived in Glen Nevis with wife Sheena last Wednesday to begin making the crosses at their tent.

Without prior permission, they put 50 on the River Nevis footbridge at the Highland Council-owned Glen Nevis Visitor Centre - but by Friday every one had gone.

Mr Carey called in to ask if anyone knew what had happened to the crosses, only to be told they had been removed and police informed.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'The guy in the visitor centre was pretty hostile. He was not interested at all in the cause of

### EXCLUSIVE

REPORT by  
STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

these soldiers who have lost their lives and said the police were looking for who had done it.

'I gave him my name and said I'll go straight down to the police station myself, which I did. I have had no problems anywhere except Lochaber.'

No action was taken against Mr Carey, who put more crosses up at Nevis Bridge and along the river nearby.

On Saturday he also fixed two dozen crosses to railings on High Street in the town's West End and found visitors and locals, including House of Clanjamfrid owner Drew Purdon, 'very supportive'.

Mr Carey said: 'When I told [Mr Purdon] what it was all about he was right behind it. I just want to make people more aware of what is happening and show



Brian and Sheena Carey putting up the artwork along the River Nevis footbridge.

support for the relatives.' Mr Purdon told *The Oban Times*: 'I don't know how anybody could have found it offensive.'

'I thought that it was rather sad that he was making a statement in a commemorative way and ended up being reported to police. Welcome to Fort William, the land of the free.'

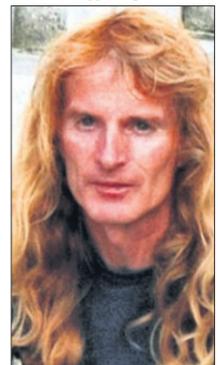
Mr Purdon added: 'It is very low profile, he did not make a song and dance about it and was only on hand to explain to people why they were there and the reasons for it. Sometimes it's easy to forget about what's going on out there, we have had

casualties here in the war.' A Highland Council spokesperson strongly disputed any suggestion staff were hostile towards Mr Carey and said a female visitor, not the council, had contacted police after becoming distressed at what Mr Carey was doing.

The spokesperson said: 'There was no way a member of staff was aggressive.'

'There was more than one witness to that and we gave him back all the crosses.'

'It was only in response to a complaint to police from a member of the public that we took them down.'



Brian Carey: Lochaber no more.

## Shinty returns to An Aird

AN AIRD in Fort William will host its first shinty game in over a year this Saturday when Kinlochshiel and Inveraray meet in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-final at 4.05pm.

The pitch, the home of Fort

William Shinty Club, has been out of commission since last July for repairs by Highland Council. The Fort has been forced to use Black Parks in Inverlochty since then. The match is live on BBC ALBA. See shinty, page 21.



**Smart & District Agricultural Society**  
**62nd Annual Show**  
at Strontian Show Field  
**Saturday 11 August 2012**  
Judging Commences 9:30am

- Highland Dancers
- Tug of War
- Craft Tent
- Chainsaw Carving
- Fire Brigade Display
- Produce Tent
- Sheaf Tossing
- Highland Games
- Riders of the Storm Stunt Team
- Sheep Dog Display
- Hill Race
- Archive Exhibition

Adults £5.00  
Under 16 and O.A.P £2.00 Family concessions

Marquee Dance to Gunna Sound  
Commencing 9.30pm Bar licence 'til late  
Entry Adults £5.00  
Under 16 must be accompanied by an Adult

## Sneak thief robs Corpach pensioner of beloved family photograph

A CORPACH pensioner who fears her purse was taken by a sneak thief on a Fort William bus says she hopes a 60-year-old photograph of her brother will be returned to her.

During a shopping trip to Fort William, Anne Inglis, aged 73, got off the bus after it stopped on Middle Street to give directions to a visitor - but accidentally left her purse and two empty shopping bags on the seat. The bus drove to the Plantation area and back before Ms Inglis could get back on to retrieve her belongings, by which

**EXCLUSIVE REPORT** by  
RICHARD HADDOCK  
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time they had disappeared. Mrs Inglis told *The Oban Times* she had asked the passengers and the driver about her bags, but no one had seen them.

She said: 'There was £80 in there, all my bank cards, my library card and my medical card. But there was also a photo of my brother when he was 16, that's what upsetting. I just want the photo

back. My brother lives in Australia, he's been out there for 40 years.'

She continued: 'There was less than 10 people on the bus when it happened, but I asked everyone and they said they hadn't seen my bags.'

The two distinctive shopping bags had embroidered pictures of cats on them and were bought from the Cat Protection League.

Police confirmed the bags and purse had been reported lost but said no one had come forward with any information.

## Holidaymakers break bones in bizarre double accident

TWO HOLIDAYMAKERS sustained broken bones in a bizarre double accident on Loch Leven-side on Sunday.

In the first incident, around 12pm, a man was run over by his own quad bike on steep ground below Loch Leven Chalets near Kinlochleven.

Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team was scrambled to stabilise and stretcher out the casualty, who had broken his leg. During the rescue, a woman in the

visitors' party ran to the man's aid - but fell and broke her shoulder. The woman was able to walk up to the waiting ambulance and both casualties were taken to the Belford Hospital in Fort William.

GMRT leader John Grieve told *The Oban Times*: 'He had put the foot down and the bike had run over his leg. It was a nasty open wound fracture. A family member then ran down to see if she could help and slipped and broke her shoulder.'

It was an awkward spot just 100 metres from the road. Nobody else could have stretched out the patient and it just shows it is very important for us to be around.'

GMRT was also called out on Saturday after a woman fell heavily at a waterfall while canyoning at Inchree.

Mr Grieve said: 'That's our fifth water incident so far this year.'

## Exciting postgraduate study available.

A range of postgraduate qualifications is offered by the Centre for Rural Childhood, Perth College UHI.

The offering includes taught Postgraduate Certificates in **Socio-Legal Issues of Childhood** and **Restorative Practice** delivered exclusively online and supported by highly qualified staff.

Applications from those interested in degrees by research in the field of **Socio-Legal Studies** are also welcome.

Informal course enquiries can be made to: [rebecca.wallace@perth.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:rebecca.wallace@perth.uhi.ac.uk) or Tel: 01738 877474

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FW

**Three-month drought leaves its mark**

RECENT showers have done little to alleviate exceptionally dry conditions in the Outer Isles, according to local reports. Retired policeman Angus MacQuarrie, who has a croft at Knockquien on the south end of North Uist, said the three-month drought has left its mark. He told *The Oban Times*: 'I have never known it to be so dry for such a long period as this. 'This year the lack of rain has decimated the machair for both field crops and flowers. It's really bad. We could do with a good day's rain.' Mr MacQuarrie is on the public supply but also has a private source of water. 'We have a croft well - and it's never dry,' he said.

**Agency agrees to island**

**motorcycle tests**  
BUDDING motorcyclists on Lewis will soon be able to sit their driving tests on the island. The Driving Standards Agency has agreed to allow the exams to be conducted on the island. Previously locals had to travel to the mainland to sit the test. Local MSP Angus Brendan MacNeil welcomed the news, saying: 'Previously, people wishing to take the motorcycle test had to travel to the mainland at great expense both financially and in terms of time. 'This was obviously unacceptable. 'Now that motorcycle tests can be taken on the Isle of Lewis, this will help ease the financial burden.'

**Phone call scam warning**

NORTHERN Constabulary is warning west Highlands residents to be wary of phone calls claiming to be from a bank. Reports have been made of individuals receiving calls claiming to be from their bank asking for account details, passwords and other sensitive information. A police spokesperson said: 'It is not normal banking practice to ask for details of accounts, passwords or PINs. 'If anyone believes they may have been the recipient of such a call, they should contact their bank through a genuine number which can be found on a bank statement or from the phone book.'



Stewart Stevenson, left, and crofter Seumas Macdonald view coastal erosion protection work at Daliburgh.



BSW mill manager Andy Rogers shows Richard Lochhead the new plant.

**Islanders continue fight to save coastline**

**Plea to minister for support**

SOUTH Uist islanders fighting to protect their coastline from climate change impacts have urged the Scottish Government to help secure their project's future. The plea came as environment and climate change minister Stewart Stevenson made his first visit to the island last Thursday. Mr Stevenson heard how coastal erosion caused by rising sea levels and more frequent storms are putting homes and livelihoods at risk. For the past year, the Lochboisdale Amenities Trust (LAT) and the local community have been planting trees and erecting sand blow fencing to counter the threat. Dunes guarding the machair have been strengthened using old fishing nets, fence posts and old fencing, and drainage systems in flood-prone low-lying land upgraded. Now LAT hopes it can secure public funding to continue its work for two more years - and expand it to North Uist,

By STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

Barra and Watersay. LAT spokesperson and local crofter Seumas MacDonald said: 'Our volunteers have done great work in helping to guard against any further erosion of our island's coastline. We're very grateful to them all. 'They've built sustainable coastal defences and have planted around 20,000 trees that will help dry out wet land and give shelter to crofting land so that crops and vegetables can grow better. **Impressed** 'We hope Stewart Stevenson will be impressed enough to do everything he can to make sure our work can continue. 'The stakes are very high. We're talking about the future of these islands and their people.' The Postcode Lottery and Oxfam Unwrapped have funded coastal protection works but now extra cash is needed to continue. Jim Boyle of Oxfam Scotland,

which has already pledged £40,000, said: 'The Minister recently announced the launch of the Scottish Climate Justice Fund, which will help fund this kind of work abroad. 'We believe the work in South Uist is a great example of that in our own country. 'Developing this successful project into a bigger programme to help other communities in the Western Isles will take additional investment - but we're already spending money to protect coastal communities.' Mr Stevenson told *The Oban Times* after his visit: 'I was very pleased to have the opportunity to visit Daliburgh and see first hand the coastal erosion that is taking place there, as well as some of the measures put in place by the local community to protect the site from further coastal erosion. 'Without action there is risk of further erosion and an increased risk of flooding so the work is vitally important to the area.'

**Check deer stalking online**

WALKERS planning to enjoy the west Highland hills are being advised to check online about deer stalking before heading out. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) is keen to minimise any potential problems between walkers and deer estates during the stag stalking season from July 1 to October 20. An SNH website, Heading for the Scottish Hills, give information on stalking activities on estates and suggested walking routes. Richard Cooke, chairman of the Association of Deer Management Groups, said: 'The number of people going to the Scottish hills for recreation has increased steadily over recent years and in some cases that can make it difficult for deer managers, particularly during the autumn period. 'There is no reason why both walkers and stalkers can't share the hills, but the need is for more readily available information so that all hill goers can take account of the needs of others.' For details, visit [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/hfsh](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/hfsh).

**Community transport grant applications sought**

HIGHLAND Council is inviting grant applications from voluntary groups to operate community transport projects for 2013-2014. Nineteen voluntary groups currently running schemes will be able to apply for new revenue funding. Examples include community car schemes, group travel schemes, minibus hire schemes and a community ferry. Bids from groups starting up new projects are also welcomed. The fund distributed £350,000 in the current financial year.

**Gaelic centre cash boost**

SOUTH Uist has moved a further step towards the creation of a dedicated cultural centre for Gaelic with a Scottish Government grant of £5,000. The additional funding, announced by Education Secretary Michael Russell, will help local Gaelic music and dance summer school organisers Ceòlas develop the proposal. It is estimated the centre could generate an additional £2 million for the local economy and create 50 jobs.

**Visit marks next stage of sawmill's multi-million pound investment**

BSW TIMBER'S Fort William sawmill welcomed Richard Lochhead, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Environment, last Wednesday to mark the next stage of a £37 million five-year investment programme. The Minister was taken for a tour of the site by director Alex Brownlie and mill manager Andy Rogers. Mr Brownlie said: 'Thanks to our improved efficiencies, we are now producing more home-grown timber here than ever before, leading to increased sustainable use in

expanding UK markets such as timber frame houses and the repairs, maintenance and improvements sector. One of the points that we clearly made to the Minister was that this increased use is dependent on there being an appropriate level of expansion of productive woodland across Scotland to meet the future needs of our industry.' Mr Lochhead said: 'BSW's investment here will bring significant economic benefits both to Fort William and the wider west Highlands, maximising the use of our local forest resource.'

BSW's Fort William site employs 162 staff, making it one of the largest employers in the area, and produces around 160,000 cubic metres of sawn timber each year. Work on the new sawmill is due to be complete by early 2013, which includes two new biomass boilers fuelled by low value waste wood that is generated in the production process. Mr Lochhead also visited biomass boiler company HW Energy's base at Torlundy near Fort William and met local crofters in Glencoe to discuss the work of the new Crofting Commission.

**Young Piper of the Year competition**

THE HIGHLANDS and Islands Young Piper of the Year competition at Sgoil Lionacleit in Benbecula on July 19 was well attended by enthusiastic competitors for all events and categories. Overall winner this year was Ashley McMichael from Antrim, Northern Ireland. Worthy of special mention this year were Connor Sinclair from Crieff who, although aged only 16, competed in the senior/under 30 category and took second place in the March and third place in the Strathspey and Reel. Also, Michael Steele of South Uist took overall first place in the under 18 category, the first time in 10 years a local player has achieved this success. And talented young piper Brighde Chaimbeul from Kyle swept the boards in the under-15 category. As usual competitors travelled from the USA, Canada, New Zealand, Ireland as well as from various parts of mainland Scotland. Following the competition, many of the winners and competitors played at the ever-popular Piper's Ceilidh in The Dark Island Hotel where their talents were appreciated in a convivial atmosphere.



Brighde Chaimbeul swept the boards in the under-15 category at Sgoil Lionacleit. Councillor Donnie Steele gives his congratulations. Photo: Ann Paipgear.



Michael Steele from South Uist took first place overall in the under-18 category. Photo: Ann Paipgear.

Young Piper competition results:  
Open chanter - 1 Alasdair Iain MacIsaac; 2 Aoife O'Boaighill; 3 Eosaph Caimbeul; 4 Calum Craib. Novice piping - 1 Fergus MacVicar; 2 Alexander M Anderson; 3 Kirsty MacLean; 4 Cailean Martindale.  
Under 15:  
March - 1 Brighde Chaimbeul; 2 Seumas O'Boaighill; 3 Anndra MacIsaac; 4 Cameron Sharp. Strathspey and Reel - 1 Brighde Chaimbeul; 2 Anndra MacIsaac; 3 Cameron Sharp; 4 Katie MacDonald. Jig - 1 Brighde Chaimbeul; 2 Seumas O'Boaighill; 3 Cameron Sharp; 4 Anndra MacIsaac. Ceol Mor - 1 Brighde Chaimbeul; 2 Seumas O'Boaighill; 3 Robbie MacIsaac; 4 Cameron Sharp. Overall under 15 winner - Brighde Chaimbeul. Local winner - Anndra MacIsaac.  
Under 18:  
March - 1 Michael Steele; 2 Mairi MacInnes; 3 Alasdair Steele; 4 Eireann Iannetta-MacKay. Strathspey and Reel - 1 Eireann Iannetta-MacKay; 2 Seumas Campbell; 3 Fiona MacLennan; 4 Haley MacKay. Hornpipe and Jig - 1 Michael Steele; 2 Haley MacKay; 3 Fiona MacLennan; 4 Seumas Campbell. Ceol Mor - 1 Eireann Iannetta-MacKay; 2 Mairi MacInnes; 3 Michael Steele; 4 Fiona MacLennan.  
Overall and local under 18 winner - Michael Steele.  
Senior under 30:  
Ceol Mor - 1 Andrew Carlisle; 2 Jamie Forrester; 3 Jamie Hawke; 4 Derek Midgley. March - 1 Greig David Canning; 2 Connor Sinclair; 3 Ashley McMichael; 4 Derek Midgley. Strathspey and Reel - 1 Derek Midgley; 2 Ashley McMichael; 3 Connor Sinclair; 4 Jamie Forrester. Hornpipe and Jig - 1 Ashley McMichael; 2 Jamie Forrester; 3 Andrew Carlisle; 4 Matt Wilson. Highlands and Islands Young Piper of the Year 2012 - Ashley McMichael.



**Dancers step out with Swedish friends**

Scottish Country dancers from Kilmallie welcomed old friends from Sweden for a ceilidh recently. A group from Tyreso in Stockholm originally visited Lochaber in 2008 and after asking where they could find a local dance were directed to Kilmallie Scottish Country Dance Club. The visitors returned the following year and in 2010 a group of Kilmallie dancers visited Sweden for a week-long dancing holiday. This year the Swedes climbed Ben Nevis before enjoying a ceilidh at the Ben Nevis Inn. Kilmallie club member Andrew Bootman said: 'It was an excellent evening. We all really enjoyed it and it rounded off their holiday.'

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# Oban ring road plan 'on back burner'

## Development road not council's immediate goal

ONE of Oban's key existing improvement aspects, the Oban Development Road, has been 'put on the back burner' for an indefinite period.

Local councillor and deputy lead councillor for infrastructure and tourism Louise Glen-Lee this week said the plan is no longer part of the authority's immediate goals and will instead concentrate on 'getting the simple things right' as it embarks on a 'long-term' programme of improvement for the area.

The road had been a key plan to help drive growth in Oban and Dunbeg in proposals set out by the council's previous administration, but faces an indefinite abeyance while the new administration focuses on Lorn 2030 - a long term development project for the area.

Councillor Glen-Lee said: 'The development road is on the back burner now. We're certainly not planning on it for the next five years. We're now planning for Lorn 2030. Our priority is

**"In the long term we have to see some sort of road that encircles Oban."**

**businessman Graham MacQueen**

making sure we do the simple things right first. To take the development road forward we need to have all the other things in place; a well developed Dunbeg, a high school that's suitable and to have quality employment opportunities for local people. When all these things are in place the development road is a must.

'In the short term we have to have the right things in place.

'However, we will have the new roundabout which could lead to a new hotel complex at Dunbeg and that's something that could have real substance for Oban.' The revised plans to develop the town will be discussed at a

## Oban road 'not good enough'

A PLAN to patch pot holes on the main entrance into Oban, the Bealach-an-Righ, in October is 'not good enough', according to Argyll and Bute's MP.

**Cross party agreement**

Alan Reid has written to transport minister, Keith Brown, to request additional funding be given to trunk roads operator, Scotland Transerv, after he was told budget cuts meant a full resurfacing scheme has been reduced to a patching operation.

The Liberal Democrat's call has been backed by the council's

deputy lead councillor for tourism and infrastructure, SNP councillor Louise Glen Lee.

Mr Reid said: 'The Bealach-an-Righ is the entrance to Oban and its terrible condition gives a very poor first impression to visitors. Reducing the proposed from full repair to patching is not good enough.'

Mrs Glen Lee said: 'Mr Reid is absolutely right.

'Oban is a beautiful town and it deserves a beautiful entrance.'

Transport Scotland said: 'We have received Mr Reid's letter and will respond shortly.'

CHORD project board meeting on August 6, she said.

Former transport spokesman and now opposition councillor Duncan MacIntyre was a key figure in devising the development road.

Local businessman Graham MacQueen, chairman of the BID4OBAN steering group, believes Mr MacIntyre's plan was the right one and is disappointed to hear the road had been postponed. He said: 'I just feel the roads are a big issue and councillor MacIntyre recognised that. The roads limit the development of the town.'

'In the long term we have to see some sort of road that encircles Oban.'

## New Coll Hall's 'part-time' manager quits 'full-time' job

THE woman employed to manage Coll's new £2.5million hall, An Cridhe, has quit after just three months.

Marianne Ings was employed on a 16-hour-per-week contract to run the new community hub, moving from the mainland to oversee the running of the hall and the bunkhouse.

She started the job on May 1, but decided to stand down from the position last Wednesday after claiming it 'simply cannot be done' within the 16 hours.

Marianne, who hasn't had a day off since June 10, said: 'The job isn't do-able in the hours contracted. I tried really hard and at one point managed to work an 18 hour week, but it simply cannot be done.'

'I think I've worked double



## High winds and high excitement at Tiree Regatta

WITH showers and gusty forecasts, Tiree's 2012 regatta, was described as the toughest in the last 20 years - but the weather failed to dampen spirits.

The event last Saturday got off to a bright start in Scarinish Harbour, with conditions dry and sunny.

Winners of the raft race at Tiree regatta were the Somerville Team.

The forecast had put off a few boats but among the fleet were four of the classic Tiree dipping lugs, which are now a rare sight on the Scottish regatta scene.

As the boats sailed off, winds freshened and in tough sailing conditions the dinghies finished in record time.

However, the high winds proved too much for the dipping lugs, with one of them, *Daisy*, skippered by Iain Macdonald, had a mast snap and was forced to withdraw. As conditions worsened all bar one failed to round the final mark. Donnie MacInnes, skipper of the sole

finisher, the *Mary*, revealed local knowledge passed on from his father had allowed him to steer a course back to shore.

Finn Macdonald, aged 11, helming his Pico with dad as crew, followed his success in last year's centenary regatta by winning the dinghy class.

## Isle of Islay outrage at loss of MV Finlaggan

NEWS that *MV Finlaggan* will be removed from its established Islay route during the winter period has outraged islanders, who say it will adversely affect the island's commercial activity.

CalMac plans to remove the *Finlaggan* from December until Easter to cover its winter refit schedule, while maintaining the two-vessel service on Islay by redeploying the smaller *MV Lord of the Isles* to the island.

The ferry company also denies promising islanders that the *Finlaggan* would never be removed from Islay routes.

Islay Community Council vice-chairwoman Roberta MacNeill said: 'The main issue is about the reduced capacity on the *Lord of the Isles* but people also feel let down and disheartened that the boat has

been taken away.'

A spokesman for CalMac said the reshuffle was required to make sure other islands were not left without a ferry for days on end.

He added: 'Reshuffling the fleet to maintain service levels during the winter refit period is a major challenge because we have limited flexibility within the fleet, and this is especially true on the routes which are traditionally operated by our larger vessels.'

'We recognise that Islay will be disappointed to lose *MV Finlaggan*, but hope they will recognise that we have to balance the needs of the whole network.'

CalMac is currently considering how best to deploy its spare ferry, the *MV Isle of Arran*.

## Argyll and Bute Council clarifies 'spygate' investigation bill

SPYING investigator, John Clayton, billed for 61 full days work when looking into allegations against communications manager, Jo Smith, Argyll and Bute Council has said.

The authority has rejected claims Mr Clayton had only billed for 14 days work after concluding his investigation in May, further adding executive director of development and infrastructure, Sandy MacTaggart, appointed Mr Clayton after being appointed disciplinary investigation officer.

The *Oban Times* learned Mr Clayton was paid £29,121.88 over the course of his investigation, including sustenance and expenses.

## Man denies stealing Taynuilt car theft

A MAN denied stealing car keys from a visitor's room in the Taynuilt before driving their car into three parked vehicles when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week.

David Killin, aged 30, is accused of stealing the car, an eReader tablet computer and a cheque for £200 on July 24.

He is also charged with attempting to drive the vehicle while unfit to drive through drink or drugs. There are a total of eight charges against Mr Killin, including possession of the class C drug diazepam and other driving offences.

An intermediate diet was set for August 9, with a trial diet of August 20.

## Otter statue stolen from Isle of Mull

A LARGE bronze statue of an otter has been stolen from Mull Pottery in Tobermory, Isle of Mull.

The statue was taken between July 20 and 24.

Anyone who has any information regarding the theft, or noticed anyone acting suspiciously near the premises between the dates of the offence should contact PC Donald MacCush at Tobermory Police Station.

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# Outrage as carer joins Oban-based website that mocks disabled

CONCERNS have been raised over the care system in Argyll after a carer in Oban publicly joined a website that mocked people with disabilities.

The carer, who has years of experience, joined the website last week, ahead of a community campaign to have the page taken

down over its abusive content.

**Questions asked**

Concerns about the conduct of the carer were raised with *The Oban Times* by an individual who has worked in the industry locally for more than 15 years.

The correspondent, who wished to remain anonymous,

said: "What disturbs me is that a carer would join this page at all. Its intent was pretty obvious. To me, the feelings of those who need care come first."

"To me, it brings into question what sort of background checks are being carried out on people who are employed to look after

those with specific needs."

Local councillor and former carer Louise Glen-Lee joined those condemning the page and the actions of the carer. She said: "We cannot have anyone who doesn't believe in someone's potential working in the care system. We have to believe in

the very best of people. That's why this appalls me. This website has knocked people's confidence and carers are supposed to build confidence."

"We are a wonderful, accepting town and the people of Oban have shown this page is not acceptable."

The employer of the carer who joined the page is to look into the incident.

A spokeswoman for the company said: "We take this matter extremely seriously as we do not tolerate bullying or abuse in any form. We will be carrying out a full investigation

to establish if any members of staff have been involved."

The page was stripped bare on Monday night after widespread condemnation across the community.

A total of 362 people had 'liked' the page at its peak.

## Oban woman stole from supermarket

A WOMAN who breached the terms of her probation by stealing £14.12 worth of goods from an Oban supermarket has narrowly escaped jail.

Susannah McCuish, of 5 Combie Court, Oban, had previously admitted stealing from the store on March 21. She had £18 in her purse at the time of her arrest.

McCuish appeared for sentencing at Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday, where she further admitted breaching probation imposed as part of a sentence handed down in October last year for falsely claiming £2,800 in child benefit.

Sentencing, Sheriff Douglas Small revoked the probation order and imposed two new community payback orders of 90 hours and 60 hours, to run consecutively. He also continued the compensation order, ordering McCuish to pay back the remaining £2,710 owed to the Department of Work and Pensions. He said: "The social work report points to an entrenched pattern of dishonesty. I think a lot of people have tried to work with her quite unsuccessfully. If she comes back again on breach I will have no alternative but to send her to Cornton Vale."

# October date for Oban's BID decision

## Ballot paper to be sent out to town businesses this month

COMPANIES in Oban will be asked in October whether or not to create a Business Improvement District (BID) in the town.

The announcement of the date of the ballot, on Friday October 5, came following formal confirmation that neither Argyll and Bute Council or the Scottish Government would veto the proposal.

It means the final procedural hurdle in the path of the plan - which would see local businesses within the 30mph limit investing collectively to improve Oban's trading environment - has now been crossed.

The decision over whether to actually go ahead and create the BID is now solely in the hands of the town's businesses themselves.

Graham MacQueen, chairman of the BID4OBAN steering group overseeing the proposal, said an increasing number of business figures in the town were indicating their support for the scheme.

**"We believe this scheme has the potential to transform the trading environment of our town environment"**

**chairman Graham MacQueen**

He said: "We believe this scheme has the potential to transform the trading environment of our town, but we obviously need a positive ballot result to get it up and running."

"I and the rest of the steering group will now be renewing our efforts to make sure every business in Oban is familiar with the five year business plan and what it seeks to achieve before the ballot is issued."

"This is an extremely exciting time for Oban. I believe the BID is an opportunity not to be missed, and I am very hopeful of

a positive ballot outcome and of the town going from strength to strength in the future."

If the proposal is agreed, all businesses with a rateable value property of £3,000 or over within the BID boundary would contribute through a modest but compulsory levy.

Subject to a successful ballot, Argyll and Bute Council has already agreed to provide financial support of £20,000 a year for the five year duration of the scheme, as well as an estimated £4,500 annual levy as the occupant of multiple business premises in the town.

Ballot papers will be sent to businesses on August 24, ahead of the October 5 vote.

If successful, the BID will start on October 31 and run for five years.

The BID system is already in operation in 11 other Scottish towns. A copy of BID4OBAN's proposals and a copy of the approved plan can be found at [www.bid4oban.co.uk](http://www.bid4oban.co.uk).



Lorn Show president Duncan Buchanan is looking forward to this Saturday's show at the spectacular beachfront setting

## Show opts for spectacular beach setting

LORN Show makes a welcome return to Benderloch this weekend, right on the sandy shores of Tralee Bay.

Show president Duncan Buchanan was putting the finishing touches to the new show field on the Keil common grazings on Sunday but promised a day of entertainment for all the

family at what is one of the most picturesque locations on the show circuit.

As is traditional, family fun will be combined with one of the finest agricultural events in the area, with a healthy showing of cattle and sheep expected for the full stock judging competition, which starts at 10am.

Duncan said there was a lot of promise for the event's new home and urged people to come join the fun. He said: "It's a welcome return to Benderloch for the show. It's not been here for 30 years."

"We've got a few new events lined up, such as the back-to-front bicycle competition, a

tractor pull and there will be quad bikes with buggys for the children."

Sheaf tossing and a young handlers' competition are new additions to the show, while the old favourites, of dog show, bonnie baby competition, climbing wall, terrier racing and tombola stalls will be on hand.

## Spot Oor Wullie in Oban

OBAN is set to feature in Oor Wullie's latest adventures, as one of 16 locations in Scotland where you can find him and his pals.

In Whaur's Oor Wullie, published by Waverley Books this month, Scotland's favourite boy travels around Scotland's most famous and popular places with some of the familiar characters who appear in his weekly comic strip. The challenge is to spot them in the crowd - with Oban, The Gateway to the Isles, listed as one of Scotland's most famous locations. Each spread is illustrated in full colour with a list of items and characters to spot.

**Repeat offender avoids jail for six months at least**

A MOTHER of five who has notched up 71 previous convictions has been ordered to behave herself for six months - or be sent to jail again.

Patricia McGuire, 48, whose address was given in court as Room 10, Shore Street Flats, Shore Street, Oban, appeared at the town's sheriff court last Tuesday awaiting sentencing for behaving in a threatening and abusive manner on June 26.

Ordering McGuire, who previously pled guilty, to come back to the court in February, Sheriff Douglas Small said: "I'm really at a loss as to what I should do with you. I don't want to send you to jail because it's a last resort. I will instead defer sentence for six months on the understanding that if you don't behave, you will be sent to Cornton Vale."

## Play/Talk/Read roadshow for Oban

A CAMPAIGN aimed at encouraging parents and carers to play, talk and read more with their babies and young children is coming to Argyll and Bute.

The Play/Talk/Read roadshow is coming to Oban and Lochgilphead and will have Bookbug stories, song and rhyme sessions as well as fun and free play. The campaign aims to highlight the importance of early positive interaction with children.

The Play Talk Read bus will be in George Street, Oban, on August 21; Oban Primary Campus on August 22 and in Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, on August 23. Opening times are between 9am and 12.30pm and between 1.30pm and 5pm.

Lead councillor for education and lifelong learning Michael Breslin said: "The aim of this project is to offer practical support and ideas on how to create the best foundations for children's development. I encourage parents and carers to come along."

For more information check [www.playtalkread.org](http://www.playtalkread.org).

**Jubilee trees go free to groups**

THE WOODLAND Trust Scotland is giving out free trees to schools and community groups throughout the year of the Diamond Jubilee.

Across Scotland a total of 102,000 trees have already been given, 5,700 of them to Argyll and Bute. By the end of this year around 6 million trees will have been given away throughout the UK, two million of these to Scotland. Carol Evans, director of the Woodland Trust Scotland, said: "Communities across Scotland are not only making an amazing difference now, they are investing in the long-term benefits trees will provide such as shade and shelter and homes for wildlife."

IKEA, Biffa Award, the People's Postcode Lottery and Sainsbury's are sponsoring the tree packs. Register online by August 20 to receive a medium (105 trees) or large pack (420 trees). Register online by October to receive a small pack (60 trees).

**Man admits ex-girlfriend abuse**

A MAN who hurled abuse at his ex-girlfriend before returning home and discarding her clothes was fined £200 at Oban Sheriff Court.

Lucasz Kaczorowski, 26, of 5C Burnbank Terrace, Oban, pled guilty to the offences when he appeared at the court last week.

## Oban parking trial costs remain unknown

THE SUM of money being paid to Strathclyde Police during a trial to issue on-street parking tickets will not yet be revealed to the public.

According to Argyll and Bute Council, which is funding the three-month trial, the amount it will spend on the service level agreement with the police is not finalised, but would be made available in a report on the conclusion of the trial in September.

As of July 9 police in Oban have been issuing tickets to drivers who do not pay and display in marked on-street parking bays.

Officers issued 51 penalty

tickets in the first week of the pilot, 76 tickets in the second week and 31 in the third week.

Douglas Hendry, the council's executive director of customer services, said the council will wait to find out the man-hours police have allocated to the pilot before making their payments public.

He said: "The main point is that this is a partnership that we are making a contribution to."

"We would expect the final report that comes in front of elected members to show all the relevant information, including how much the council spent."

## Injured rugby player to tackle 96-mile journey in just 45 hours for charity

A RUGBY player is to overcome serious neck and shoulder injuries to walk the West Highland Way to fundraise for autism and leukaemia charities.

Michael MacDonald, 23, will start the walk from Fort William on August 21 and end in Milngavie, continuing onto Edinburgh by bike, a total journey of 96 miles - in just 45 hours.

Michael, who is originally from Oban but now lives in Edinburgh, sustained career-threatening injuries after landing on his neck while playing for Stirling against Dundee in March.

The nerve endings in Michael's neck were damaged to the extent that he thought his rugby career might be over, however, he is making steady progress back to fitness.

"I'm completely up for it," said Michael. "I've been walking 12 miles every day, going to the gym for endurance and weight exercises and even started a special diet."



Michael MacDonald has overcome a serious rugby injury to tackle the West Highland Way.

that are personal to him and his family, including Scottish Autism.

He said: "My brother, Murray, suffers from autism and the charity has done so much for him. They helped him five days a week for about seven to eight years and have moulded him to become a more independent person. They deserve a huge pat on the back."

The second charity is Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research, as Michael lost his father, Kenny, to cancer in June 2010.

"I want to raise awareness about these illnesses because it's important that people get the help they need early on in the process."

The Stirling University student, who is in the final year of a journalism degree, said he had ambitions to return to playing and coaching rugby.

If you wish to donate you can go to [www.justgiving.com/Michael-MacDonald](http://www.justgiving.com/Michael-MacDonald).

## Seil windfarm developer offers local community 'buy-in' option

THE DEVELOPER behind a controversial windfarm at Clachan Seil is giving residents in the area the opportunity to buy into the project.

Rory Young's planning application to erect nine turbines at Clachan Seil has received a number of objections, following a campaign in opposition to the plan from People Against Clachan Turbine (PACT).

However, Mr Young, of Clachan Community Energy, says he has local support and has now given residents the chance to invest in the development for as little as £5, with the possibility of an additional £80,000 annual payout for community projects.

However, a PACT spokesman labelled the gesture as "unpleasant", adding: "It has the obvious effect of dividing people."



Gordon Muir, manager of Tarbert Estate on Jura, shows his strength in the hammer throw at Ardluss Sports last Saturday. The annual sporting event sees contestants take part in a variety of competitions, from 'Tattie on spoon race', through to the relay, high jump, barrel rolling or the open mile race. Picture - Konrad Borkowski

## Inveraray lead Argyll raid on Euro pipe band championships

INVERARAY led an Argyll assault on the European Pipe Band Championships in Belfast last weekend as all bands returned promising results.

At the competition on Saturday, Inveraray and District Pipe Band's juvenile band came second, while the senior band finished fourth in grade one.

Although Inveraray and District tied on points with Scottish Power in grade one, the Royal Burgh won fourth place by virtue of ensemble preference.

Jim McMillan, secretary of Inveraray and District Pipe Band, said: "We are happy with our performances and we feel we

are getting stronger with every competition. Since our results on Saturday at the 'Euros' we have become more confident for the world championships."

"The bands gave two excellent performances. The juvenile band, which has been in the same grade for years, has improved after securing second place."

"As for the senior band, we have finished in the top three in our last two competitions."

Oban High School's novice juvenile band came fourth in its category while its juvenile band finished fourth. Oban Pipe Band came 13th in grade two.

Isle of Islay Pipe Band came

second in grade 3A and piper Andrew McEachern said the group was delighted with the result. He added: "We are all very pleased with the result, it feels amazing. We were all happy - until the bus broke down on the way home."

"We are happy to get placed at all; there were a lot of good bands there. We have already come first place at the Scottish championships, sixth at the British championships and now second at the Europeans. Hopefully we'll go up a place for the world championships in Glasgow."

Kintyre Schools Pipe Band came fifth in the juvenile grade.

## Bagpipes on the battlements as Piping Live! comes to Dunollie

Traditional music in iconic surroundings

A TRADITIONAL fusion of bagpipes and battlements will find itself at Dunollie Castle tomorrow (Friday) - before the Oban High School Pipe Band head to Glasgow in return.

The Piping Live! Festival on Tour will come to the castle's 1745 House from 2pm as part of a tour of some of Scotland's most striking historical landmarks.

Piping champion Angus MacColl will perform music associated with the historical site.

Organisers promise their appearance at the Oban venue will offer an opportunity to enjoy the best of Scotland's traditional music captured in iconic historical surroundings.

Attendees can even have a go at our national instrument, with sample lessons from some of the world's greatest pipers.

Then, Piping Live! returns to the Glasgow International Piping Festival in Glasgow between August 6-12, with the band part of a star-studded line-up.

Now in its ninth year, the festival is the biggest of its kind in the world, with thousands of music fans, musicians and pipers from around the globe descending upon Glasgow for the week-long celebration of traditional and modern piping music.

Piping Live! director Roddy MacLeod said: "We are delighted to be part of the year of Creative Scotland and to give audiences across Scotland a taster of what Piping Live! has to offer."

"We look forward to bringing the instrument to new audiences and encouraging the public to pick up the pipes themselves."

"At Piping Live! we programme an exciting range of events to showcase all aspects of the instrument from the traditional to the contemporary and Piping Live! on Tour will give a little taster of the event from the crème de la crème of our finest solo pipers."

For more information, see [www.pipinglive.co.uk](http://www.pipinglive.co.uk).

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## Kilchoan Regatta - a great success

**SAILING**

THE 29<sup>th</sup> annual Kilchoan Regatta was a great success with the number of race entries, spectators and the attendance at the dance all up on last year.

The two-day event saw a good breeze gusting up to force five at times, which provided great competitive racing.

Team Colville once again went on to win the prestigious New Zealand Cup on Thursday and the Glashven Cup on Friday.

Martin Holt and Geoff Campbell had a close battle in their lasers and although both capsized on the first round, Martin Holt was the winner.

This year there were more canoeists than rowers, and more junior entrants than seniors.

After the racing a barbecue was held in the two new marquees which have been jointly purchased by the Kilchoan Show committee and Kilchoan Kayaking Club.

There was home-baking, jewellery, guess the weight of the submerged live lobster, guess the sailor doll's lucky number and the grand prize draw, featuring an amazing hamper donated by the Gane family.

## Good win for Fort William cricketers

**CRICKET**

FORT William Cricket Club's reserve side ran out comfortable winners over Forres last Saturday, winning by three wickets.

With a wet outfield, Forres opened cautiously. Col Lavin and Graham Allison set the pattern by bowling good line and length, but Fort had to wait patiently until the 13 over when the opening stand was finally broken with the score on 25.

Forres eventually closed on 80-9.

In reply, Fort accumulated runs with George Rodger outstanding in scoring 25 in 30 overs at the crease. He was well supported by Ronnie Maclean (15) and Colin Morley (11), before the Lavin brothers, Ross and Nick, saw Fort safely home with a score of 81-6 from 35 overs.

Captain Col Lavin said: 'The team adapted well to the conditions. It was a pleasing performance, a win achieved with great team spirit.'

The seniors had been due to play at Keith but the game was postponed. This weekend the senior side welcome Ross County, while the reserves travel to Fort Augustus.

## Dragon's Tooth GC

**GOLF**

DRAGON'S TOOTH Golf Club's annual open competition was won by K Carmichael, with a score of 39 points. W Bryce finished second with 36 points and J Cameron third with 35.

In the ladies contest, R Macintyre won a close competition by one point from J Fraser. A Munro was three points back in third.

## No winners

**LOTTERY**

THERE were no winners in the Fort William FC lotto draw at the weekend. Numbers were 6-8-16. The jackpot is now £800

# Fort face tough Scottish Cup tie against Preston Athletic

Squad was down to the bare bones in 4-1 defeat to Lossie last Saturday

**REPORT BY STEPHEN NORRIS**  
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FORT WILLIAM FC boss Danny Conlon is looking to field a strengthened team against Preston Athletic in the preliminary round of the Scottish Cup at Claggan Park on Saturday.

Conlon was down to the bare bones in the 4-1 home defeat to Lossiemouth in the The AJG Parcels North of Scotland Cup first round last weekend - and it showed.

His mostly teenage team fought

hard and got on the scoresheet and generally defended well, but failed to capitalise on the few chances that came their way.

Now Fort's second cup-tie in a week looms - and the East of Scotland Football League outfit are a daunting prospect.

Fort will have to pull out all the stops to have any kind of a chance - and with few experienced players available that will be no simple task.

Conlon was sanguine about defeat to Lossie and said adding to the player pool is a big priority.



Fort's Graeme Bamber can't stop Ross Archibald knocking home Lossie's opener. 20\_F31for101

He told the Oban Times pitchside: 'I think we started the game reasonably well but we have nothing to complain about with the result. They were by far the better side and created a few more chances than us.'

**Young team**  
'I had to put out a very young team - we only had three players over the age of 20. We have so many players out - Michael Gillespie, Darren Quigg, Andy Martin were all missing. They are three big players for us and

there's no way we could do without them.'

'Graeme Bamber has finished with football, but he came back today because of lack of numbers. The two cup-ties have come far too early for us.'

'Probably I might have somebody from Ross County on a loan basis by next Saturday and that will give us a bit of strength in the squad, and we clearly need that. Thanks must go to Graeme and Jonathan Hewitt for helping us out. Without these boys we

would not have had a squad today.'

Against Lossie, Fort were undone by a Ross Archibald hat-trick in the first 15 minutes with a clever chip past Jay Smith.

**Dominant**  
Lossie continued to dominate but out of the blue Lewis Corbett found time and space to float a glorious 25-yarder into the top left hand corner for 1-1.

Fort needed to consolidate, but within a minute were behind again as Smith's studs caught

## FOOTBALL

in the turf and the prone keeper could only watch in despair as Kevin Grant's speculative 35-yarder rolled into the net.

Barker scored a great chance to level in 54 minutes after Grant had teed him up and Archibald made Fort pay by grabbing two more.

Final word went to Jay Smith, who somehow kept out Tony Ross's point blank header.



Fort keeper Jay Smith gets down bravely to snuff out the danger. 20\_F31for102

# Lochaber Phoenix boxers back in pre-season training

**GOLF**

LOCHABER Phoenix Boxing Club has re-opened for business after the summer break as pre-season got underway in earnest last week.

The boxing club, based at Unit 20A Ben Nevis Industrial Estate in Fort William, holds sessions both for boxers only and anyone with interest in boxing training for fitness.

Coach Niall Clark is hopeful the club can build on the success of recent seasons.

He told the Oban Times: 'We've been lucky enough in the last few years at the club to have boxers with a great work ethic helping us to produce champions at various different levels.'

'That success seems to breed success as other boxers see the benefits of working hard and in turn take these lessons on board and show big improvements.'

'Because of these we have a great belief that the upcoming season could become our most successful yet.'

'It's not only the experienced boxers we look forward to improving this season but are always looking for new members. Age is not a factor as anybody from ten years old upwards is more than welcome as we are always eager to add to our club.'

Meanwhile, club delegate Steve

Training times for under-16s are Mondays and Wednesdays 5.20-6.45pm and for over 16s from 6.30-8.00pm the same evenings. Sessions for all ages are on Sunday from midday to 1.30pm.

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## GOLF

Docherty is hard at work arranging the club's annual training camp, this time in Manchester where he hopes to organise training sessions at three or four different boxing gyms.

Steve said: 'As well as our gym sessions we have an appointment with world renowned nutritionist Kerry Kayes as we are trying every avenue to help our boxers gain success.'

'With over ten boxers from twelve years old to one in his thirties this will prove to be a great start to the seasons for the boys and a great learning experience.'

## TV partnership

**FOOTBALL**

BBC ALBA and the Scottish Football League (SFL) have agreed a new three-year broadcast partnership which will see the channel continue to provide exclusive coverage of the Ramsdens Challenge Cup.

The deal continues a partnership that has existed since 2008.



Agnes Thain and Alan Lawrie ran out winners in the Brian Hamilton Pairs competition held at the Railway Bowling Club and Lochaber Bowling Club greens. Pictured are the winners, runners up and the Hamilton family.

## News and results from Fort William Golf Club

**GOLF**

TWO COMPETITIONS were held at Fort William Golf Club on Saturday, with the following results:

E. Howie ladies competition saw Iona Cameron win by nine strokes after a net score of 78 (93-15). Helen Brian was second with a round of 87 (106-19).

The Vice Captain's Prize saw

Willie Duncan win by one stroke with a net 64 (76-12). Andrew Brown was second with a round of 65 (77-12 BIH) with James Macintyre third also on 65 (72-7).

## Showplay

The club hosted a white box showplay competition on Sunday, with club champion

Duncan Rodger taking a narrow win.

Rodger's net score of 70 was tied by second place man Toby Richardson, but Rodger's better inward nine gave him the win.

Dougie Duncan finished in third place with a net score of 74.

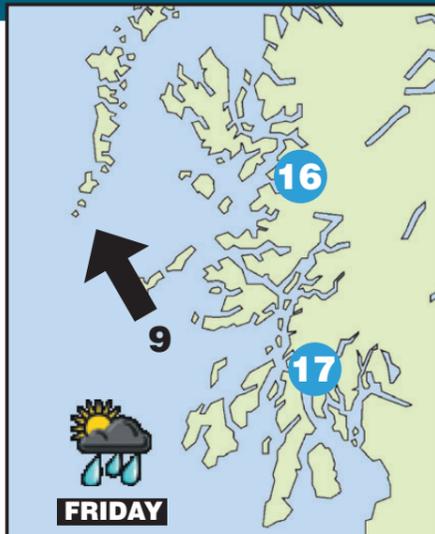
## Weather

**Thursday** Sunny  
Winds moderate southerly  
Temperatures 13°C to 18°C

**Friday** Heavy rain showers  
Winds light south easterly  
Temperatures 12°C to 17°C.

**Weekend** Heavy rain showers  
**Outlook** Winds light north westerly  
Temperatures 13°C to 18°C.

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**  
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate  
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate  
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



## Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 2, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	05.47 3.7 11.59 0.6 10.03 1.2 ** ** *	
Fri	00.23 0.7 06.21 3.8 12.40 0.5 18.39 4.2	
Sat	01.04 0.7 06.55 3.8 13.19 0.5 19.14 4.1	
Sun	01.42 0.8 07.27 3.8 13.57 0.7 19.48 4.0	
Mon	02.19 0.9 07.57 3.7 14.32 0.9 20.21 3.8	
Tues	02.54 1.1 08.27 3.5 15.06 1.1 20.54 3.6	
Wed	03.31 1.3 08.58 3.4 15.43 1.4 21.29 3.3	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

## The Oban Times weather is brought to you in association with



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