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& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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Housing chief's plea for action

Plans for 37 homes will bring £5million to town and 40 full-time jobs

LOUISE LEE
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THE BATTLE for the former Rockfield primary school in Oban has entered a new phase with a plea from a housing boss to build 37 affordable homes on the disused site.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) argued the local economy would lose out on £5million investment and 40 full-time jobs if the council rejected ACHA's homes plan for central Oban.

Alastair MacGregor, chief executive of ACHA, said: 'We need a decision from the council on the future of Rockfield, as soon as possible.'

'If we are to take the project forward for 2015-2018 as part of our strategic housing investment plan, we need to put it into our programme. We have been working on our proposals for Rockfield for two years.'

The plans would then have to go before the Scottish government for approval.

ACHA tenants Andy Birnie and Lorraine Anne Drysdale backed Mr MacGregor saying there was a pressing need for affordable housing in the town.

Mr Birnie said: 'This site has been available for seven years. It's time it was used to meet the real needs of Oban's people. Housing for families and the elderly is desperately needed.'

'I don't believe we should ignore the benefits of 37 new homes and associated jobs during the construction phase, as well as the multi-million pound investment this will bring to the centre of Oban.'

Gordon MacNab, a director of Oban Communities Trust, the body fighting to retain Rockfield for community use, said: 'I have always maintained that I am supportive of social housing in the town.'

But there are some sites that have more importance to the community than others, and Rockfield is one of those sites. In the last two weeks a

number of organisations in the town have shown an interest in working in partnership with us. This would form an important part of our business plan.'

One of the organisations who have said they are interested in working with the group is VisitScotland.

The tourism agency stated: 'We are delighted to hear of the community plans for a cultural and arts hub in Oban. It would certainly be a fantastic use for the old school and a welcome addition to our existing visitor attractions in the town.'

'We are continually reviewing our VisitScotland information centres (VIC), working with local authorities and partners to ensure we are meeting the changing needs of visitors.'

'VisitScotland has been approached by a number of parties interested in sharing the Oban VIC premises.'

'We look forward to meeting the community group taking on Rockfield school as another possible option for visitor information provision.'

Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell said he was supportive of the plan to buy the building for community use, provided it was underpinned by a realistic business plan.

He added: 'I have had a number of representations from people in Oban about the matter and I have told Gordon MacNab that I will assist the initiative in any way I can.'

Lifted higher and higher



Out-of-hours uncertainty on Mull

PATIENTS on Mull who are members of the Salen medical practice will receive out-of-hours care from their GP.

But NHS Highland, which has a duty to provide out-of-hours cover, says discussions on providing a similar service to the rest of the island have so far been unsuccessful. That has created uncertainty for patients in Tobermory, where

doctors have given notice of pulling out of providing the service.

Furthermore, two GPs in Bunnassan will leave at the end of September.

Dr Frank Teunisse and, from October, his colleague Dr Liz Pictou will provide an out-of-hours service for their own patients at Salen medical practice.

Dr Teunisse said: 'We will be

providing an out-of-hours service, regardless of what other GPs on the island are doing.'

'I like the lifestyle of being a rural GP and it is important that all the benefits of the job are balanced by the commitment there should be to the community.'

NHS Highland said it had been in discussion with all GPs on Mull to find out whether they could work

more closely together to provide services across the island.

Describing the discussions as 'worthwhile', a spokesman said they 'did not result in us being able to take it forward at this time'.

NHS Highland is planning to meet patients and work with the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) and NHS24 to cover Mull and Iona out of hours.

OBAN High School students were among 140,000 across Scotland who received their exam results on Tuesday.

It was good news for Oban pupils, pictured from left, Emma Storr Alasdair Jordan and Kyle McKechnie, who were jumping for joy after getting the grades they needed to go to university.

Initial figures show that the Higher pass rate across Scotland dropped slightly on last year,

from 77.4 per cent to 77.1 per cent, according to the Scottish Qualification Authority.

However, the number of pupils passing their Highers rose from 141,257 last year to 147,899.

The pass rate for the new National 4 exams was 93 per cent.



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Dunbeg man pleads guilty to downloading child porn

A DUNBEG man's collection of child porn was uncovered when a tip-off from an internet provider and an anti-porn operation by English police twice led Oban police to his door.

Two movies and 50 photographs were discovered. Henry Caffrey MacLean, aged 27, of Lochnell Road, Dunbeg, admitted possessing indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs of children between November 24, 2003 and July 30, 2013 at his home and at other locations.

The case had been due to go before a sheriff and jury trial at Oban sheriff court but MacLean changed his plea to guilty on Tuesday.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said police received information from an internet provider to say that MacLean had been downloading indecent images of children.

'On November 19, 2012, police with a warrant seized a laptop computer at his home,' said the fiscal, 'a subsequent forensic examination of the laptop discovered two movies of indecent images of children.'

He added: 'In a completely separate incident, Cleveland Police were investigating a number of people who were contacting a 14-year-old girl online and one of them was identified as Henry MacLean, so a separate warrant was issued

on July 30, 2013, and on that occasion police searched the house and seized a computer.

'It too was subsequently examined forensically and found to contain 50 indecent images of children.'

The procurator fiscal said that when examined, the computers also showed other internet searches for images of children or child pornography.

Sheriff Douglas Small ordered background reports on MacLean before the guilty man's lawyer informs the court of any mitigating factors before sentence is passed on September 16. MacLean was placed on the sex offenders' register.

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Tributes to tireless fundraiser who worked to save lives at sea

BELGIAN WHO FLED NAZI INVASION CAME TO CALL OBAN HER HOME

EUAN PATERSON
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A LARGE gathering of mourners has paid tribute to an 'inspirational' fundraiser who became an honorary president of her chosen charity, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) Oban.

The requiem mass for Marie Claire Williamson MacDougall was held at St Columba's Cathedral, Oban on Tuesday. She died last week, aged 84, after a short illness.

Best known as a prolific fundraiser for Oban lifeboat station, Mrs Williamson MacDougall's daughter, Isabel, said she had given much of her time to the charity since the late Isobel Black encouraged her to join.

She said: 'I think initially she was interested in getting involved in the



A COMMON CAUSE: Isobel Black, left, encouraged Marie Claire Williamson MacDougall to help the RNLI in Oban

community and the RNLI sparked some interest in her. Perhaps, it was living by the sea and seeing the boats coming in and out of the bay.

'Once she had picked that charity it was a 100 per cent involvement.'

Mrs Williamson MacDougall was originally from Mons in Belgium and as a child fled her home during WWII when the Nazis invaded.

Her family would later return to the house only to find it occupied by

Germans. On a trip to London years later to visit a friend she met her future husband, the late Major James Williamson MacDougall, who was awarded the Military Cross for his own war efforts. After overcoming

an initial language barrier the pair were married in 1953 in Mons and made regular trips to his family home in Gallanach, Oban.

On Major Williamson MacDougall's retirement from the army in 1965, the couple moved to Gallanach and Mrs Williamson MacDougall would go on to regard the town as home. A proud Belgian, however, she made two trips a year to the country of her birth.

The couple had five children, Elspeth, Isabel, Cecile, Anne and Charles, three of whom were born in Oban.

RNLI Oban chairman Mike Robertson praised the work of Mrs Williamson MacDougall, who was helping at the lifeboat's open day just two weeks ago. She had previously been awarded the RNLI gold award, the highest accolade for the charity's

fundraisers. He said: 'Marie Claire threw her while life and soul into the work of the lifeboat for more years than I can remember.

'She was the inspiration for everyone else in the fundraising group and she continued year after year.'

Son Charles Williamson MacDougall said: 'She loved her black Labrador Jolie and her gardening. She used to supply fruit and flowers from her wall garden to hotels in the town.

'I would like to think she was respected and cared for in the town. She was a big character with an even bigger heart.'

Oban lifeboat took station just offshore near St Columba's Cathedral on Tuesday, as the cortege bearing the coffin of Mrs Williamson MacDougall exited the church and headed for the cemetery.

Oban lifeboat on Mull call mission

OBAN'S lifeboat was called out twice in five hours last week, firstly to Mull and then to search Oban's shoreline.

A man and a woman were transferred on Thursday evening by the lifeboat from Mull to Oban, accompanied by two paramedics, arriving around 11pm. They were taken by ambulance to Oban's hospital.

In the early hours of Friday morning, the lifeboat crew was called out again to help search the shoreline of Oban Bay, from the North Pier to Dunollie point, after a pile of clothes was found on the beach.

However, the owner of the clothes was traced safe and well.

Mountain guide's death prompts FAI

A FATAL accident inquiry will be held into the death of an experienced mountain guide who died on Skye.

Graham Paterson, 60, went missing in Glenbrittle near the Cuillin Hills in December 2012.

A major search involving an RAF rescue helicopter and mountain rescue teams was launched following the guide's disappearance.

Mr Paterson's body was found on December 29 following an extensive search of the area.

A fatal accident inquiry was opened on Tuesday (August 5) into Mr Patterson's death at Portree sheriff court.

MacDougalls home for an anniversary

A RECEPTION marking the 850th anniversary of the birth of the Clan MacDougall is to be held in Oban this month.

The event will be held on Monday, August 25 in the Argyllshire Gathering halls at 7pm, hosted by councillor Alastair MacDougall.

Clan MacDougall has close connections with Oban, with Dunollie Castle remaining the seat and ancestral home of the clan to this day.

BT apologise for holding the line

PHONELINE woes at the newly built Marine Court, Dunstaffnage look to be over after BT finally completed installation work.

The 32 households that are currently occupied have been waiting since the end of May to have a phone line installed.

They were initially told the delay would be three weeks after they moved in but this was later extended and work was completed last week.

The households have now been advised to arrange a phone and internet service with their chosen provider, with which they can also discuss any possible compensation claim.

A spokeswoman for BT said: 'The new development at Marine Court required complex engineering and cabling to connect it to the nearest BT exchange.'

The company has apologised for the delays.

Road reversal as A83 is 'trunked'

THE A83 from Kennacraig to Campbeltown has become officially 'trunked' and is now the responsibility of Transport Scotland.

The responsibility was transferred over on Monday, August 4, following an announcement by the First Minister in August last year.

Islands pupils in a class of their own

WESTERN Isles schools have performed above average in new qualifications offered as part of Curriculum for Excellence.

Results across the authority in both established qualifications and in the new qualifications were above the national average.

The figures included better than average pass rates in the area for higher, advanced higher and the new N4 and N5 qualifications.

Councillor Catriona Stewart, chairwoman of education services, said: 'Development of the new courses and qualifications included a review of our curriculum and course models in secondary schools across the authority so there are different approaches from previous years in terms of the range of subjects covered.'

'The Comhairle is now reviewing the detailed results for secondary schools and will be in a position to make a fuller analysis of the outcomes of the 2014 exams in due course.'

VISITORS PRAISE OBAN BUT HOPE PENNY WILL DROP OVER TOILETS

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OBAN is losing out on receiving top marks as a tourist destination because of one inconvenient fact - the shortage of town centre public toilets.

As temperatures soared in late July and into early August, visitors praised the breathtaking scenery and friendliness of Oban people, but thought town centre planners had been caught short over the lack of public toilets.

There is only one public toilet conveniently located in the town centre, which is on the North Pier and is closed early in the evening.

That was the major complaint as *The Oban Times* asked tourists what they thought of the town.

The great weather brought tourists from all over UK and beyond, including visitors from England, Finland, Germany and Australia.

Lack of car parking spaces was another minor grievance, but the overwhelming impression from visitors was a very positive one, praising the town's culture, cuisine and friendliness, with most saying they plan to return in the future.

Oban was also regarded as a great starting point within the west Highlands to travel farther north, and as a gateway to the isles.

Linda Battison of Oban and Lorn Tourist Association was delighted with the visitors' overall upbeat impressions.

She said: 'We are very lucky that we have so many positive messages to promote and we are now recognised worldwide as the 'seafood capital of Scotland'.

'What makes Oban so special is the combination of stunning scenery, great food and quality attractions, with unbeatable access to the west coast islands.

'Lack of parking and public toilets are a frustration, but I am more concerned at the lack of short stay berths for visiting yachts.

'Marine tourism is a huge growth area and we have some of the best cruising grounds in the world.

'We need to make it easy and attractive for cruising yachts to come ashore, shop, eat, drink, tour the distillery, visit Dunollie House, walk to McCaig's Tower and spend their money in our town. A busy bay with yachts, ferries and fishing boats would add to Oban's appeal and make us even more special.'

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute council said it had not received any significant complaints about a lack of facilities in the town: 'In Oban, the council provides public toilets at the North Pier, the Corran Halls, Ganavan and Pulpit Hill.

'There are also toilets on the South Pier and the railway station as well as facilities in the variety of pubs, cafes and restaurants in the town centre.'



Losing out on top marks over inconvenient issue



Scotsman Ally McGregor (centre), 28, who now lives in Australia, visited Oban with his sister Gillian McGregor, 33, from Troon, and friend Alan Watters, 37, from Glasgow. Ally said: 'Oban is great for island hopping.' Gillian added: 'I was here two years ago and it was great.'



Daniel Flynn and Hannah Lane, both 30, were across from Kerry in Ireland, for Daniel's fifth trip to Oban and Hannah's first. Daniel said: 'There is such beautiful scenery here. It is really a great place to come if you want to see some of the islands and the west coast.'



Husband and wife Andrew and Susan Hunter visit Oban regularly. Andrew, 56, said: 'We love the walks and the spectacular scenery.' Susan, 49, added: 'It really does have everything you need, although more parking spaces and public toilets would improve things.'



Phyllis Chapman, 73 and Betty Hampton, 85, were on a Lochs and Glens coach tour of the west coast, with Oban a stop-off point on their fourth day. Phyllis said: 'We very much enjoyed our trip to McCaig's Tower. However, there was a lack of public toilets and the bay could do with more floral displays.'



Finnish family Martin Rosenstedt, 51, with wife Lina, 56, and daughter Sara, 17, were in Oban for the second time. The family sailed here on their yacht from Lovisa in Finland. Martin said: 'The people here are so friendly and the scenery is breathtaking.'



Kimberley Alexander, 31, and David Ramsay, 37, were in Oban for the day from Glasgow. Kimberley said: 'It's a picturesque, beautiful place and a friendly seaside town.' David added: 'We've been up to McCaig's Tower, where the view is spectacular. The place could do with more public toilets though, I had to use the train station toilet and it was pretty awful.'



Eric Lothian and wife Cindy were in Oban for the day from Glenrothes in Fife. Cindy, 52, said: 'Oban has stunning scenery and nice people - what more can you ask for?'



Heike Hiltersheid, 32, from Munich, was in Oban for the first time. She said: 'Oban's scenery is as good as anywhere I've been. I wanted to see something traditionally Scottish and there is a ceilidh here in Oban, which is perfect.'

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Loch inn up for sale

APPIN'S Creagan Inn has gone on the market for the second time in a year, with the current owner saying she has put family first when making the decision to sell.

Liz Crichton, who took over the business on the shores of Loch Creran in 2011, says she is leaving it 'in good shape'.

Once she sells the business, Liz will join husband Allan in Cadiz, Spain, where he has secured a new job with oil company Shell.

Liz told *The Oban Times*: 'Allan has worked abroad virtually the whole time that I've run The Creagan and whilst I've had a great time and love living here,

it's been a long three years apart.

'I'm glad to say that I'll be leaving the place in good shape with an excellent reputation and great head chef, Rab Hartley.

'Having turned 50 this year I'm looking forward to another new challenge.'

The Creagan Inn was on the market for just two days in January this year after Liz had a change of heart.

But she insists she is now ready to move on and said the business would be ideal for a couple to run.

The Crichtons plan to keep their house in Barcaldine when they move to Spain.

Firms win major contracts

TWO ARGYLL companies have been awarded contracts totalling £5.1m by the county's social housing landlord.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) has just placed the roof, roughcasting and external insulation contracts to M&K MacLeod of Lochgilphead and Stewart McNeé Ltd of Dunoon.

M&K MacLeod will carry out work on Islay and in Dunbeg, while Stewart McNeé Limited will carry out similar contracts in Bute and Cowal.

The work will see essential roof, roughcast and energy efficiency improvements to around 300 association homes.

Alastair MacGregor, ACHA's chief executive, said: 'I am delighted on two fronts. First, we are able to resource these extensive modernisations to the external fabric of so many of our tenants' homes.

'Second, that two Argyll companies are taking this work forward. That

can only be good for local jobs and livelihoods.'

The works are scheduled to last for five months on Islay and eight months in Bute and Cowal and will go on site in the next month.

The Dunbeg project started on Monday and will take place over 28 weeks in Camus Road, Etive Road, Hillside, Jane Road, Lochnell Road, Lorn Road.

Murdo MacLeod, managing director of M&K MacLeod, said: 'The company is delighted to support ACHA's investment in Argyll, particularly on our islands.

'In addition to the Islay and Dunbeg contracts we are building affordable houses in Tarbert, Oban, Connel and Bowmore for ACHA.

'The housing association's investment in Argyll will not only improve housing stock available to our population but will maintain construction jobs in Argyll and Bute.'

OVERGROWN PATHS AND VERGES FORCING PEOPLE ONTO THE ROAD Verging on unsafe, say women

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ROADSIDE verges in Argyll have become so badly overgrown that two women have struck the first blow in cutting the problem down to size.

They blame the council for failing to grasp the nettle by keeping the verges and paths clear of overhanging bushes and weeds.

Their claims are backed up by council insiders who are beginning to despair about the lack of basic maintenance work to verges.

However, Argyll and Bute council said there was not a problem and the council was 'up to speed' with its amenity schedule in Oban Lorn and the Isles (OLI).

But former schoolteacher Rosemary Firth, from Oban, says she has taken matters into her own hands and is now cutting down the buddleia and brambles on the path between the town, the Free Church and McCaig's Tower.

Mrs Firth said: 'It might be that they haven't put this path on any maintenance schedule - but I've taken matters into my own hands as it looks terrible.'

'This path is the only safe route up the road around Rockfield, and people are forced out onto the street to walk.'

In Appin, Fiona Wallace has been cutting down branches on the roadside for fear there would be an accident.

Fiona, a registry officer at the Scottish Marine Institute, said she wanted to clear the verges on the Port Appin road because the signs were hidden by overgrown bushes.

Fiona said: 'We have a lot of tourists this year and I want them to be safe. The road is dangerous with so many overhanging trees - I just wanted to get it sorted without any fuss.'

Council insiders said the work on verges in the Oban area had hardly started. Explaining that workers were being pulled from jobs to deal with areas that were receiving complaints, they spoke of staff shortages and machinery failure.

Last week, they said a tractor had been driven at 25 mph from Helensburgh to Oban and back to carry out four hours' verge-side work in the area.



TAKING MATTERS INTO HER OWN HANDS: Rosemary Firth cuts down the overhanging trees and plants in order that people can walk up the street

15_125over4

A spokesman for Argyll and Bute council said: 'Amenity service delivery specifications were amended for financial year 2013/14 - these savings reduced the frequency of grass cutting and strimming, together with a reduction in staffing levels.'

'Non-policy related savings were approved by members for 2014/15 which include a reduction in the

amount of hired plant and equipment and a reduction in the amount of fuel used through a rationalisation of routes.'

'At an operational level there will be urgent demands which will determine priorities.'

'As part of this new model we are working closely with community groups to maximise service delivery.'

'The council is up to speed with its amenity schedule in the OLI region.'

'Council officers work diligently to ensure that Argyll and Bute's open spaces are maintained to the highest possible standard.'

'The tractor up from Helensburgh teamed up with another tractor in OLI area, therefore, twice as much work done in that time.'



Duncan Begg

Brute who raped pregnant woman jailed for 8 years

A CONVICTED rapist from Skye was jailed for eight years last Friday at the High Court in Glasgow.

Duncan Begg, 43, of Crauchan Place, Portree was convicted of the rape of a pregnant woman, and a series of sickening assaults on women in Caithness between 1984 and 2010.

Police Scotland praised the courage of his victims who testified against Begg during a harrowing trial at the High Court in Aberdeen last month.

The brutal Skye man perversely claimed the women had consented to his 'advances'.

Detective Inspector Eddie Ross of the domestic abuse investigation unit, said: 'Police Scotland acknowledges the courage of Duncan Begg's victims in not only coming forward to the police but staying with the prosecution process to conviction and the subsequent sentencing which took place on Friday last week.'

Rural schools win extra protection

LEGISLATION came into force on August 1 giving extra protection to schools serving rural communities.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 now stipulates that councils must carry out consultations before proposing school closures.

Michael Russell, Argyll and Bute MSP, said: 'These provisions are a result of the Commission on Rural Education which was set up after the disastrous attempt by Argyll and Bute council to close 26 primary schools.'

Islay's oldest resident dies

AN ISLAY woman has died in the island's hospital just weeks after celebrating her 100th birthday.

Lily MacDougall, who was the island's oldest resident and turned 100 on July 17, died on Tuesday.

Her funeral will be held in Bowmore's Round Church on Saturday at 11.30am.

The Caolila woman had the honour of opening the new Islay lifeboat station at Port Askaig in June this year.

Remembering 100 years on

REPRESENTATIVES from different military and community groups came together in Oban on Monday to honour those who died in World War One.

A short service was held at the war memorial on the Corran Esplanade in remembrance of 100 years since the day Great Britain joined the Great War.

The service was led by Ian Blair-Simmons of the Royal British Legion Scotland, Oban branch, and his wife Leslie.

Readings included Binyon's Lines, the 23rd Psalm, and the famous poem In Flanders Fields.

A minute's silence was held with a piper signalling the beginning and end, before individual poppies were laid at the memorial.

Ian said: 'I'd like to thank everyone for coming, including the sea cadets, who we weren't expecting.'

'It's always good to fly the colours and pay your respects.'

Poppies laid at Oban war memorial 17_132war01



Oban bids farewell to man who was 'force of nature'

THE FUNERAL of Oban councillor John MacGregor who died suddenly last week heard that he felt vindicated by the people of the town by his recent election.

Leading the service, the Rev Dugald Cameron told a capacity congregation in the Oban parish church on Monday that the 62-year-old businessman was a 'force of nature.'

The eulogy was delivered by Ted Heath who told of John's first career in donkeys on Ganavan Sands before progressing to thoroughbred racehorses at Cheltenham.

He was called a 'vibrant and exciting' person who was always up for a challenge. John's charitable work was noted - especially with the Ryan MacPhail Memorial dinner that raises £7,000 per year for local organisations that need support.

Mr MacGregor was born and grew up in the town's Dunollie area.

He was married to Cathie for 21 years and had four step-daughters and seven grand-children.

Police catch biker travelling at 97mph in Bridge of Orchy

TWO MOTORCYCLISTS visiting the west Highlands have been caught out by road policing officers carrying out speed checks in Bridge of Orchy.

The two men were both clocked breaking the national speed limit on the A82 near to the village at the same time.

A 34-year-old man from England was travelling at 97mph and a 31-year-old Welshman was recorded at a speed of 85mph at 9.24am last Friday.

Appeal for information in bid to track down tyre slashers

POLICE in Oban are seeking information from people in Clachan Seil after the tyres on two cars in the village were slashed.

The two incidents, at separate addresses, happened overnight sometime between August 2 and 4. Anyone with any information is encouraged to contact PC Kenny Brack on 01631 510500.

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FIVE POLITICAL LEADERS FACE A GRILLING FROM OBAN HIGH PUPIL



Ruth Davidson, Scottish Conservatives



Patrick Harvie, Scottish Green Party



Johann Lamont, Scottish Labour



Willie Rennie, Scottish Liberal Democrats



Michael Russell, Scottish National Party

Question time as James goes to Holyrood

EUAN PATERSON
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AN OBAN High School pupil was so frustrated with the lack of referendum debate from a teenage perspective that he took his complaint straight to Scotland's political hierarchy.

Budding actor James Kane, who will be the school's head boy after the summer holidays, travelled to Holyrood to quiz Scottish government

minister Michael Russell - his own MSP - and leaders of the opposition on everything from education to the arts.

The 16-year-old pupil is one of 50 young people from across Scotland taking part in Generation 2014, a project that will make up part of the BBC's referendum coverage and encourage debate among new voters.

James, who lives in Taynuilt with his mother and father, Anna and Kevin, and little brother Dante, said

he doesn't come from 'a political family'.

But his passion for acting and performing led him to tackling some of the nation's toughest politicians.

He added: 'I do modern studies at school, so I had the opportunity to take part in the Generation 2014 project.'

'But the main reason I wanted to interview the political leaders was the lack of discussion about how an independent Scotland would affect

the arts. That's something I am really involved in.'

'I was a bit apprehensive about doing the interviews but all of the politicians were really approachable and they did try to answer my questions fully and from a teenager's perspective.'

'I even got Ruth Davidson to challenge Alex Salmond to a dance-off.'

'I hope that by doing these interviews I can help people my age get into the debate - it has certainly helped me.'

As well as grilling Scotland's political elite, James has appeared on James Naughtie's Today programme and the Janice Forsyth radio shows.

While appearing on the latter James was asked to perform a modern take on a Burns classic. He recited 'My love is like a mobile phone'.

He also took part in Scottish Youth Theatre's Now is the hour, a show about the referendum.

James, who says he is still undecided on which way to vote, added: 'The

whole debate has become a lot more engaging for me, although my passion is for the arts and the contributions of teenagers.'

'If you give us the vote, you should give us something to vote for.'

Members of Generation 2014 will be 16 and 17 on September 18 and will have the right to vote.

The group is made up of 50 young people - 26 boys and 24 girls who were selected after a nationwide application and audition process.

Showing at the cinema - the floods

VISITORS to Oban Phoenix cinema got a bit of a shock when water came flooding down on top of them during a matinee show on Sunday.

Before the film, *Transformers: Age of Extinction*, began a woman sitting in the second back row of the small screen was hit from above with what felt like a cup of water over her head.

But on closer inspection it was discovered that heavy rainfall had made it through the recently pitched roof and into the cinema screen.

Stephen Lee, a cinema volunteer, was in the 18-seater screen at the time. He said: 'Staff came into the screen and closed the film down before offering us tickets for another film or a refund.'

'Most people went into the other screen. It was a bit of a shock at the time - but most people realised it was only water.'

A spokeswoman for the cinema said: 'The small screen is about to be refurbished with new chairs, similar to the big screen, and a volunteer had already promised to paint the walls so in terms of damage it is limited.'

'Obviously we are disappointed to be having a problem with the roof - but it will be solved as soon as possible. It was recently repitched and is checked regularly. The volume of rainfall on Sunday was extraordinary.'

'As a charity we are always looking for the community to come up with solutions and we would be keen to hear from people who could sort out our flat roof once and for all.'

'In the meantime every effort is being made to ensure our full programme is available to customers. Please check website and with staff for details of our programme in case of disruption. Our customers, volunteers and staff safety is paramount to us.'

Sugar damages Oban boat engine

POLICE believe damage to the engine of a boat in Oban was caused by sugar being poured into it.

Oban police sergeant Mike Wood said enquiries were on-going into the alleged incident, which occurred between July 18 - 21 when the boat was moored at the south pier.

Police urged anyone with information on the incident to come forward.

Busy lifeboat crew face three callouts in 18-hour shift

OBAN lifeboat was launched three times in 18 hours this week.

The first callout was to a yacht which ran aground near Heather Island in the Sound of Kerrera on Monday around 8pm.

The yacht was also suffering from mechanical problems, so was towed off and placed on a nearby mooring.

The crew were paged again at 5.44am on Tuesday to assist a 40ft yacht, which was aground in Loch Craignish.

With the wind blowing the casualty towards the shore, coxswain MacKillop assisted the owners in laying a kedge anchor to hold the yacht until the rising tide enabled the lifeboat to tow her off.

The third callout was at 2pm on Tuesday, to assist a boat aground on the east shore of the Isle of Lismore.

The owner accepted the lifeboat coxswain's offer of a tow and the yacht was pulled into deep water.

A soft approach to the hard stuff

STEVEN RAE
srae@obantimes.co.uk

AN INITIATIVE aimed at calling time on drink-driving in Oban has been launched by Police Scotland.

The designated driver scheme offers free soft drinks to people who have agreed to act as the nominated driver for family or friends visiting pubs, clubs and restaurants.

PC Trish Collins of Safer Communities for Argyll and Bute held the initial meeting last Thursday at Oban Fire station. The initiative has the support of 13 licensed premises so far, with more expected to join.

PC Collins explained: 'The aim of the scheme is obviously safer roads and it is also good for the pubs as it shows us that the licensee is working together with the police.'

'The free soft drinks are at the discretion of the venue, but we expect most will be in favour of this.'

The scheme was initially launched

in April during the Mull music festival, and now plans are in place to spread the initiative throughout Argyll and Bute, with Lochgilphead as the next target area.

Colin Rattray, who runs Skipnish Ceilidh House on George Street, was involved in a similar scheme when he ran a nightclub in Dundee.

He said: 'It's a good way of us maintaining our social responsibilities regarding drink-driving.'

'We would never encourage people coming to the club to take their vehicle but if they do, hopefully this removes the temptation to drink and drive.'

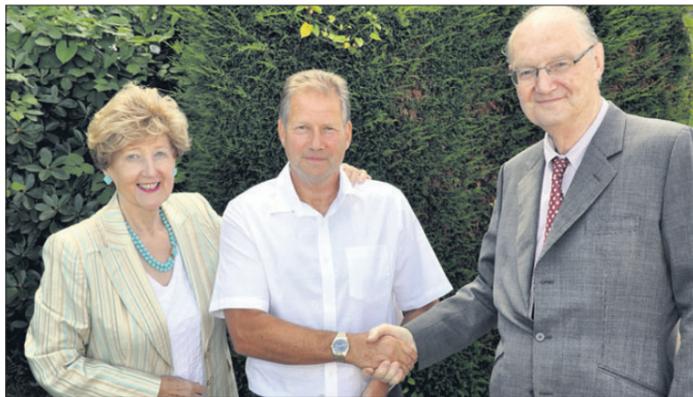
'When we did this in Dundee, we would take the car key when the person arrived, keep it in a locked box and give it back to them at the end of the night if we were satisfied they hadn't been drinking. So I would imagine we will try and organise a similar system.'

Posters advertising what premises are involved in the scheme are to be given to licensees.



PC Trish Collins with Colin Rattray of Skipnish and Rhianna McMahon of Cuan Mor, who attended the designated driver meeting. 20_t32drivers01

Man of the times bows out after 30 years



Nigel Evans (centre) with Wyvex Media Ltd's Joan Bennett, deputy chairman and Howard Bennett, chairman 15_t32nigel1

A MAN of many jobs at *The Oban Times* has retired after 30 years stalwart service with the company.

Nigel Evans has been responsible for maintenance, deliveries, emergency callouts, security and health

and safety within the paper's parent company Wyvex Media Ltd.

Group chairman, Howard Bennett, said: 'Nigel has been with the company since August 1984 and in that time he has tackled 101 differ-

ent types of jobs. He has also helped me out on countless occasions and I knew I could always rely on him.'

Nigel thanked his colleagues and said he had many happy memories of his time with the company.

Loch Awe beauty spot litter louts prompt police officer to call foul

AN ARGYLL police officer has issued a warning to would-be litter louts after an incident at one of the area's most scenic spots.

PC Iain Young reported five men, under the Environmental Protection Act, on Saturday. The men, who are from Larkhall, are accused of causing a disturbance and littering, burning a tent and tearing branches from trees.

PC Young quizzed the men at their camp site on the shores of Loch Awe, with a view over to Kilchurn Castle.

He said: 'They were very annoyed and of the opinion that as the area is private ground the police had no powers. This misunderstanding was fully explained to them. The mess was disgusting and was causing pollution to the area.'

'There was also lead shot and fishing wire left at the locus, which clearly is a danger to the local wildlife.'

Oban police sergeant Mike Wood added: 'Argyll welcomes visitors to enjoy the beautiful surroundings, as long as they are treated with respect.'



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Wilma's heartfelt plea for end to dialysis patients' travel trauma

THE *OBAN Times* is backing a campaign by the widow of a former Oban dialysis patient to have kidney dialysis treatment available in the town.

Wilma MacIntosh believes her late husband, councillor Donald 'Skye' MacIntosh, had his life cut short in 2011 because of the impact of having to travel for up to 10 hours a day to get treatment.

He had been travelling to the Vale of Leven hospital in Dumbarton for several years, three times a week, to get life-saving treatment.

Wilma, an Oban carer, knows of patients who not only have to travel but others who try to self-treat with a home-dialysis unit.

Calling for facility in Oban, she said: 'It wouldn't just be people from here that used it - it would allow people to come on holiday here.'

Medical experts and politicians are also coming out in support of Wilma's Wish for a dialysis solution for Lorn and the Isles.

Alan Reid MP for Argyll and Bute was the first to back the Wilma's Wish campaign: 'People in Argyll requiring dialysis are forced to travel for many hours to receive treatment.'

'This is obviously exhausting for them and MHS Highland must make it a priority to provide this treatment

locally. When I called on the health board to do so they told me they couldn't afford to buy the equipment, but would think about it again next year.

'Thinking about it next year is not good enough.'

Argyll and Bute's MSP Michael Russell said: 'Skye was a valued friend and political colleague for a long time.'

'His family, his community and his party lost him far too soon. I am therefore more than willing to support Wilma's Wish.'

'She saw at first hand the huge burden placed on her husband as he travelled three times a week to the Vale of Leven in all weathers and usually at times when the rest of us were still asleep.'

'I hope that this campaign, backed by *The Oban Times*, will finally make the health board sit up and listen to the people they are there to serve.'

'It is too late for Skye but others can benefit from Wilma's Wish - so let's all get behind it and make sure it happens.'

Jamie McGrigor, Highland and Islands MSP, said: 'I have already voiced constituents' concerns about the lack of a dialysis unit within Argyll and Bute at Question Time in the Scottish Parliament and in



Wilma MacIntosh

writing with the health secretary Alex Neil and chief executive of NHS Highland.

'I call on NHS Highland to look at all the options for establishing low maintenance, satellite dialysis units in Argyll and Bute and to bring forward a decision as soon as possible.'

Dr Neil Bennett, a North Connell GP

Wilma's wish

argyll4dialysis

An *The Oban Times* campaign

with a particular interest in kidney disease, has backed Wilma's Wish.

He said: 'I would be supportive of anything that improves the quality of life for people in this area needing dialysis treatment.'

'There are not many conditions where people have to travel for three full days a week in order to survive.'

Appin's retired GP Iain McNicol said Argyll could learn from Lochaber's drive to have dialysis services in Fort William.

He said: 'I knew the late Archie Kennedy, the last native Gaelic speaker to come from Glencoe, who formed part of the campaign to get dialysis services in Fort William.'

Getting that service changed his life. He only had to travel to Fort William instead of an extra five hours travel per day, three times a week.

'Those three journeys every week would be exhausting for anyone, let alone someone requiring dialysis. I am sure it would shorten someone's life. Looking at the big picture this is the type of thing Lorn and Islands Hospital and the Belford Hospital in Fort William should be doing.'

'Think of someone from here who needs radiotherapy; it is a big hassle for them to get treatment.'

'They have to stay down in Glasgow for weeks and everyone says that is awful for these patients. For renal failure, it is three days a week for the rest of your life, unless you are lucky enough to get a kidney transplant.'

Dr McNicol accepted that funding for services was finite but questioned whether money was being spent well in other parts of the NHS.

Patients are like 'prisoners', says top medical expert

THE FORMER chief medical officer for Scotland says patients in Argyll are like 'prisoners' because of the time it takes for them to receive treatment.

He, and others, are calling for a solution to be found for the 16 patients who travel three days a week to get their treatment outside of Argyll.

Mac Armstrong, who lives in north Argyll, said: 'For some patients their whole lives are taken up with either travelling to or recovering from dialysis.'

'It is a pretty rotten state of affairs when people have to spend their whole lives travelling to or from appointments and recovering from them.'

'Dialysis doesn't make you well. The only thing that will do that is



Mac Armstrong

a transplant.' Mr Armstrong, who is renowned among colleagues for innovation, added: 'We have mobile breast screening, mobile vaccinations and mobile blood transfusion.'

'Why can't we have mobile dialysis for patients? It would seem to make perfect sense for a machine to go to a patient rather than the other way around.'

FACTS ON DIALYSIS

Most people have two kidneys, about 10 centimetres or four inches long, found at the back of the body near the lower ribs.

A healthy kidney is a filtering system for blood in the body - vital for life.

KIDNEY OR RENAL FAILURE CAUSES

DIABETES

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

KIDNEY DISEASE

OBSTRUCTION

- A renal (kidney dialysis) patient from Argyll will typically travel for up to 36 hours a week to receive treatment
- spend 12 hours a week on a dialysis machine
- spend six hours a week waiting for transport
- take 24 hours to recover from treatment
- spend three days a week going to and from appointments
- be unable to take up a full time job

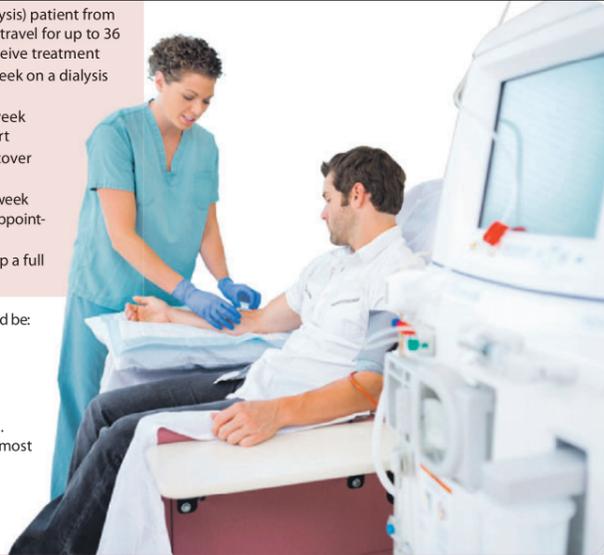
Guidelines from The Renal Association state a unit should be:

- less than 30 minutes from home
- within 25 miles of a person's home

There are currently 16 travelling dialysis patients in Argyll.

There are other patients who have dialysis at home. This method means being on a machine all night - most nights. It does not work for everyone.

Health experts are predicting a boom in dialysis patients because of an increase in obesity and diabetes-related conditions.



Ae fond o' the Commonwealth

A TAYNUILT couple helped to close this year's Commonwealth Games in Glasgow by performing at Hampden Park.

Donald Shaw and Karen Matheson performed Ae Fond Kiss at the closing ceremony which also saw Kylie Minogue and Lulu take to the stage.

Donald, who accompanied his wife on keyboard, said: 'We had to keep it under wraps but we got a great reaction from people afterwards.'

'The atmosphere in the stadium was amazing, the crowd was great. The organisers wanted a special song and Ae Fond Kiss is one that Karen has performed a few times in our live set, although she has never actually recorded it for an album.'

Donald staged games organisers for the musical stage in Glasgow Green, which he said created a 'great atmosphere'.

Debate praise for Mary's Meals aid

A DALMALLY-based charity has been praised by an MSP in the Scottish Parliament.

Jamie McGrigor, MSP for the Highlands and Islands, commended the work of international aid charity Mary's Meals in the Scottish Parliament on Tuesday, August 5, during a debate on Scotland's special relationship with Malawi.

Mr McGrigor said: 'Founded by the truly inspirational Magnus Macfarlane-Barrow, Mary's Meals each day gives almost 690,000 children in Malawi a meal when they attend primary schools or under-six centres.'

'Mary's Meals' flagship programme began in Malawi in 2002 and Mary's Meals is investing £5.36 million in Malawi this year alone.'

Opening eyes on Loch water safety

CHARITY Lochwatch Loch Awe, which exists to improve loch safety, has reminded visitors to take care in the water as it prepares to host an open day next month at Innis-chonan.

It will provide information about its work and its new patrol boat, currently undergoing engine trials.

LochWatch chairman Iain MacKinnon also said: 'The water looks really inviting - especially when it is warm outside - but it isn't warm. It will be freezing and likely to send a body into shock if you dive in.'

Eye to eye

with John Wallace

Vision

As an optometrist I was trained to measure "visual acuity". For over one hundred years we have used a simplistic measure which looks at the size of the object being viewed. You have probably heard of the American system 20/20, which measures distance in feet. In Europe we use a similar metric system. Both systems use a Snellen chart with high contrast letters reducing in size as we look further down the chart which is usually positioned six metres from the patient. These charts are excellent at measuring the quantity of our vision but give no indication of the quality of our vision.

In the world we all function in nothing is ever seen in terms of black and white. More often than not we see in shades of grey or in de-saturated colours. Just think about driving. Locally, we seem to spend a considerable time driving in mist or rain. If we are being truly honest how many of us have adequate vision for driving in poor visibility or at night?

When I examine children or adults who spend most of their day staring at computer screens the requirement is simply to enable them to focus clearly at whatever distance is appropriate for the task in hand. I regularly see patients who have been prescribed glasses who still have problems reading comfortably. Why? The answer is vision encompasses a far greater range of abilities than simply seeing clearly at a set distance. Our eyes need to work together and focus easily at the various distances we require. Our brains need to be able to comfortably process the information sent from our eyes. Binocular vision problems and visual stress can dramatically reduce how well our vision system works. There is much more to assessing vision than simply measuring visual acuity!

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 11/12 Argyll Square, Oban
 Tel: 0845 230 3937 (EYES)
 www.wallaceoptometrists.co.uk

The New Hebrides meets old



A TRAVELLER from the new Hebrides came to visit the old Hebrides.

But this wasn't just any visitor - he was Don Ken, a government official from the Oceanic Republic of Vanuatu, previously known as the New Hebrides.

As it was a very hot day, Mr Ken said: 'Today Tobermory is very like our islands.'

A flag, used in the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games, was given to the Tobermory organising committee.

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Please note that the Energy Saving Trust, Resource Efficient Scotland and Home Energy Scotland advice centres accept no responsibility for the home, business, property owner or the visitor during the Green Network open day visit. Visitors attending homes do so at their own risk.

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Plockton

A PLOCKTON sailor has won this year's Duirinish tankard at Plockton Sailing Club - 41 years after his father won the trophy in the same boat.

Neil MacRae sailed the *Rona* to first place on day one of the Moore Bowl competition on July 11, when seven boats competed.

This was also the third and final race for the Duirinish tankard, which Neil won with four points ahead of runner up Morag Amos (*Eala Bhan*) with five points.

Neil's father, Charlie, also won the tankard in *Rona* in 1973. Malcolm MacKenzie was third in the Moore Bowl race in *Taeping*, behind Neil and Morag.

The following day only three boats sailed in very calm conditions over a shortened course. This time Morag won in *Eala Bhan*, followed by Neil MacRae (*Rona*) and Michael Hay (*Nan*).

This was also the single race for the George Farquar MacRae Memorial Trophy, which Morag won.

As a result of the six races for the Moore Bowl the *Rona* and *Eala Bhan* tied with eight points each.

On the countback they were still tied, so Morag, as winner of the final race, also won the Moore Bowl.

Crianlarich

MOTORISTS should expect delays in the coming weeks, as work on the Crianlarich bypass, as part of the A82 improvement works, continues.

The north end of the bypass will be restricted to a single lane for seven days at the end of August and beginning of September, with dates still to be confirmed.

Work is earmarked for completion between the end of September and beginning of October.

Appin

INSPIRED by this year's Commonwealth Games heroes, children in Appin will be putting their new found athletics skills to the test at this year's Appin Agricultural Show.

Pupils at Strath of Appin primary school have been practising in games days in anticipation of the children's sports at the show, which takes place at Stalker Croft on Saturday, August 16.

The show will offer its usual mix of fierce competition in the cattle and sheep classes, as well as Highland dancing and plenty more for families to see and do.

The children's sports has been introduced to mark the year the Commonwealth Games came to Scotland.

The Queen's Baton Relay began its Argyll leg in Appin on July 13 when more than 200 people came out early in the morning to greet the baton bearers.

Jura

WORK to improve the condition of Keils Road on Jura is to take place this month, although Argyll and Bute council says the start date is dependent on supplies being available.

Councillors at yesterday's (Wednesday) Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay (MAKI) area committee meeting were told the council was waiting on materials being supplied before work could begin.

Meanwhile, tenders have now been received for 'retread' works on Jura at Lagg and work is expected to be complete by the end of August, dependent upon discussions with the chosen contractor.

Ardchattan

TAKINGS were slightly up on last year, despite a poor forecast and the lure of the Commonwealth Games, at the annual Ardchattan Fete.

Held at Ardchattan Priory near North Connel it is a major fund-raiser for Connel and North Connel guiding and scouting groups.

While the weather was not kind in the morning, bowls of soup were a welcome diversion and the afternoon cleared up to allow young and old to enjoy all the attractions.

And there were many - Jane Isaac's pony and trap, a miniature railway ride, welly throwing, bouncy castle, Taynuilt Swing Band, ping-pong ball challenge, Commonwealth Games-themed challenges, lucky dip, roll-a-penny, bottle stall, home-baking, face-painting, bric-a-brac and plants for sale.

A total of £2,656 was raised, which goes towards the running costs of 1st Connel Rainbows and Brownies and North Connel Guides and the 37th Argyll Ardchattan Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

Eigg



AWARDS: Pupils Mia Lancaster, Logan Wallace and Catriona Helliwell, from the Isle of Eigg display their John Muir certificates with councillor Ben Thompson (left), and John Hutchison, chairman of the John Muir Trust and Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust

Lismore takes to the hill and water as islanders turn out for sports day

Lismore

LISMORE islanders and a few brave visitors, some from as far away as Chicago, braved the elements on July 26 for this year's sports and raft race day.

The day got underway with field events and the children then took part in various activities including the flat race, egg-and-spoon race and three-armed races. They still had enough energy to make their way over to the well-constructed obstacle course, taking the opportunity to get even wetter by bursting water balloons and careering down the water slide.

All day long there was face painting available and, of course, a delicious barbecue on the go.

A special attendance was required at the finish line of the hill race for the brave children, who ran all the way, to give them a warm welcome back and a huge 'well done'. The adults then had to follow suit.

The tug of war between teams from opposite ends of the island was left until last and by this point large crowds had gathered around the rope. The north won the first pull and the south won the second. Both teams gave their all but the south end won the final pull.

Into the bay for the raft race and the children took to the water first with some great rafts and every craft made it home in one piece. In the adults' raft race, some made it further than others.



FULL STEAM AHEAD: The teams set off at the start of the Lismore raft race

Some tipped on the start line, while others abandoned the crossing and caused some sabotage, all in good humour.

The prizes were given out at the dance, with music by the Robert Nairn Band, in the public hall. Organisers were thanked and congratulated for their hard work.

Ferry good news

AS HAS been reported in *The Oban Times* there have been many and varied problems with the ferry service from Oban.

The island's community council invited CalMac Ferries Ltd and Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) to send representatives to a public meeting and, following a lot of frank discussion, some progress has been made.

The roll on, roll off ferry should now be in use for the majority of time and forward notice of any changes will be communicated to the Lismore's website initially.

A transport committee will be formed to meet with CalMac on a monthly basis and a dedicated service will be provided for bookings on and off the island.

While no structural changes can be made to the *MY Eigg* some changes may be made to the Loch-class boat to allow improved access for disabled passengers and families with prams.

Plans for an improved slipway and berthing space at Oban's Railway Pier continue and should be completed by 2017.

In the meantime, tidal problems may still be an issue. Lismore's residents will continue to campaign for improvements.



ARGYLL WAVE: There were midges galore during the Big Garden Walk

ALTHOUGH the weather here doesn't always please, you can always rely on the people of Lismore to support local charities with generosity and encouragement.

Recently there was a Big Garden Walk to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Centre in Oban.

More than £800 was collected through donations when 31 people, of all ages, together with four dogs walked 10km.

The rain held off but the midges didn't. Perhaps they were the reason everyone completed the walk so quickly.

Princess unveils MacLeod plaque

Skye



RESTORATION: The Princess Royal unveils the plaque with a MacLeod of MacLeod flag as the Clan Parliament look on and helped by John Davidson Kelly, chairman of the Associated Clan MacLeod Societies, (left) and Hugh MacLeod (right), 30th Clan Chief in the new gazebo at Dunvegan Castle

SIX years of major restoration and improvement works at Dunvegan were celebrated by Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal on Skye last week.

The visit coincided with the Clan MacLeod parliament week during which the Associated Clan MacLeod Societies (ACMS) gather from all over the world in Dunvegan to visit their ancestral homeland.

The Princess was then invited to officially open the John MacLeod Memorial Gazebo, which was funded by donations from the ACMS.

Special collections remember WWI

Ballachulish



COMMEMORATION: Ballachulish Village Hall committee and friends commemorated Lochaber's war

A FITTING World War One commemoration brought together artefacts and papers to show the effect of the war on the people of Ballachulish, Onich and Glencoe.

Set up in Ballachulish village hall, the exhibition showed treasures from the households of local people.

On one stand was a carving from Rheims Cathedral - a remnant of the battle there, another had the silk and velvet jacket of Laurence of Arabia, while medals were also on display.

The event was a fascinating display of what was left to remember those who died on the front line, those who died because of the war - and also the way life changed forever after the war.

One stall had war art upon it. Talented artists who used those things around them such as empty gun shells, drift wood, metal and turned them into works of art.

The event was organised by a small group of people. Jo Watt, of the village hall committee, said: 'We wanted to put on this exhibition in commemoration of all those who have served in the wars.'

'We have had tremendous support from Onich, Ballachulish and Glencoe. It is amazing what people have had lying around.'

MULL lines

MESS on a journey to Revolve

MULL and Iona Environmental Sensitive Solutions (MESS) Island Castaways are on a journey to improvement and are awaiting the outcome of its application to be part of the Revolve campaign.

The group, which has four outlets on Mull, is hoping to be part of the accreditation scheme for organisations that sell quality refurbished and reconditioned groups.



Hazel Cowe, MESS manager in the Craignure

Politicians grilled on referendum

ISLANDERS from Mull and Iona took part in a heated referendum debate in Craignure Hall.

On the panel were Michael Russell MSP, Carolyn Leckie, former MSP, Douglas Alexander MP shadow foreign affairs secretary, and prospective parliamentary candidate Mary Galbraith.

The debate covered a wide range of topic including rural affairs, fishing, currency and the future of Scotland.

Chairman for the evening was Brian Swinbanks, who expertly kept an often-heated debate in check.



The panel for a referendum debate held in Craignure Hall last Thursday

Sea watch spots whales and dolphins

THE WARM and settled weather has revealed unprecedented numbers of sightings of whales and dolphins around Mull and Iona, as revealed by the 13th national whale and dolphin watch run by the Sea Watch Foundation.

With so many sightings and species of marine mammals to be seen around the British Isles, Sea Watch is encouraging everyone to go to the coast and see them for themselves.

In one week up to August 3, the research has shown 55 bottlenosed dolphins, 38 harbour porpoise, five sightings of five different minke whale, 40 common dolphins and one sighting of a pod of Risso's dolphins totalling 20 animals.

There were 499 sightings around the UK over the week.

Gearing up for Salen Show

THE MULL and Morvern Agricultural Society meeting at Salen Show takes place today (Thursday) at Glenaross.

The event will host a number of competitions including Highland cattle, sheep, ponies, horses, dogs and a terrier race among others.

The show starts at 10.15am.

Fionnphort pier is not rubbish

FERRY workers made a decision to tidy up Fionnphort pier after there were a number of complaints about the state of the gateway to Iona.

More than 40,000 visitors a year visit the island.

A huge number of bags of rubbish were removed from the pier. Islanders have been disappointed that bins removed from the area have never been replaced.

MORVERN lines

Under the Highlands' spell

Cursing your enemies used to be a popular pastime in the Highlands and islands.

In Gaelic it was called 'Cur buidseachd air' - to put a spell on. A similar word, 'buidseachas' was used on the island of Mull for the sort of curse that travelling folk were reputed to cast.

The Celtic saints were good at it too but in their case and if God was involved, it was called 'mallachd'. Another method was to cast the 'drochd shuil' (the evil eye) on them.

Although this form of revenge is largely a thing of the past it is not altogether dead.

A few years ago a tourist was giving a Highland council ferryman such a hard time about the cost of taking a car across the Corran Narrows, over which of course the man had no control, that the visitor drove away with the 'curse of the double puncture' over him.

One flat tyre you can cope with - assuming the vehicle has a spare wheel - two simultaneously means a very long wait in an area where garages are few and far between.

Not long ago when I was standing behind some awkward customers in a shop on Tobermory's Main Street, I was intrigued to hear the woman at the check-out muttering one of Mull's oldest curses, 'Doideagan Muileach', in their direction as they left.

Local tradition has it that the island was famous for its numerous, powerful witches, or 'doideagan'.

Their greatest day came in 1588 when, summoned by Lady Maclean of Duart, whose husband Sir Lachlan was eyeing-up a Spanish beauty aboard the famous Armada treasure ship at anchor in Tobermory Bay, they combined forces, sinking it and her.

I have no idea what befell the modern-day tourists after they left the shop but, having arrived in Tobermory by boat, I was relieved to find myself back in Lochaline without catching some of the shop assistant's spell!

Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com

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Music and messing about in boats make Luings summer

Luing

THE SUMMER sun has been shining on the island of Luing, and so far life has been very busy for visitors and locals.

On June 21 Cullipool hall was 'Ceilidh rocking' to the sound of 'Col an Aire' - the popular Oban band are regulars on Luing, since their early days with Feis Latharna's ceilidh trail.

The Isle of Luing Rowing Club has had a very busy summer so far with the committee offering 'try-a-row' nights weekly, mainly in Cullipool, where anyone interested in trying rowing can come along and take to the water in either *Virda* the club's Fair Isle skiff or *Hinba* their newly built St Ayles skiff.

This is the rowing club's first summer, and the high level of interest has amazed them, with ladies' and men's teams emerging and practising on various nights during the week.

The club plans to hold a regatta on Saturday, August 30 with boats hopefully coming from Mull, Seil and Kilmelford.

The Ceilidh Trail - Ceol mun cuairt - returned again to Cullipool Hall on Friday, July 25, as part of its summer tour which included a performance on Glasgow Green as part of the Commonwealth Games.

The very talented young Argyll musicians amazed the audience, with their playing and singing in Gaelic and English.

More music was on offer in Cullipool Hall on Monday, July 28, when Luke Daniels, Lauren MacColl and Ewan MacPherson brought their brand of Scottish and Irish traditional tunes. Offering contemporary acoustic folk and Gaelic songs, they played the melodeon, fiddle, guitar, mandolin and accompanied

the beautiful, haunting vocals of guest vocalist Yaffa Quan Weinreich. The village hall was packed with music lovers of all ages for the event organised by Luing Community Trust.

The Atlantic Island Centre is progressing well, and the Luing Community Trust has also hosted a 'fun day' with Argyll and Bute Council. This family fun day was held on one of the hottest days of the summer, July 23, and families enjoyed cooking outdoors and taking part in crafts and games.

Cullipool Hall has also been offering family fun for everyone, with its ever-popular weekly beetle drives. The evening is always fast and furious.

The hall also hosts a ceilidh/disco, which proved to be super fun for the youngsters who danced and joined in with games led by the MC Kay Benn.



ANYONE FOR ROWING: A skiff is launched by Isle of Luing Rowing Club

Store delay is past sell-by date

Councillor calls for action over Fort superstore

EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

SUPERMARKET giant Tesco may shelve plans to open a supermarket in Fort William until 2020, according to well-placed industry source.

But Highland councillor Bill Clark says he is 'bitterly disappointed' about the lack of an imminent opening date.

The retail company bought a site at Blar Mhor on the outskirts of town when planning permission was granted in 2011.

It funded major infrastructure improvements including a new roundabout, access road and drainage system. Last year, Tesco said the 60,000sq ft store would open 'no earlier than 2015'.

Fort William High Street has a small Tesco Metro store but now it seems Lochaber may have an even longer wait for the much-anticipated supermarket.

A Tesco spokesman would not be drawn on a possible opening date.

He said: 'We're not yet in a position to be able to confirm an opening date but we will be sure to keep the community closely updated on our intentions. In the meantime, our town centre store will continue to work hard to provide an excellent service

to local customers.'

Councillor Bill Clark, who represents Caol and Mallaig, said he was disappointed if the store opening was delayed until 2020. He added: 'I haven't heard anything recently but nothing would surprise me any more.

'To put it bluntly I'm bitterly disappointed. When we granted planning permission, we expected them to start work right away. We were told building would have started by Christmas last year and now we have a huge area clear and ready but nothing is there.

'The supermarket would be fantastic for the Lochaber economy. It would bring competition to the shops we already have and bring in so many jobs. We expected it to be open by now, or at least for work to be well underway.'

The councillor, who also sits on Highland Council's north planning applications committee, said the company was sitting on land that could be utilised by a competitor store.

He said: 'Tesco is not turning the same profits they used to, so they appear to be 'land banking', to prevent their competitors opening a store in the area.

'It's not just here they're doing it, it's all over the country. They say they can't do it now but they were fast enough to do all the road improvements when they wanted planning

Pupils hit the high note at games



DRUMMING UP SUPPORT: Lochaber High School's pipe band entertained the crowd at a rainy Mallaig and Morar Highland Games. For more pictures see page 19. 20_132mandm13

Search recovers fallen man

A HILLWALKER has been found dead in Glen Etive.

The body of the man, not believed to be from the Highlands and Islands, was discovered near Coire Lotha in the glen at 1.17pm on Sunday (August 3).

His absence was reported to police at 8pm on Saturday, after he did not return from his walk on Ben Starav

when expected. After a search by local mountain rescue teams, Rescue 177 helicopter discovered the body and it was moved to Fort William by helicopter.

A Police Scotland spokesman said: 'A search of the area was commenced by members of Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team but due to poor weather the search was stood down.

'Searches recommenced at around 8am on Sunday with members of Glencoe Lochaber and Oban mountain rescue teams.

Assistance was provided by Rescue 137 search and rescue helicopter and the Search and Rescue Dogs Association. Rescue 177 search and rescue helicopter took over the search duties from Rescue 137.'

Higher success rate rises

STUDENTS in the Highlands and the Western Isles are celebrating academic success this week after receiving their exam results on Tuesday.

In S5, almost one third (30.6 per cent) of pupils in the Highlands achieved three or more Highers and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) announced

an impressive pass rate of 80 per cent for Higher exams, which was more than the Scottish national average of 77 per cent.

Five Lochaber High School students and three from Glenurquhart achieved five A passes at Higher level.

And the number of Western Isles pupils receiving 'A' passes also

rose from 24 per cent in 2013 to 27 per cent this year.

Councillor Alasdair Christie, chairman of Highland council's education, children and adult services committee, said: 'I am pleased that once again the hard work of the students, their families and teachers has delivered very good results.'

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Currently, Scotland benefits from public spending per person that is around 10% higher than the UK average. Taxpayers across the UK help fund the vital public services we need such as health and education. The long-term financial benefit of staying in the UK is worth up to £1,400* a year to each person in Scotland.



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to trade with the UK. A new international border and a different currency system would make trade harder and cost jobs at a time when the UK economy is recovering.



Cheaper bills.

The UK's financial standing keeps interest rates low. That means cheaper mortgages and loans. Plus our greater size makes household bills cheaper. Staying in the UK would keep future energy bills for Scottish households up to £189** a year lower.



Best of both worlds.

The Scottish Parliament already decides important matters like health and education, and more powers for Scotland are guaranteed. And, as part of the UK family, we benefit by sharing resources and pooling risks. By staying together, we can have more decisions taken here in Scotland backed by the strength, stability and security of the UK.



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HM Government

Alternatively, you can request more information by writing to: Scotland Office, 1 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 7HW.
* Source: Scotland analysis: Fiscal policy and sustainability, HM Government, May 2014 ** Source: Scotland analysis: Energy, HM Government, April 2014

AONACHAN CROSSROADS CLAIMED THREE LIVES IN THE PAST YEAR



WRECKAGE: This car ends up off the road at the notorious A82 blackspot



OVERTURNED: This car becomes another statistic in the road crash figures

Safety work to go ahead at Lochaber accident blackspot

EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

WORK will soon be underway to repair a road at a notorious accident blackspot in Lochaber.

The local community has welcomed the news that the Aonachan crossroads section of the A82, one mile south of Spean Bridge, is to be resurfaced later this month following two fatal accidents involving three local men in the past year.

BEAR Scotland, trunk roads maintenance contractor, will begin repairs at the area, known as Brackletter junction, on Monday August 18 on behalf of Transport Scotland with work expected to last until August 29.

Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council chairman John Fotheringham welcomed

the news but called the behaviour of some drivers 'sheer silliness' and said this could cause future accidents.

He added: 'We have been campaigning for a long time to have this road repaired and I'm delighted that it's good news at last and something is being done.'

'However anyone who drives the A82 section from Inverness to Fort William recognises that there are few clear overtaking opportunities, but the straight, south of Spean Bridge leading to the Aonachan crossroads, is one that some drivers see as just such an opportunity, without realising the inherent dangers that may occur when travelling in both directions. So drivers using excessive speed is a factor which has caused some accidents.'

The roadworks will require traffic management and maximum speed

“
We have been campaigning for a long time
”

John Fotheringham
community council chairman

restrictions of 10mph.

Lochaber road user Davie Kerr asked: 'Why do they always seem to do such repairs in the middle of the tourist season? I'd have been tempted to leave it until September when the summer traffic has died down a bit.'

But Mr Fotheringham said he would rather see the work completed as soon as possible.

He said: 'It will cause some disruption but it's not for long and the long term safety of our community is more important. The sooner the better as far as I'm concerned.'

John Wrigley, planned maintenance manager for BEAR Scotland, said: 'We are aware of, and have investigated, recent accidents which have occurred at Brackletter junction. We propose to resolve the existing carriageway issues at, and on approach to, the crossroads. This will improve the carriageway safety and hopefully reduce the frequency of accidents at this location.'

Resurfacing will be carried out between 7am and 7pm, Monday to Friday, from August 18 until August 29.

Funding control remains with Highland and islands

MONEY for the Highlands and Islands from Europe is to be protected despite changes to the distribution programme.

There had been some concern that the new European Union system would lead to a central belt focus on funding but Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) has confirmed that the area's €192m will remain ring-fenced in the new structural and investment programme.

HIE staff will be involved in the administration and delivery of the new programmes.

MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch Dave Thompson welcomed the news.

He said: 'I was aware there had been some reports in the press that the funding allocation was in jeopardy so to have the ring-fenced funds confirmed for the Highlands and Islands is excellent news.'

'I welcome the fact that HIE will still be involved in the administration and delivery of the funds and I look forward to finding out the specific details of their involvement.'

Achievements to be rewarded

BUSINESSES in the Highlands will be recognised for their achievements at an awards ceremony to be held next month.

Companies and individuals can nominate themselves for prizes in seven categories of the Highland Business Awards including outstanding performing business, best social enterprise, best family business and business leader of the year.

Winners will be announced at an awards lunch in Inverness on Thursday September 25 which will also feature a regional award, for which the Lochaber area will be sponsored by Ben Nevis Distillery.

For more details and information on how to apply contact Lochaber Chamber of Commerce on 01397 705765 or membership@lochaber-chamber.co.uk.

Insh scout camp break-in damage

POLICE are appealing for information about the following incidents in Lochaber:

Sometime between July 27 and August 1 the Insh Scout Camp at Spean Bridge was forcibly entered and property inside was damaged.

Between 9.30pm on August 1 and 10am the following day a black Gary Fischer man's mountain bike was taken from outside the Co-op in Caol.

Anyone with information can contact police on 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800555111.

Pipers gather in Lochaber

THE ANNUAL Lochaber Gathering piping festival will return to Fort William on Saturday (August 9).

Pipers from all over the world will descend on the Nevis Centre for both junior and senior competitions, with College of Piping principal Robert Wallace providing this year's lecture on the life and music of John MacLennan of Dunoon.

Contests begin at 9.15am and run throughout the day.

Tickets are available on the door.

Indoor sport gains support

LOCHABER Sports Association's bid to build a multi-sport indoor facility at Lochaber High School has taken a step forward with the area's rotary club agreeing to assist with the cost of a planning application.

Lochaber rotarians agreed that people were sorely in need of an indoor training facility if sportsmen and women in Lochaber were to be able to train during adverse winter weather.

Club president John Harvey said: 'The club was delighted to assist the association albeit in a very small way.'

'The planning fee is a statutory cost that has to be raised and hopefully the proposal

will soon come to fruition.' Jane Blanchard of the sports association gratefully acknowledged the club's support.

She said: 'The sports hall will be a huge boost to the development of sport, fitness and well-being in Lochaber.'

In another bid to cut costs, Kilmallie Community Council has agreed to submit the planning application on behalf of the Lochaber Sports Association, slashing planning fees in half from £17,954.

So far £7,350 has been raised, a Big Lottery Investing in Ideas application outcome is due and the need for a drainage impact and flood risk assessment is being investigated.



LONE PIPER: Sandy Cameron

Sandy will stand alone

A TALENTED Lochaber teenager will take centre stage at this year's Highland Military Tattoo.

Sandy Cameron, 17, has been chosen as the lone piper for the Fort George event, which is returning to the region after a three-year absence as part of Homecoming Scotland 2014.

The Roy Bridge teen will close the tattoo which runs from 5-7 September at the Fort near Inverness and showcases the best of Highland culture.

Mr Cameron, three-time winner of the overall under-18 competition at the Northern Meeting, said he was 'really excited' about piping in front of the 6,000-strong crowd expected to attend.

He added: 'I've never done anything like this before and I'm really looking forward to it. I'm really pleased I've been chosen.'

'This is quite possibly the biggest event I've ever been part of. It has a big audience and a really good atmosphere.'

The sixth year pupil at Dollar Academy has been piping since the age of nine and last year added the MacGregor Memorial Pìobaireachd Competition title from the Argyllshire Gathering to his list of achievements.

Delighted father Kenny Cameron said: 'My wife and I are very proud that Sandy has been chosen. It's a big honour for him and we're both delighted.'

Bringing together a mix of local, military and international acts, the tattoo will kick off with a flypast from an RAF Typhoon from RAF Lossiemouth, and will showcase fiddlers, pipe bands, Highland dancers and Gaelic singers.

Highland Military Tattoo director, Major General Seymour Monro, said: 'The tattoo is showcasing the talents of many young local musicians and we are delighted that a fine young piper of Sandy's calibre is joining us for this prestigious role.'

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Question: The musical Wicked is based on which Wizard of OZ character?
a) Dorothy b) Wicked Witch of the West c) Tin Man

Answer Name

Address Postcode

Telephone Email

By entering this competition you agree for The Knight Residence to contact you. Please tick this box if you would NOT like to be contacted

Terms and conditions: OVER 18s ONLY. The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entry coupons will not be accepted. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and associated company employees and their families. This competition is also open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications. Digital subscribers can enter by printing this page and submitting their entry along with a letter explaining you are a digital subscriber (please provide your email address). Closing date for entries is midnight Monday August 18, 2014. The prize needs to be taken between November 19, 2014 and January 10, 2015 and dates must be chosen and booked by 29 August 2014.

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

It is really quite shocking to learn that in the 21st century, in a country that prides itself in having a public national health service - complain though we do about it - that people with kidney failure in Oban, Lorn and the islands have to travel three days a week to the central belt for dialysis treatment.

It is hard to imagine the strain this can put on an already suffering body and, as members of the medical profession have said, it can only foreshorten a life already under stress.

When still alive councillor Donald 'Skye' MacIntosh raised his voice on the issue of having a dialysis treatment solution closer to Oban - not for himself but in recognition of the effect the travelling had on the life of anyone suffering from the same fate.

Now *The Oban Times* and his widow, Wilma, have decided that it is time to finish what he started and raise our voices together and louder to fulfill Wilma's Wish that others should not suffer the hardship which her husband faced.

We want you to take up your pen, open your email, get on the phone, talk to others and join with us in championing Wilma's Wish to MSPs, MPs, NHS Highland, its board members, councillors, the Scottish government and Westminster.

Keep watching for updates in *The Oban Times* each week.

GLASGOW LETTER

Piping Live 2014

STARTING just one week after the very successful Commonwealth Games, Piping Live 2014, commencing on Monday August 11, has the opportunity to continue the showcasing of the city of Glasgow and once again the organisers have put together a programme which is certain to please all enthusiasts of traditional music.

In this letter I shall concentrate on the first half of the week with the remainder being outlined next week.

As in previous years the focal point will be the National Piping Centre where the café just outside the building will host performances from various soloists and groups on an hourly basis commencing at noon with the Fred Morrison Reelpipes Pipe Idol taking over at 3pm.

This competition will have four of the best young international solo pipers hoping to impress the judges to earn a place in the final on Thursday afternoon in the Piping Centre Auditorium and for which tickets are necessary.

First up, however, in the piping centre at 9.30am, will be the masters solo Piping competition.

With George Square not being used, the open space at the corner of Canlegies/Wilson Street will be the final destination for pipe bands who will start playing at the steps to the Royal Concert Hall and then at other locations in between.

The Candlegigg venue will also host the homecoming tent which will feature the music of the clans at 12 noon each day and then the music of the nations at 2pm.

From Tuesday to Thursday the CLASP Competition (Competitors League for World Amateur Solo Pipers) will be held in the Trades Hall, 85, Glassford Street and also on Tuesday there will be a lunchtime recital from Pipe Major Gordon Walker with the equivalent spot featuring Jack Lee on Wednesday.

One of the most popular events of the festival, the international quartets competition, will take place in the Strathclyde Suite with eight of the top pipe bands taking part.

The Wednesday evening concert will be the new traditional evening of Gaels and Gracenoets to be held in the New Atheneum at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

This concert will feature Darren MacLean, the Angus Nicolson Trio and the Mischa MacPherson Trio.

There will be a festival club, at the end of each evening's activities, in the piping centre, when there will be an opportunity to hear some of the artists who have performed that day.

At the College of Piping, Otago Street, there will be a piobaireachd of the day at 12 noon with a pipe band performing at 1pm.

On Monday the band will be the Field Marshall Montgomery with the piobaireachd featuring Margaret Dunn, two hours of excellent free entertainment.

The concert, sponsored by the Glasgow Skye Association Pipe Band, in the Royal Concert Hall on the Wednesday evening will this year feature the Greater Glasgow Scotland Police Pipe Band.

Pipe Major Duncan Nicolson and the band have been working hard for some time to produce a show which will feature something different and live up to the high standard of previous years.

The full programme for Piping Live can be viewed at www.pipinglive.co.uk

Tickets can be booked online or from the venues.

Family day out

MUCH has been made of the legacy expected from the Commonwealth Games and hopefully it will be the same for Piping Live.

Tuesday, August 12, will be a family day, an invitation to come along to the National Piping Centre to join in the fun.

It will be a day for everyone to enjoy, with music and events for all the family.

Drumming will be showcased and members of the National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland will demonstrate the bagpipes as well as giving lessons on the chanter.

Add in some Highland dancing, a special visit from Cheeko the clown, storytelling and face painting and the day will be complete.

Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS to Craig MacInnes and Jaclyn Gray, who were married on Saturday August 2 at New Dennistoun Parish followed by a wonderful reception at The Vue, Bathgate.

Craig is the son of Alistair and Jessie MacInnes of Broomhill who have North Uist, Skye and Taynuilt connections and Jaclyn is a member of the Govan Gaelic Choir.

Dates for Diary

Thursday August 7: St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm - Julia Fordham

Tuesday August 12: Live at the Star, Admiral Bar, 72a, Waterloo Street, 8pm - Kathryn Craig and Brian Willoughby.

Wednesday August 13: Tolbooth, Stirling, Summer Ceilidh.

Thursday August 14: Capercaille, Kelvingrove Bandstand.

Pub Scene

IN the Islay Inn the music this weekend will be provided by Crooked Reel on Friday and Ragaels on Saturday while in the Park Bar it will be Martainn Skene on Friday, Gunna Sound on Saturday and Deoch'n Dorus on Sunday.

YOUR LETTERS

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 200 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.



Benderloch and North Connell Gaelic Choir

Benderloch and North Connell Dramatic Club Gaelic Choir 1962 took part in the learners' chorals at the Royal National Mod in Oban that year where they gained fifth place. This photo was submitted by Ishbel Banks of Oban. Prints or emails of flashback photos should be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone who wishes a print to be returned must supply a stamped, addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB
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Telephone: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001

www.obantimes.co.uk

Road policing a step into the past

Sir I read with some scepticism your front page news item regarding road policing in Argyll.

To state that after 20 months we are being left the legacy of 'a new road policing team' in Argyll beggars belief. Claiming this to be a step to the future is farcical.

Argyll county police had the equivalent of this prior to being stood down.

It was called a traffic department with officers stationed in Oban, Dunoon and Campbeltown, giving clear access to the main artery roads in the county.

This new team, rather than being a step to the future, is more like a step to 'catch up with the past'.

The majority of fatal road accidents occur outwith the 30 to 40 mph zones, yet every day working people are being targeted.

The road deaths increased by 14 per cent in the period targets were introduced, yet the number of motorists caught increased by 37 per cent?

To quote Liberal Democrat justice spokeswoman Alison McInnes, the force were 'rapidly moving from a community focused, locally responsive service to a centralised, impersonal enforcement agency'.

These actions are slowly alienating the public from front line officers, who are not allowed to use discretion or common sense. I think it is about time to 'take a step back' to old fashioned policing. Police Scotland - time to think again.

H Kent, by email

Argyll and Bute in Mars launch?

Sir With reference to your editorial, *The Oban Times*, July 24: If Argyll and Bute Council was planning to launch a Mars probe from McCaig's Tower (that would light it up!) I could

see the necessity for employing outside consultants.

Within the council we have sufficient trades skills and academics to do anything required for betterment of our towns and villages.

Years ago there should have been an internal consultation office set up. This would obviate the need for bringing in someone from outside at extra cost.

With all due respect, Oban's only one of thousands seeking to make itself a bit special. What is wrong with ordinary?

As far as I can see if you have to make a feature to attract people it just becomes an ongoing search for a better viral. The rest of the town falls deeper into despair and neglect.

Far too often we go for the 'epic and awesome' however useless they are.

Quite often I find that 'that's nice' is all that people really want and it costs far less and is probably of more benefit. I could really enthuse over a repaired pothole.

G Doyle, Easdale

Oban hockey needs Lochgilhead pitch

Sir Regarding the back page *Oban Times* article last week (July 31), there may be no hockey clubs in Mid Argyll yet, but Oban has a new and growing men's and women's hockey club which has used the Lochgilhead pitch for its competitive home matches.

We may hope for a suitable pitch in Oban in the future, but without Lochgilhead, the nearest pitch in Argyll is at Helensburgh.

Since its regeneration in 2011, Oban Hockey Club has provided regular training on the high school 3G pitch for men and women and worked with schools to provide hockey sessions for primary and secondary girls and boys.

We have held successful annual tournaments indoors and outdoors (on grass). Our annual seven-a-side (run in association with the rugby club) tournament has attracted teams from beyond

Argyll and we have travelled to matches and tournaments in Edinburgh and the greater Glasgow area.

And all this without the benefit of a local hockey-standard astroturf.

With funding from the National Lottery Awards for All and Argyll Beats Cardiovascular Disease (ABCD) as well as sponsorship from McQueen Bros Charitable Trust, Anderson Banks and Maurice Lockhart Electrical, the equipment we have been able to buy has, so far, allowed around 70 local people between seven and 70 years old to take part and has provided training for local coaches and umpires.

Affiliated to Scottish Hockey, Oban HC is part of the development of hockey talent in Scotland. Many will have seen the skill and fitness of hockey teams at the Commonwealth Games last week, with Scottish men and women competing on the international stage.

As it is now, Oban players have been lured to National League clubs in Glasgow to play regularly on proper pitches.

With competition standard pitches in Argyll, the opportunities for local players would have no limit.

Dannie Onn, chairman, Oban Hockey Club

Loch Aline muster a good idea

Sir, Members of Royal Highland Yacht Club will have been both amused and informed by Iain Thornber's column in *The Oban Times* on July 24. This year, unlike last, the club has been blessed with fair weather.

The midsummer muster in Loch Aline, to which Ian refers, was attended by more than 40 yachts and 100 members and guests.

Ian gives some interesting history concerning the late Commander Colville's association with the club and with Loch Teacuis. He suggests that we should use Loch Teacuis for one of our musters. We normally

keep our three annual musters to matches and tournaments within a day's sail of the main west coast marinas, and Loch Teacuis would be stretching it from Ardfern.

However, it could be a great site for a muster during one of our summer cruises.

The last time I was in Loch Teacuis (which I have to confess was last century) it was largely blocked by fish farms, but looking on Google Earth it seems now to be clear.

Access either side of Carna used to be fraught with danger for those who did not have local knowledge.

Ian rightly points out that modern navigation aids have helped visitors, as do the very large scale charts published by Antares which cover both entrances.

Wherever an idea comes from, I'm happy to use it. And this is a good one.

So, on behalf of the club, thank you Iain. I will receive it this year with a view to using it in 2015.

Joey Gough, Commodore Royal Highland Yacht Club

Lochaber thanked for generosity

Sir On behalf of Lochaber Women's Aid and Star for Harris we would like to say a big 'thank you' to the residents of Lochaber for their generosity at the Beauty Fundraising Event recently organised by Onyx Beauty, Inverlochy.

An amazing £554.12 was raised for the two charities. For two days, staff at Onyx Beauty offered a manicure, massage or hair-cut and instead of paying for the treatment, clients made a donation towards the purchase of equipment and toys for the children helped by these charities.

Please accept our sincere thanks on behalf of the families that will benefit from the generous support of the people of Lochaber. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.

Lorraine Revitt, Lochaber Women's Aid
Tanya Ross, Star for Harris

ISLAY LETTER

operated by a team of volunteers. Ian has been the library service's friendly face and was always knowledgeable and helpful to local readers.

To date, Argyll and Bute council, which operates the service, has not announced a successor.

Everyone wishes Ian a long and happy retirement fully enhanced by tight lines and full creels.

Another leach calling it a day is Donald James MacPhee, who has retired after 24 years as the head gamekeeper at merchant banker Bruno Schroder's Dunossit Estate.

Donald James first joined the ranks of the estate workers in 1974 and, before taking over as head keeper, he was a kennel boy, pony man and beat keeper. He and his wife Isobel have now taken over a farmhouse in the Bruichladdich district from where they are operating a high quality bed and breakfast establishment.

They are both looking forward to providing the highest standards in their new venture and these will be on par with the qualities the retired gamekeeper brought to his duties on the island estate.

Everyone wishes the MacPhees every success in their change of career and hope that Donald James will still find time to traverse the hill and glens that played such an important part in his life and remain 'deer' to his heart.

Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX, Tel: 01496810 658



Beachd Ailein

Ailean Caimbeul

THA MÒRAN FHACLAN anns gach cànan a rèir coltais a tha a' ciallachadh "ceart" neo "gun a bhith ceàrr", ach 's i a' cheist mhòr cò tha dol a cho-dhùnadh de da-rìribh a tha ceart.

Gun teagamh tha daoine air a bhith ann riann aig an robh a' bheachd gur ann acasan a bha an glocas thar chàich, agus fios aca de bha ceart! Glè thrìc bha a' bhàraill sin a bh' aca orra fhèin gan gluasad a chur an cuid bheachdan an gnìomh gun a' chòrr conaltraidh le duine sam bith.

Chruithach na daoine sin an fheallsanachd gur e ceartas neart, agus tha ginealachan air feadh an t-saoghail air fulang ri linn leithid sin de dh'àrdan. Nuair a thachair sin le Hitler anns an linn a dh'fhalbh, chaidh an saoghal gu cogadh fuilteach agus chaidh miltean mòra a chall mun deach stad a chur air.

Còig bliadhna fichead roimhe sin thòisich cogadh eile nach robh ma b' fheachd a' mhairinn ach mìos neo dha, agus a chuireadh crìoch air cogaidhean. Diluain seo chaidh bhathas a' comharrachadh ceud bliadhna bho bhris an Cogadh Mòr sin a-mach, agus tha sinn fhathast fada bho shìth san t-saoghal agus tha neoichontaich de gach aois is gnè gam marbhadh air sgàth bheachdan dhaoine a tha gam meas fhèin ceart!

Tha aimhreit air a bhith a' dol eadar Israel agus Palestine bho chionn ùine mhòr agus tha gach taobh cho rag is nach eil fuasgladh dhan chòmhstri gu bhith idir furasta. Tha an suidheachadh ann an Gaza bho chionn ghoirid na mhaslath eadar-nàiseanta, agus ged a tha Hamas cealgach ann a bhith ag ionnsaigh air Israel à measg an t-sluaigh, chan eil sin ga fhàgail ceart dha na h-Israelachan na ceudan shìobhaltach a mharbhadh a' bualadh air ais. Aig an aon àm tha còir aca air an dìon fhèin. Ach ciamar a ghabhas sin dèanamh an aghaidh Hamas gun sìobhaltach a bhith air an dochan?

Fhad 's a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh seo tha fios air nochdadh gum bheil fois-fòirneart seachdadaid is dà uair a thide a stèidhichte na bu trathair airson cobhair eiginn a thoirt dhan t-sluaigh, air briseadh. Tha còmhraidhean gu feuchainn ri stad a chur air an t-sabaid cuideachd nan tamh. Ged a tha sith eatarra na bhrudair gu math fada às fhathast, tha fhios gum bheil an saoghal a' guidhe glocas Sholaimh dhan fheadhainn a tha ag amas chun nan còmhraidhean seo!

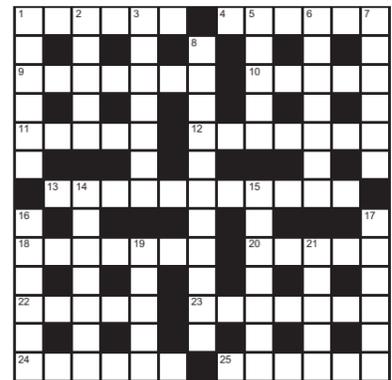
AS THE WORLD marks a century since the outbreak of the Great War conflicts continue and, as ever, innocent civilians suffer as a result of the inability of some people to resolve differences through discussion and agreement.

As I write this, there is news that a 72-hour humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza has collapsed and talks to end fighting between Israel and Hamas are stalled. Lasting peace may be a very long way off but mankind wishes the wisdom of Solomon for those who are negotiating these talks!

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

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- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1 Can't stand (6) | 1 Number two (6) |
| 4 Imitative (6) | 2 Be silent, in music (5) |
| 9 Small flute (7) | 3 Celebrated in history (7) |
| 10 Substantial (5) | 5 Aromatic seeds used for cooking (5) |
| 11 Rwandan people (5) | 6 Egg-shaped instrument (7) |
| 12 Expert in bridges? (7) | 7 Prairie wolf (6) |
| 13 Restricted (11) | 8 Fridge (4,7) |
| 18 Figure (7) | 14 Perform better (7) |
| 20 Blow up (5) | 15 Imbriate (7) |
| 22 Quartet member (5) | 16 Large feline (3,3) |
| 23 Brave (7) | 17 Tack (6) |
| 24 Difficult (6) | 19 Area at the top of the thigh (5) |
| 25 Address (6) | 21 Customary manner (5) |

LAST week's SOLUTION

W A D E R E M A S T E R
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O I S I N G E N U O U S
W I M M E R A
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No bidders but church has faith

STEVEN RAE
srae@obantimes.co.uk

THE CHURCH of Scotland is confident a landmark building it is trying to sell in Oban will reach the asking price, despite having received no offers.

Christ's Church on Corran Esplanade is for sale at offers over £125,000, with Friday, August 15 the closing date.

The decision to put the grade 'B' listed building up for sale came last April, when the Church of Scotland's Kilmore and Oban Parish learned essential maintenance would cost £300,000.

A spokesman for the Church of Scotland said: 'There have been no offers but there have been between six and 10 viewings.'

'Those viewing the church have included commercial groups, other denominations and members of the public.'

'Even though there's been no offers, I think it will reach the asking price.'

The church, also known as the white church, overlooks Oban Bay and was designed by Leslie Grahame MacDougall, one of the top architects of his time.

Kilmore and Oban Parish leased the church from the Anne McCaig Trust up until last April when the maintenance costs were discovered.

The listing on the Church of Scotland website describes the building as a modern church building on landscaped grounds, incorporating an access roadway leading to a turning circle.

Built in 1957, the accommodation comprises an entrance lobby, sanctuary, raised area, side lobby, basement area and a vestry and office, with mains water, drainage and electricity.

The property is being sold by the Church of Scotland's legal department, rather than through a private estate agent.



LEAP OF FAITH: Christ's Church, which overlooks Oban Bay, is up for sale but has received no offers. The church remains confident it can find a buyer before the deadline expires

16_132church01



MOVING TRIBUTE: Ellie and her aunt Julie Boyd, who completed the half marathon in Binghamton, New York, in memory of Tim Boyd, Ellie's father

Ellie's moved by her dad's generous spirit

A PORT Appin teenager whose father died in a freak lightning storm has completed a half marathon for charity to keep alive his generous spirit.

Ellie Boyd, 18, completed the run in Binghamton, New York in May with her aunt Julie, to raise funds for her father's favourite charity.

Tim Boyd was tragically killed in January 2013 when he was struck by lightning while walking the family's dogs not far from their home.

Ellie explained: 'After my dad passed away, I wanted to do something to help me move forward and also in his memory.'

'It was good for me because when someone dies it's upsetting, but you also feel guilt as you don't want people to think you've forgotten them. For so

many people to come together for my dad was really special.'

Originally from Oregon, Tim considered himself an 'adopted Scot', coming to Scotland in 2007 when he was offered a job as senior lecturer at the Scottish Association for Marine Science near Oban.

Ellie ran the half marathon with Julie, Tim's sister, in aid of Mary's Meals, in Argyll charity which helps feed children in some of the world's poorest countries.

Tim regularly donated to the charity and when Ellie decided as a child she wanted to make a monthly charitable donation of £2, Tim suggested Mary's Meals. Ellie added: 'In raising money for his favourite charity. We hope to keep his kind and generous spirit living on.'

Oban team in bid to find stricken walker

OBAN mountain rescue team was called out twice in four days last week, including to search for a walker who had fallen to his death.

The team assisted Glencoe and Lochaber mountain rescue teams on Sunday (August 3), combing Ben Starav in a desperate bid to find a walker who had been reported missing the night before.

The Glencoe team tried to search during the night but were thwarted by bad weather. The search resumed on Sunday morning with Oban rescuers covering the south side of the hill.

The body of the man was eventually spotted at the bottom of a gully near to the top of Ben Starav.

Both helicopters Rescue 137 from Lossiemouth and 177 Prestwick had joined the search for the stricken walker.

Oban team members stood by to assist while Prestwick and Lochaber team members recovered the body from the gully.

The Oban team also searched for two walkers on Cruachan Ridge on Thursday (July 31), after they became lost.

Fortunately, the pair had mobile phones and Oban team leader, Damon Powell, was able to pick up their signal.

Damon managed to pinpoint their location and the pair of exhausted but relieved walkers were quickly found and escorted off the hill safely.

As a fundraising exercise, the Oban team ran a burger stall at the Lorn Show on Saturday (August 2), and despite the poor weather, trade was lively and brisk. The team was grateful for the support it received from everyone at the show.

Virtual exhibition of art collection

AN ONLINE showcase of oil paintings owned by Argyll and Bute council has been launched.

Accessed through the council's own website, *Painting of The Month* will display a painting and give details of the artist and subject.

The first oil painting to feature is 'Loch Gruinart' by Perpetua Pope, which is part of probably the best known of the three collections owned by the council - The Argyll Collection.

In three collections there are in excess of 350 works of art, which are shown in offices, schools and public buildings and special exhibitions.

Lifeboat search for canoe is called off

AN EMPTY capsized canoe between the islands of Inshach and Kerrera prompted a fishing boat skipper to call for help.

Oban lifeboat was asked to investigate last week but was stood down when a call from the owner reported it missing from nearby Seil Island.

New website will be 'clutter free'

A WEBSITE was launched this week for Highland council.

A council spokesman said: 'The new site www.highland.gov.uk, allows users a clutter-free, fresh new look and is designed to be more accessible on mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets.'

Helping grassroots and young shoots

Royal Bank of Scotland RugbyForce 2014 is supporting 150 local clubs, helping them become more sustainable and inspiring the next generation of players to get involved.

Find out more on the [RBS Scottish Rugby](#) page



ADVERTORIAL

Back by popular demand

Television's favourite antiques experts return to Oban

Three of Television's favourite antiques experts will be returning to Oban later this August. The dealers, well known from their many appearances on daytime TV, will be appearing at The Regent Hotel on Friday and Saturday August 15 and 16 offering top prices for antiques, gold and silver.

Simon Schneider, Karen Dalmeny and Tim Hogarth regularly appear on television and are highly trusted and respected for their knowledge and expertise. With almost 100 hundred years' experience of buying and selling antiques, gold and silver between them, Karen, Simon and Tim joined forces in 2012 to offer the public an opportunity to sell their heirlooms directly.

Karen Dalmeny said: 'All three of us receive so many enquiries from people asking us to value and buy their antiques, gold and silver that we decided to set up a series of venues and offer the public an opportunity to meet us. We had a fantastic response when we visited Oban last year and we're hoping people will search their cupboards again and bring along their unwanted antiques and forgotten treasures.'

Since the dealers began working together hundreds of people have turned out with their prized antiques and jewellery but as Simon Schneider explained: 'As

there are three of us we're able to ensure no one has to wait long and we guarantee no queues. Everyone is welcome to bring along as many items as they want, no appointments are necessary but if they have something too large or if they are unable to come along during the day we are happy to arrange a home visit, just contact us by phone or email to make an appointment.'

Tim Hogarth said: 'Although we're rivals on television doing the venues with Simon and Karen is great fun and we get on really well. Each of us has our own specialities, which means we cover all aspects of the antiques business and ensure we are able to offer the very best advice and prices for those items we want to buy.'

The three dealers are inviting people to bring along their antiques and forgotten treasures and take this opportunity to turn them into cash.

Karen Dalmeny is a traditional antiques dealer and has clients across the world waiting to purchase anything from a Meissen figure to a full dining room suite. She has an impressive understanding of today's antiques market and current prices.

Karen said: 'I'm hoping we'll unearth some antique bronzes as the market is currently very strong



and they can be surprisingly valuable. I'd also like to see some fine porcelain, for example Moorcroft, Royal Worcester and I would just love to buy some Scottish Wemyss pottery.'

Simon Schneider is very well known and respected for his knowledge of 20th Century Decorative Arts. He specialises in Art Nouveau and Art Deco but also deals extensively in silver and Oriental antiques.

Simon said: 'The market for Chinese and Oriental antiques is particularly strong at the moment so this is a good time to realise their value. I also hope we'll be able to buy some quality antique silver items, especially Scottish Silver as the market for gold and silver remains very strong and I'm sure we'll be able to tempt the public with our prices!'

Tim Hogarth specialises in gold, silver and antique jewellery. He is an experienced dealer and an expert in valuing diamonds and precious stones. He also has an extensive knowledge of coins, medals and wrist watches.

Tim said: 'I'm hoping we'll find some lovely antique jewellery and I'm keen to buy whatever the condition. Good quality amber and coral beads are very wanted at the moment and I'd also be pleased to purchase vintage wrist watches, especially Rolex, Cartier and Patek Philippe. We'll be offering top cash prices to anyone who wants a deal and I'm sure we'll discover some interesting and valuable items.'

The dealers will be at the Regent Hotel Corran Esplanade Oban PA34 5PZ on Friday and Saturday August 15 and 16 2014.

We asked the dealers for their wish list of the items they would particularly like to purchase. They came up with the following, so go check your cupboards now!

- Gold jewellery and pocket and wrist watches in any condition
- Diamond rings, pendants, earrings and brooches etc.
- Silver tea sets, trays, caddies and trophies
- Oriental ceramics and lacquer work
- Bronzes and ivories
- Wemyss, Royal Worcester, Clarice Clifton and Moorcroft
- Art Nouveau and Art Deco including Lalique and Galle Glass
- Enamelled boxes and card cases
- Victorian paintings
- Amber beads and Coral beads
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For more information please contact:
Tim Hogarth Telephone 07970 818866
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Rain doesn't stop the fun at



LORN SHOW



Supreme champion was a Limousin heifer from Ewen MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm 16_132lorn11



Champion sheep and reserve overall was a Blackface from J & J MacPherson, Balliemanoach, Dalmlay

A LIMOUSIN heifer from an up-and-coming exhibitor saw off competition from more established folds at a rain-soaked Lorn Agricultural Show. Ewen MacGillivray of Barcaldine Home Farm, who is also junior vice-president at the show, led out Burnbank Isabella and took the supreme champion title last Saturday ahead of a Blackface sheep from Balliemanoach, Dalmlay. A delighted Ewen also had commercial cattle success with Flasher, a March-born Limousin cross heifer calf by Tweedside Upstanding. Ewen, who runs Creran Engineering,

said: "There was some strong competition today but you never know with showing. 'My dad always seemed to finish second to the late Ewen MacPherson so it nice for us to get a win at last. 'You have to spend a lot of time on the animals but it makes it all worthwhile when you win.' His 16-month-old Limousin, sired by Burnbank Frank, had placed fifth in a class of 18 at the Royal Highland Show but in the Lorn show cattle championship came up against Michael Poland's Highlander, Tanya 3rd of Mottistone, who was reserve female champion at

the Royal Highland Show and reserve champion at Drymen. J & J MacPherson, Balliemanoach, are always in the reckoning with their Blackface sheep and brought back last year's overall champion, a ewe off a £6,000 Connachan sire called The Skull. The one-crop ewe was good enough to see off Ewen MacGillivray's Texel shearing ram, Hull House Uncle Bulgaria, in the sheep section but Ewen had overall bragging rights by the time soaked spectators gathered to see the supreme championship decided. In an interesting twist, judges had to hold up score cards, making their

opinions very public. Joining the Limousin and the Blackface in the show ring at the close of play was the horse champion, an Irish Draught cross thoroughbred gelding called Capitalist, ridden by Laura MacLachlan, North Ballachulish. The horse and pony section had made a welcome return to the show and was held at nearby Dalintober. Capitalist's remarkable win came seven months since he underwent a lifesaving operation after contracting colic disease. Owner Laura said: 'The operation was seven months ago to the day and he

was cut from the middle of his chest to his hind quarters during the operation in Glasgow. 'You can lose a horse quite easily to colic, so I am really pleased to have won the championship today.' Completing the set of champions was dog show winner Millie, a working Patterdale Terrier owned by Iain Mackay of Appin and a Leghorn Bantam cockerel called Hughie, owned by Taynult's George Campbell. In the young handlers' classes, the junior award went to Zoe Prentice of Kilmichael Glassary. The senior award went to Scott

MacLachlan, Salen, who also brought out the champion Blueface Leicester, a two-crop ewe from J&M Turner, Kildalloig. The Kintyre farm added the mule championship and the Suffolk championship. President Mary Morrison said the show, which has now settled in at Keil Common Grazings at Tralee, near Benderloch, was trying to appeal to a wide audience but the rain seemed to keep some people away. But the weather was the only disappointment at what would normally have been a very busy event. See page 26 for results.



Highland cattle champion was Tanya 3rd of Mottistone, shown by Willie MacLean, Barcaldine 16_132lorn11



Champion sheep, other than Blackface, was a Texel from Barcaldine Home Farm called Hull House Uncle Bulgaria 16_132lorn11



Laura MacLachlan rode the champion horse, 17-year-old Irish Draught cross thoroughbred gelding Capitalist 16_132lorn05



Welly-wearing Angus J MacColl stood in as an able last minute deputy on the Oban High School pipe band bass drum 16_132lorn15



Appin's Iain McKay is the proud owner of the dog show champion, a Patterdale Terrier called Millie 16_132lorn07



Cattle judge Iain MacInnes, Ruairig, Tires puts the supreme champion sash on Ewen MacGillivray's Limousin heifer 16_132lorn07



Blueface Leicester champion was from J&M Turner and shown by young handler Scott MacLachlan 16_132lorn07



Winning Suffolk sheep from J&M Turner was shown by Greig Gillespie 16_132lorn07





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It's up to you to find a university that is prepared to accept you, and the best way to do this is to check their website or ring a university and tell them what you want to do.

Usually, if they have vacancies, they will take your details and either give you a decision straightaway or very soon afterwards.

Check the official Clearing listings in the national press, the UCAS website, or the websites of individual universities to find where there are vacancies in different subject.

Using the official listings will provide the most comprehensive and up-to-date information.

Think about alternative courses, perhaps a joint course with another subject instead of a single subject course, to maximise the choice available.

Start ringing possible universities straight away as places at good universities can be filled very quickly.

Funding is also vital for any student, and should be applied for in plenty time.

If you normally live in Scotland, and you and your course are eligible, you may be able to get help from the government to fund your course of further education.

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Monday 1st September at 8:00pm in
Church of Scotland Centre, Oban
Contact Joan Robertson on 01631 770254

Fèis Latharna

Traditional music tuition for children and young folk in Oban and Lorn. Traditional music lessons are held each Saturday during term time between 10am - 1pm in the Glencruitten Road Church Centre, Oban.

Please contact Ewen MacPherson (07733001283) or Joanie Garvin (01631 563987)

what's on

THE OBAN TIMES
FREE EVENT LISTING

THURSDAY 7TH AUGUST
Mid Argyll Art Society Exhibition, Lochgilphead Drill Hall, 10am-8pm
Salen Show, Salen Showground, Aros, Isle of Mull, 10am
Lorn Community Producers Market, Kintaline Farm, Benderloch, 10am-3pm
Qi Gong and Meditation, Every Thursday, Therapy Room, High St, Oban, 3-4pm
The Cheviot, The Stag and The Black, Black Oil, Corran Halls, Oban, 7.30pm
Hollow Mountain Trio, Every Thursday, Barn Bar, Lerags, 8-11pm
Summer Ceilidh, Every Thursday, Taynuilt Village Hall, 8pm
FRIDAY 8TH AUGUST
Gaelic Furan Friday Fun for children, Corran Halls, 9.30-10.30am
Mid Argyll Art Society Exhibition, Lochgilphead Drill Hall, 10am-8pm
SATURDAY 9TH AUGUST
Mid Argyll Art Society Exhibition, Lochgilphead Drill Hall, 10am-2pm
Mid Argyll Show, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, All day
Sunart and District Show, Strontian Showfield, 9.30am
Tabletop Sale, Crianlarich Hall, 11am-3pm
Oban Bay Raft Race, George Street Beach, 1-4pm
Scottish Show at the Royal Hotel, Oban, 8.30-10.30pm
SUNDAY 10TH AUGUST
Craft Fayre, Every Sunday, Creagan Inn Appin, 12-5pm
TUESDAY 12TH AUGUST
Scottish Show at the Royal Hotel, Oban, 8.30-10.30pm
THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST
Islay, Jura & Colonsay Show, Bridgend, Islay, From 9am
Qi Gong and Meditation, Every Thursday, Therapy Room, High St, Oban, 3-4pm
Tajji Beginner Class, Glencruitten Church Hall, Oban, 7.45-9pm
Hollow Mountain Trio, Every Thursday, Barn Bar, Lerags, 8-11pm
Summer Ceilidh, Every Thursday, Taynuilt Village Hall, 8pm

Email details of your event to
whatson@obantimes.co.uk.

Piping Live! with Angus MacColl

A PIPING favourite will be giving a lunchtime recital at this year's festival. Kicking off in Glasgow next Monday (August 11) the annual festival will see pipers from all over the world descend on the city. Angus MacColl, from Benderloch, is a Piping Live favourite constantly in demand for recitals throughout Scotland due to his reputation as a great

entertainer. Angus has won the distinguished Glenfiddich Championships three times as well as dozens of other top prizes. Now in its 11th year, Piping Live will see 40,000 spectators from countries such as France, Spain, USA, Australia, and Macedonia come to the city, attending more than 150 events over seven days.

The event has a new city home in Candleriggs, situated in the Merchant City area of Glasgow. Securing the area on Wilson Street means the annual festival can continue to host daily free performances by some of the best pipers and pipe bands from all corners of the globe. The festival has traditionally used George Square.



PIPING LIVE: Angus MacColl will be giving a lunchtime recital on Thursday August 14.

Argyll artists pledges support for Glasgow School of Art after fire

ONE OF Scotland's best-selling artists, John Lowrie Morrison, has pledged to give a percentage of the profits from his summer exhibition in Lochgilphead to help restore the iconic Mackintosh Building at Glasgow School of Art, where he was a student for five years. John Lowrie Morrison OBE, known as Jolomo, who lives in Tayvallich, will give

a percentage of the proceeds from Knapdalelight Part II, which opens at the Archway Gallery in Lochgilphead this Saturday August 9, to the Mackintosh Appeal, along with donations from several other exhibitions this year. John, who studied at Glasgow School of Art from 1967-72, said he was devastated when he heard about the fire which badly damaged the Grade A listed

Mackintosh Building on Friday 23rd May. He said: 'The Mack made me who I am, it has a big place in my heart. I'm here, a successful artist painting the Scottish landscape, because of all I got from the Mackintosh building and the people in it - and the teachers who are there now are continuing to do that for folks like myself.'



FUNDS: Jolomo is raising money for Glasgow School of Art.

The West Highland Railway 120 years - John McGregor

BOOK PREVIEW

2014 sees the 120th anniversary of the opening of the West Highland Railway between Craignendoran and Fort William, when the through journey from Glasgow took some five hours. With the great age of railway building almost over, the West Highland was from the outset a social line, though corporate empire building and speculation played a part.

Subsequently extended to Mallaig, with state assistance, the West Highland route has been voted top railway journey - and the most scenic - in the world. From the north shore of the Firth of Clyde, the line passes the Gare Loch, Loch Long and Loch Lomond before crossing desolate but beautiful Rannoch Moor. From Corroun, Britain's highest and most inac-

cessible railway station, it descends through Glen Spean into Lochaber. In this illustrated book, Dr John McGregor takes a look at this famous line, from its construction to the present day - the men who built it; its early years and varied fortunes thereafter; changing traffic patterns; advertising and tourism; maintenance and mishaps; and the return of heritage steam.



Spotlight: fabulous singing and fun

THE SUMMER show from Spotlight musical theatre group shone a light on the incredible talent within the Oban-based group. Not only do the cast have a full range of competent singers, but they also have those who are willing

to put on a dancing and musical show for the town in the summer. Their efforts were well received with this year's show offering a superb night out for the audience. The programme included hits from shows and musicals - the audience had

everyone joining in and even some up on their feet dancing along with the show. The group are about to start auditioning for their yet-to-be-revealed winter show, which regular Spotlight fans are already anticipating.

Station loses sterling presenter

ONE OF Nevis Radio's best known and best loved voices is saying goodbye to the station and Lochaber as she moves to the Central Belt to be nearer her family. Jean Lafferty, known to many as Auntie Jean, has been a stalwart of Nevis Radio for almost 20 years, presenting her own speciality of religious programming. Jean said her farewells during her regular Sunday morning programme with her usual quiet, yet positive way, amidst many tearful messages from her regular listeners, wishing her and her husband Joe best wishes in their new lives. Nevis Radio also recognised Jean's years of devotion when chairman, Iain Ferguson arrived in the studio to make a presentation of a disc of her last show, specially mounted in a display frame.

Iain said: 'Jean is a very highly regarded and much loved member of the Nevis Radio family and will be missed very much. She was always willing to help and fill-in for other presenters with very little notice. She is most definitely one of the rocks on which the station is built and has made a tremendous contribution to its success over the years. We all wish her very well and would be happy to welcome her back at any time. Jean is a real star.' Jean said: 'It has been a real pleasure doing my bit at Nevis Radio and I can't believe the time has gone in so quickly. I will miss everyone here and my many friends throughout Lochaber and I will always remember them and perhaps make few visits back to see them.'



Jean Lafferty (left) receives a parting gift from Nevis Radio Chairman Iain Ferguson and presenter Carol Kelso who will be taking over her Sunday morning programme.

'Thank you to everyone who has been so supportive and all the listeners who have tuned in and phoned in over the years.

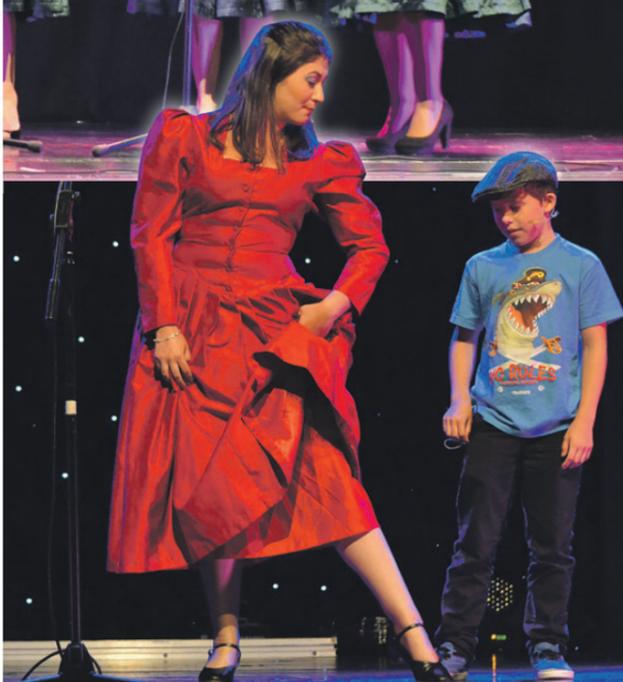
'Also a special thanks to Carol Kelso who will be taking over from me on Sunday morning. God bless you all.'

Screen Machine Scotland's Mobile Cinema

Fort William Thu 7 - Sun 10 Aug
Strontian Mon 11 Aug
Lochaline Tue 12 Aug
Craignure Wed 13 Aug
How To Train Your Dragon 2 (PG) 102 mins Hiccup and Toothless embark on a new adventure. What evil plans does the Dragon Rider have for his army? "... triumphant sequel." Empire 07/08 at 5.30pm, 08/08 at 2pm, 09/08 at 2pm, 10/08 at 5.30pm, 11/08 at 5.30pm, 12/08 at 5.30pm, 13/08 at 5.30pm
Jersey Boys (15) 134 mins Directed by Clint Eastwood, the film adaptation of the musical stage hit about the rise of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons as they steer a course through debt, Mafia threat and family disaster. "A classy affair." The Independent 07/08 at 8.30pm, 08/08 at 5.30pm, 09/08 at 5.30pm, 11/08 at 8.30pm
Mrs Brown's Boys D'Movie (15) 94 mins When her fruit and veg stall comes under threat from a ruthless property developer, Mrs Brown and her family embark on a campaign to save it. "A D'Light for fans." The Mirror 08/08 at 8.30pm, 10/08 at 8.30pm, 12/08 at 8.30pm
Jimmy's Hall (12A) 109 mins Directed by Ken Loach, the true story of the Irish political firebrand Jimmy Gralton. The Catholic church is determined to close the social club he has opened for his community. "... bursting with wonderful music and movement." Evening Standard 09/08 at 8.30pm, 13/08 at 8.30pm

Book in advance at: www.screenmachine.co.uk or phone 0871 902 5750. Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. Cash, no cards. £7.00 Adults. Concessions £5.50. 3D +£1.50





Scotland's natural heritage celebrated in 10th Blas Festival commission



READING: Brigadier John MacFarlane will be reading Moladh Beinn Dobhrain at the Blas Festival. 15_132johnmacfarlane1

THE PREMIERE of a special commission for the 2014 Blas Festival features Brigadier John MacFarlane from Taynuilt and a piece by Argyll poet, Duncan Bann MacIntyre.

The work, Moladh Beinn Dobhrain, created in collaboration with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), will take place at the organisation's headquarters, Great Glen House in Inverness, on Friday September 5, the opening night of Blas.

Known as one of Gaelic's greatest ever songs, Moladh Beinn Dobhrain (In praise of Ben Doran) provided a focus for the commission and one of the legacies is a recording of Brigadier Iain MacFarlane of Taynuilt, a third generation native Argyll Gaelic speaker and Gaelic Society of Inverness Chieftain, reading the complex poem in entirety and as it would have been heard back in Duncan Ban's time.

The poem itself, is a minor part of the production entitled Miorbhail nam

Beann (The Wonder of the Mountains) which will open the 10th Blas festival.

Renowned fiddler Iain MacFarlane of Glenfinnan has been commissioned to create Miorbhail nam Beann, a bilingual performance using music, images and words to explore the past and present relationship between people and land and culture, through the work of Duncan Ban.

For this commission, Iain, together with Ewen Henderson (Mánran), Ewan Robertson (Breabach) and Hamish Napier (Back of the Moon) formed 'The Donnchadh Bann Boys'.

Following its premiere at Great Glen House in Inverness, Miorbhail nam Beann will be performed at Glegarry Community Hall on Saturday 6th; Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in Skye on Thursday 11; Ullapool's MacPhail Centre on Friday 12 and at Taynuilt Village Hall on Saturday September 13.

Ian Ross, SNH chairman, said: 'We are delighted

to be supporting this year's Blas Festival which showcases our distinctive Highland music, language and culture.

'Duncan Bann's songs and poetry deal with the complex relationship between people, culture and the stunning landscapes of the Highlands.

'Our support for Blas showcases Donnchadh Bann's work which explores modern concepts of ecosystems and sustainability.

'It leaves us a legacy as we mark his words and the role we at SNH have to play in terms of looking after our precious landscapes, plants and animals.'

The Blas festival, one of the Highlands most successful arts events, has reached a significant milestone with Blas 2014 marking the festival's tenth anniversary.

This year's international event, spread across 50 venues in the Highlands and Argyll, promises to be bigger and better than ever.



Isla Sinclair and Laura Munro Dancers, from left, who performed last Thursday in Taynuilt: Iona McKay, Caoimhe MacKay, Isla McKay and Freya Durkin.

Summer ceilidhs packed full of talent

THERE was real variety at last Thursday's Taynuilt Summer Ceilidh as singers, musicians and dancers took to the stage in the village hall.

Young piper James Divers started the proceedings with a selection of lively pipe tunes, before Isla Sinclair and Laura Munro dancers Isla McKay, Caoimhe MacKay, Iona McKay and Freya Durkin combined to give excellent displays.

Ann Barlow provided some lively music on her fiddle and further enjoyable music was produced by the Commonwealth Ceilidh

Band, comprising Hilary MacDonald (guitar), Peter Grubb (fiddle), Christine Ritchie (keyboard) and Ann Barlow (fiddle).

Tarbert Gaelic Choir, under conductor Hilary MacDonald, delighted the audience before three of the choir members, Neil MacDonald (solos), Christine Johnston and Josie Campbell (duet) also sang.

The previous week's ceilidh was opened by another young piper, Alasdair MacLean, and Highland dancing sisters Isla and Iona McKay, from Dalmailly, delighted the audience with

excellent performances.

Local soloists Mary Catherine MacNeil and Freddy MacKenzie, both Mod gold medalists, produced enjoyable singing performances while accordionist Alasdair MacDonald was called into action on several occasions for solo spots and to accompany Freddy.

Further impressive singing and instrumental sets were provided by 'Peat Reek', a group comprising Kirsty Duncan, Chris Beveridge and Ron Pirrie.

Fear an Taighe for both evenings was Davy Paterson.

Oban Phoenix Cinema

Planes: Fire & Rescue
 Thurs 7th 13.00 3D, 15.30, 18.30
 Fri 8th 13.00, 15.30 3D, 18.30
 Sat 9th 13.00 3D, 15.30 3D, 18.30
 Sun 10th 13.00, 15.30 3D, 18.30
 Mon 11th 13.00 3D, 15.30, 18.30
 Tues 12th 13.00, 15.30 3D, 18.30
 Wed 13th 13.00 3D, 15.30, 19.00
 Thurs 14th 13.00, 15.30 3D, 18.30

Guardians Of The Galaxy
 Thurs 7th 13.00, 15.30, 18.30 3D, 21.00
 Fri 8th 13.00, 15.30, 18.30, 21.00 3D
 Sat 9th 13.00, 15.30, 18.30 3D, 21.00
 Sun 10th 13.00, 15.30, 18.30, 21.00 3D
 Mon 11th 13.00, 15.30, 18.30 3D, 21.00
 Tues 12th 13.00, 15.30, 18.30, 21.00 3D
 Wed 13th 16.30, 18.30 3D, 21.00
 Thurs 14th 13.00, 15.30, 21.00

Monty Python Live (Almost)
 Thursday 14th 19.00 (Encore)

Tel: 01631 562905 • Box Office: 08719 025752

Planes: Fire & Rescue (U)
 From above the world of Cars comes Disney's Planes, an action-packed 3D animated comedy adventure featuring Dusty, a plane with dreams of competing as a high-flying air racer. But Dusty's not exactly built for racing - and he happens to be afraid of heights. So he turns to a seasoned naval aviator who helps Dusty qualify to take on the defending champ of the race circuit. Dusty's courage is put to the ultimate test as he aims to reach heights he never dreamed possible, giving a spellbound world the inspiration to soar.

Guardians Of The Galaxy (12A)
 An action-packed, epic space adventure, where brash adventurer Peter Quill finds himself the object of an unrelenting bounty hunter after stealing a mysterious orb coveted by Ronan, a powerful villain with ambitions that threaten the entire universe. To evade the ever-persistent Ronan, Quill is forced into an uneasy truce with a quartet of disparate misfits - Rocket, a gun-toting raccoon. Groot, a tree-like humanoid; the deadly and enigmatic Gamora; and the revenge-driven Drax the Destroyer. But when Quill discovers the true power of the orb and the menace it poses to the cosmos, he must do his best to rally his ragtag rivals for a last, desperate stand - with the galaxy's fate in the balance.

Monty Python Live (Almost)
 Monty Python hold a place amongst the world's finest ever comedians, influencing a generation and revolutionising comedy. They are set to fly again for a final reunion, which will be broadcast live in cinemas across the world. John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones and Michael Palin will perform live on stage together for the first time, since performing at the Hollywood Bowl on 15 September 1980.

Belladrum is welcoming mothers and babies

BREASTFEEDING mums attending this weekend's Belladrum Music Festival can feed their baby in a baby friendly and supportive environment as the festival's organisers have recently signed up to NHS Highland's Baby Friendly Welcome Sticker Scheme.

Karen Mackay, Infant Feeding Adviser for NHS Highland, is delighted that mums who wish to breastfeed their baby are going to be welcomed.

She said: 'The Baby Friendly Welcome Sticker Scheme was re-launched last year and is for local businesses across Highland who wish to make their premises Baby Friendly and support breastfeeding in the Highlands.

'I'm delighted that the Belladrum Music Festival have pledged their support and that any breastfeeding mums who are attending the festival can feed their child knowing that support

is there.

She said: 'Belladrum is a family festival and there are so many events and occasions for all the family throughout the whole weekend. It's great that the festival is also doing its part to support the youngest members of the family by supporting breastfeeding.

'There are various areas set aside in the children's area, just look out for the baby welcome sticker.'

Jacobite by name

MEMBERS of a Jacobite heritage group will be marching to Spean Bridge's historic Highbridge on Sunday, August 17, to mark a legendary confrontation of 1745.

It was at the Bridge of Spean that a party of 12

clansmen, led by Major Macdonell of Tirindrish, caused two companies of government troops to flee after fooling them into believing they were surrounded by a superior force.

The march, by Na Fir

Dileas (The Loyal Men,) clad in traditional attire and led by a piper, will start at 1pm from the Commando Memorial.

A number of premises in the area will fly the red and white Jacobite standard to mark the occasion.



Hamish MacDonald, who passed away in 2008, next to one of his paintings.

Glencoe hosts MacDonald show

STUNNING prints of Hamish MacDonald will be on show at Glencoe until August 29.

The exhibition at the national visitors centre are on show for the third year running from this inspirational west coast colourist. Hamish MacDonald DA PAI, 1935-2008, was born in Glasgow, Scotland.

He studied at Glasgow School of Art between 1963 and 1967. His broad, fluid style and bold palette place him directly within the continuing lineage of the Scottish Colourist tradition whilst his ability to capture the atmosphere and vitality of his subject is enhanced by a confident and mature style.

Hamish is now widely regarded as one of Scotland's most successful contemporary artists.

In 2008 his daughter Nicola took over the sale and distribution of Hamish MacDonald prints including Giclée and Lithographic prints in various sizes, in signed, limited editions.

Folk museum is on its travels

GLENCOE Folk Museum is presenting an exhibition entitled Needed on a Journey.

Artefacts from around the Highlands that local people would have taken on their travels - including an enamelled travelling trunk, an elaborately hand stitched

coverlet, passport, pictures and letters home will be shown to visitors.

Museum curator Jenna Rose said: 'Since the re-opening of the museum, after the recent re-thatching project, we're now able to attract exhibits from much

larger organisations such as High Life Highland.

'Hopefully this is the first of many travelling displays that we can offer our visitors as they explore the Lochaber area.

The exhibition runs until August 28.

The Oban Times

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COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

An Comunn Gàidhealach CRUACHAN BRANCH

SUMMER CEILIDH
 Thursday 7th August
 8pm
 Taynuilt Village Hall
 Admission £4
 Members £3
 Children (5-16 yrs) £2

The Cheviot, The Stag and the Black, Black Oil
 Corran Halls, Studio Theatre
 7th August 7.30pm

Adaptation of the 7-84 Touring Theatre Company's presentation of Highland and Northern Scottish history from 1746, focusing on the Highland Clearances and continuing the central theme of ownership of the land through North Sea oil exploitation up to 1974.

Courtesy of BBC. Entry by Donation
Brought by Yes Lorn and the Isles

Advertise in the Community Notice Board for just £15.71 (plus VAT)

This section is available to charitable organisations with a charity number.

All AGM's will be placed on the Public Notice Page
 Please ask for details

The Great Oban Bay RAFT RACE
 Saturday 9th August
 Starts from the George Street Beach
 At 3pm - WHEN THE TIDE IS RIGHT!

Registration of rafts and crew from 1.15pm
 Event organised by Oban & Lorn Lions Club

For full race details contact
 Brian Simonds on 07712667542

To advertise in our community noticeboard call 01631 568000

Mallaig and Morar highLAND GAMES



PIPING: Lochaber High School Pipe Band
20_132mandm13



RACE: Women's 200 metre race was won by Victoria Savickaite, the girlfriend of Ross Douglas who won the men's 200 metre race
20_132mandm6

IT WAS a successful event for Mallaig and Morar Highland Games last Sunday (August 2), with a fine field of light and heavy athletes, dancers and pipers. The day itself was a games of two halves - one bathed in sunshine and the other in torrential rain. But nothing put off a loyal and strong audience.

Even Lochaber high school pipe band, who got caught in a downpour a few times, were not put off. With the number of youngsters lining up to compete there was a real feel that the organisers pulled out all the stops for new entrants onto the field with a strong traditional Highland games programme for younger participants.

Chairman Colin Buchanan said: 'This year was our first without games stalwart Ian Macnaughton and he is a big loss to us. 'We want the games to carry on at Iain's high standards and therefore we wanted everyone to have an enjoyable and safe games.'



DANCING: Highland dancer, Kelsey MacBeth, 16, (left), from Mallaig was in fine form dancing next to Eilidh O'Donnell, 11, from Inverness
20_132mandm8



TORRENTS: It was rain one minute and not the next
20_132mandm2



SUNSHINE: Then the sun shone on the crowd
20_132mandm7



ORGANISER: Chairman Colin Buchanan with his wife Anne Marie
20_132mandm9



COMPERE: The announcer for the day was Iain MacLellan
20_132mandm12



PIPER: Sandy Cameron, 17, from Roy Bridge
20_132mandm4

Arisaig highLAND GAMES



ORGANISERS: James MacKenzie and Fraser MacDougall were delighted with the turnout and the competition on the day
20_132arisalg10

HELD in almost sunshine Arisaig Highland Games and 10th Clanranald Gathering enjoyed a traditional games with something for everyone. The field at Traigh, two miles west of Arisaig where the event is held, is one of the most idyllic of the games circuit. This year organisers opened up two car parks,

and George Black, steward, said they were both full, the first time he had seen anything like it. There were plenty of activities for adults and children including the light athletics and games fayre. This year saw a number of events with large numbers of competitors including the piping and dancing. New heavyweight competitors were

under instruction from Tommy MacEachan, aged 77, from Arisaig, a former sub postmaster. Tommy himself still competes in the games. The one-mile race around the field was contested by nine competitors with a New Zealand man, Glen Chews, coming first, Simon Barrat from London second and Hugh Turret a local man, third.



STALLS: Mark McCann and Bruce James of the Royal British Legion Scotland were chatting to everyone at the games.
20_132arisalg6



BAND: Lochaber High School Pipe Band.
20_132arisalg11



A NEW BREED: Passing on his knowledge of heavy weight tactics is Tommy MacEachan, aged 77.
20_132arisalg1



BUSY: The Adnamurchan Distillery stall was swamped with people for most of the day.
20_132arisalg8



STRIKING: The Norwegian piper, Josien Teerlink of the Netherlands in her matching blue tights and jumper caught the attention of many of the visitors to the field.
20_132arisalg4

Farming

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Agent of The National Farmers Union
Mutual Insurance Society Limited.



Bunessan SHOW



BUNESSAN Show was one of the busiest for decades with a warm day and plenty of attractions and events for families.

Showing off some of the finest stock on the island last Friday, it was down to two outstanding beasts that were good enough to win prizes on the mainland.

Firstly the six shear Braxside tup, bred at Torloisk, owned by Jamie Lawrie of Ard-nacross. His achievement as the champion of champions was celebrated by everyone, including his baby daughter who found the rosette a fine item to grate her gums on.

And secondly a cow, homebred by Margaret Poulton. The four-year-old Limousin cross has had her second calf and is very calm. 'A

wonderful beast,' judges commented.

Other entries are worth a mention - Bert Leitch from Laggan Ulva won reserve champion for his two-month-old calf, a pure Limousin by a homebred black Limousin bull.

Crofter Gordie Rutherford was on hand to be helpful with a frisky winning home-bred gimmer from Fidden Farm.

Gordie was also placed with his own beasts. But he said seeing other people achieve so much with their own animals gave him the most enjoyment.

As well as the blazing summer sunshine and a large number of attractions, show visitors were treated to tunes from Mull and Iona Pipe Band.

BABY: The rosette not only looks nice, but tastes nice for this wee one. 20_132bun19



TWO SHEAR: Msrs MacNeil's winning champion two-shear tup from Tiraghoil, Bunessan - the overall male champion. 20_132bun15



SISTERS: Linda MacCallum (right) and Joyce MacIntyre were enjoying the day. 20_132bun13



CALF: Reserve champion from Bert Leitch of Laggan Ulva. The calf was 10 days short of its second month. The calf is a pure Limousin by a homebred black Limousin bull. 20_132bun5



GROWERS: Luke Senior, gardener from the St Columba Hotel, Iona won various prizes. 20_132bun20



GIMMER: Gordie Rutherford holds the Fidden Farm homebred champion. 20_132bun16



THE OLD GUARD: Ronnie Campbell of Fionnphort (left) is joined by Jim Corbett of Lochbuie for a wee seat. 20_132bun1



POLITICS: Janna Greenhaugh, right, quizzes Douglas Alexander MP on his farming skills. 20_132bun12

Farming Focus

Ewen Campbell, SRUC Kirkton & Auchtertyre research farms manager

The good run of dry weather experienced last week made our shearing plans run smoothly, which is a pleasant change from many previous summers. All ewes have now been clipped and returned to the hill if they have a single lamb, or kept in-bye if they have twins. As part of a comparison of different management systems, all ewes and lambs were weighed pre-clipping. Lambs on the conventional management system were all wormed, whereas those on the new 'Precision Livestock Farming' management system were only wormed if they did not meet

their individual target weight gain since marking in June. Only 5 of the 403 lambs on this new system did not reach their target weight, so were wormed. This process of targeted selective treatment for worming will continue until these lambs are finished or go to wintering in the autumn. Comparisons can then be made between the conventional and Precision Livestock Farming systems, in terms of lamb performance and economics. The aim is to find ways to reduce the amount of wormer given in our sheep flocks, to minimise the risk of resistance to these products,

without negatively affecting lamb growth and performance. It will be interesting to see how these systems compare in a hill environment.

The cattle are also thriving in the sunshine with the cows and calves now split from the bulling heifers. The bull returned home to SRUC's Bush farms in Edinburgh after all his hard work. We hope that his next batch of calves will perform as well as this group, which when weighed this week were averaging 223 kg at around 5 months of age and they have not yet had access to any creep feeding. They will very shortly

be moving up onto the hill to take advantage of the weather and the grass growth, utilising the hill along with the sheep.

We had the first of this year's 'Grassland Group' meetings at Kirkton and Auchtertyre on 3rd July, which provided an opportunity for the group of visiting farmers and grassland advisers to review the progress of the two year old Auchtertyre reseed field and the one year old Kirkton reseed field and make any recommendations for their management over the remainder of the season. The group also put forward suggestions for grassland management, and rush and

bracken control, elsewhere on the farm. We have been a bit late with our reseed plans this year but the grass seed is now in, so fingers crossed that the good weather continues. Thursday 24th July was the hottest day of the year so far, when the temperature at Kirkton reached 27.4°C, which is only the second time it has reached that temperature in the past 10 years.

These last few weeks have been very busy for the birds that nest in our farm buildings. We have a rather noisy family of pied wagtails nesting in a hole above the office door, and a number of pairs of swifts,

swallows and house martins nesting in the farm buildings. The fast, low flying acrobatics of the swifts and their shrill screaming calls have been a feature of the farm steading over the summer. A pair of barn owls at Auchtertyre has also been busy raising chicks. My colleague, Dr John Holland, has commented that this year has been a particularly good year for orchids at Kirkton and Auchtertyre with good numbers of Greater Butterfly Orchids, Fragrant Orchids and Heath Spotted Orchids providing colour and interest to the inbye and hill grasslands.

Tiree Show

Joint winners of the Crofters Shield at this year's Tiree Agricultural Show were Tearlach MacDonald, Main Road Farm and Ann Paterson, Crossapol.

Sunart & District Agricultural Society Show & Family Fun Day Out

Saturday 9th August 2014
Strontian Showfield
Judging Commences 9.30am

Sheep, Cattle, Dog show
Local Crafts, Highland Dancing
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Independent report calls on Scottish Government to prioritise long-term housing needs in Scotland

An independent Scottish Housing Commission led by RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) has published its recommendations to help improve Scotland's housing market across all tenures.

The Commission is made up of cross-sector experts within the housing industry and, through written and oral evidence provided by industry representatives, developed recommendations to help Scottish Government and cross-sector policy makers remove barriers in the Scottish housing market.

According to the report, measures including the expansion of the current Scottish Government Housing Policy Advisory Group, the creation of a more robust private rented sector and a renewed emphasis on establishing a sufficient quantity and quality of land for housing, including the creation of new communities across Scotland, are all required to address potential crises in Scotland's housing market.

Tom Barclay FRICS, Scottish Housing Commission Chairman said: 'The imbalance that exists between supply and demand for housing remains an on-going problem in today's, and potentially tomorrow's, Scottish housing market.'

'At the heart of our 15 Recommendations the commission identified three key issues for Scotland's housing future, namely, housing land supply, new housing growth and the emerging importance of the private rented sector.'

'A substantial increase in land supply for housing would assist development partners in their business preparation, reduce land costs and impact positively on the affordability of housing.'

'In addition, scaling up production of new house building across all tenures is in our view an essential aspect in a sustainable housing solution for Scotland.'

'By promoting the creation of up to eight major new communities, either as new towns, regeneration of existing communities or as expansion of existing plans, we could make major in-roads in addressing Scotland's acute housing need in the decade that lies ahead.'

'At the same time this would give a continued shot in the arm to the Scottish economy, by creating new jobs and supporting existing economies.'



The report also suggests that a greater level of attention toward the private rented sector could help alleviate pressure on the market. According to the latest RICS Residential Market Survey, a net balance of 25 per cent of chartered surveyors reported a rise in tenant demand within the private rented sector, with respondents reporting growth in demand through 2014.

Tom Barclay FRICS added: 'An effective, regulated private rental market is vital for future housing in Scotland.'

'Significant investment in a private rented growth plan for Scotland is required to provide security for the growing number of families and individuals depend on privately rented properties.'

The report further recommends that the Scottish Government put in place a Change Fund to support the social housing sector. The social housing sector has the potential to play a major role in delivering smarter and better



housing outcomes in Scotland. However, in terms of finance, evidence from lenders suggests that the risk rating of the housing association sector in Scotland has increased as a result of welfare and pension reforms, as well as a reduction in capital subsidies.

The fund would facilitate potential partnerships both constitutional and non-constitutional, helping shape new business models, evaluate transfers of stock between organisations, and, in essence, help provide a stimulus to give greater vitality to the sector.

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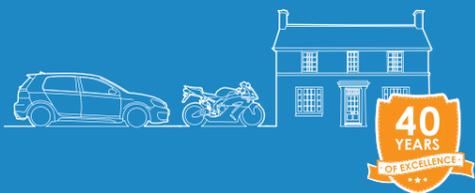
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Guide Price £165,000

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- Bathroom, 4 Bedrooms, one En Suite
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- Attractive features, sea-facing bay windows
- French door leading onto balcony
- Large, mature garden (approx. 2/3 acre)
- Hardwood doors & facings, 2 fireplaces
- Sizeable Basement/Workshop with services
- Off-road private parking for up to 4 cars

Guide Price £375,000

Fair Haven, Oban



- **£40,000 below Home Report valuation**
- Centrally located 4 Bedroom family home
- Porch, Hall, Lounge/Conservatory, Kitchen
- Dining Room, 4 Bedrooms, ES, Bathroom
- In excellent order throughout
- Good storage space including Loft
- Attractive fireplace with gas fire
- Fully fitted Kitchen with appliances
- Off road shared private parking, Garden
- Double glazing, Gas central heating

Guide Price £250,000

Innishail, Bridge of Awe



- **£10,000 below Home Report valuation**
- Substantial semi-detached house
- Porch, Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, WC
- Dining Room, Utility Room, Wet Room
- 5 Bedrooms, Dressing Room, ShowerRoom
- Good storage throughout, including Loft
- Double glazing, range of appliances
- LPG central heating, partial underfloor heating
- Private parking for several cars
- Potential for B&B/rental income

Guide Price £165,000

Achnacree, Kilmore



- Beautifully presented detached bungalow
- In excellent order and nicely decorated
- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room
- Utility Room, 3 Bedrooms, ES, Shower Room
- Large Kitchen with farmhouse style units
- Good storage, including Loft
- Built-in wardrobes in Bedroom One
- Attractive fireplace in Lounge
- Double glazing, LPG central heating
- Large established garden, private parking

Offers Over £220,000

Corton-Briley, Bridge of Awe



- Well laid out semi-detached house
- Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen
- WC, Utility Room, Dining Room
- 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage
- Good storage throughout, including Loft
- Double glazing, oil central heating
- Range of appliances included in sale
- Sizeable garden, variety of trees & shrubs
- Private parking for several cars
- Improvement potential

Guide Price £150,000

1 Castle Road, Dunollie



- Very well presented & spacious GF flat
- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom
- 2 double Bedrooms
- Range of appliances included in sale
- Electric storage heating throughout
- Fully double glazed
- Free on & off street parking
- Enclosed, private garden to front
- Communal garden & drying rack to rear
- Convenient to town centre & amenities

Offers Over £85,000

Shian, Isle of Mull



- **£60,000 below Home Report valuation**
- Well laid out detached bungalow
- Stunning sea views towards islands
- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC
- 4 double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Utility Room
- Large modern Kitchen/Diner
- Ample storage, including Loft
- Double glazing, oil central heating
- Large garden (approx. 0.5 acres)
- Private driveway, parking & turning area

Fixed Price £250,000

3a Dalintart Drive, Oban



- Spacious ground floor flat
- Porch, Hallway, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen
- 3 double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Modern, fully fitted Kitchen
- Range of appliances included in sale
- Oil fired central heating
- Double glazing throughout
- Free on street parking, ample storage
- Good-sized garden to front & rear
- Convenient to town centre & amenities

Guide Price £135,000

Devorgilla, Oban



- Charming 4 Bedroom house
- Close to town centre and amenities
- Porch, Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, WC
- 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Utility Room
- Double glazing, Gas central heating
- Newly fitted modern Kitchen
- Attractive fireplace with open fire
- Easily maintained garden with shed
- Area of decking to the rear
- Private parking

Guide Price £190,000

5G Ulva Road, Oban



- Immaculately presented TF maisonette
- Views of the surrounding countryside
- Porch, Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, WC
- 2 double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Double glazing, electric storage heating
- Built-in wardrobes in both Bedrooms
- Modern fitted Kitchen and Bathroom
- Good storage space, loft & store
- Balcony to the front with views of bay
- Communal drying green, free parking

Offers Over £90,000

Plot at The Anchorage, Ardfern



- Highly desirable plot, magnificent views
- Popular coastal village location
- Planning permission in principle for single dwelling (13/02225/PPP)
- Approximately 0.153 acres in total
- Enviably views of Loch Craignish and Ardfern Yacht Centre
- Wide range of outdoor pursuits nearby

Offers Over £75,000

Shuna, Oban



- Very well presented end-terrace house
- Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, WC
- 3 Double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Large Kitchen with range of appliances
- Good storage, partially floored Loft
- Built-in wardrobes in Bedroom One
- Double glazing, oil central heating
- Easily maintained, part enclosed garden
- Sizeable workshop with electricity/lighting
- Private off-road parking

Offers Over £170,000

Ardencaple, Oban



- Charming 3 Bedroom cottage
- Close to town centre and amenities
- Porch, Lounge, Kitchen, Hall
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Double glazing, gas central heating
- Modern kitchen & Bathroom
- Attractive multi-fuel stove in Lounge
- New boiler and radiators
- Easily maintained garden, large workshop
- Private parking

Offers Over £175,000

Shaston, Oban



- 3 Bedroom semi-detached bungalow
- Sought after residential area
- Porch, Hallway, Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Pleasant open views to the front
- Good storage space throughout
- Off road private parking, double glazing
- Partially floored Loft space
- Sizeable garden with shed
- Improvement potential

Guide Price £155,000

85b George St, Oban



- Beautifully presented, spacious FF flat
- Partial sea views from Bedroom Two
- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- 2 double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Convenient to town centre & amenities
- Modern Kitchen & Bathroom
- Attractive electric fire in Lounge
- Double glazing, underfloor heating
- Mirrored wardrobes in both Bedrooms
- Ceiling spotlights throughout

Offers Over £120,000

3 Lunga Road, Oban



- Superb mid terrace family home
- Porches, Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, WC
- Dining Room, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- New Kitchen with built-in oven & hob
- Good storage, including Loft
- Double glazing, electric storage heating
- Easily maintained, enclosed garden
- Good-sized outside store
- Free on street parking & car park
- Convenient to town centre and amenities

Offers Over £105,000

Aureol, Connel



- Well presented semi-detached house
- Sought after rural village close to Oban
- Vestibule, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen
- Conservatory, Bathroom, 3 Bedrooms
- Cooker & fridge/freezer included in sale
- Good storage including substantial Loft
- Double glazing, LPG central heating
- Large, easily maintained garden, shed
- Private parking for several vehicles
- Potential to add an extension

Guide Price £160,000

The Hedges, Taynuilt



- Well presented 3 Bedroom bungalow
- Breathtaking views of Loch Etive
- Porch, Hallway, Kitchen, Dining Room
- Lounge, WC, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Ample storage, fitted wardrobes & Loft
- Fitted Kitchen with range of appliances
- Double glazing, electric storage heating
- Sizeable well-kept garden
- Garage, workshop & green house
- Private parking for several cars

Offers Over £200,000

14 Coe Gardens, Oban



- Spacious, 3 Bedroom bungalow
- Porch, Hallway, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, WC
- Enviably open views across the town
- Good storage space throughout
- Attractive electric fire in Lounge/Diner
- Double glazing, sliding doors to decking
- Large, insulated Loft space
- Replacement storage heaters
- Garden, off-road private parking

Offers Over £175,000

Alltavona, Oban



- Exceptional 4 star Guest House
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- Gas central heating, ample storage
- Fully double glazed with new windows
- Private parking for up to 8 vehicles
- Highly successful business opportunity

Guide Price £750,000

Suva, Oban



- Immaculate 4 Bedroom detached house
- Magnificent views across the town
- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, WC
- 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Shower Room
- Family/Dining Room, Utility Room
- Good storage, partially floored Loft
- Double glazing, oil central heating
- Wood burning stove & underfloor heating
- Large garden, workshop, decking
- Private parking & detached garage

Guide Price £250,000

14e Corran Brae, Oban



- **£5,000 below Home Report valuation**
- Well laid out and spacious top floor flat
- Hallway, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen
- 2 double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Double glazing, solid fuel central heating
- Good storage space, including Loft
- Balcony with development potential
- Free on-street parking
- Communal garden and drying green
- Convenient to town centre and amenities

Guide Price £80,000

Tigh Na Faidh, Appin



- Substantial 5 Bedroom detached house
- Magnificent views towards Loch Creran
- Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Utility/Shower Room
- 5 Bedrooms, 1 with En Suite
- Modern features throughout
- Double glazing, French doors onto decking
- Oil central heating with open fire in Lounge
- Great storage throughout, including Loft
- Attractive staircase & Jacuzzi bath
- Sizeable garden with private parking

Guide Price £275,000

Riverside, Bridge of Awe



- Well presented semi-detached house
- Beautiful rural setting, near River Awe
- Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory, Wet Room
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Shower Room
- Good storage including floored Loft
- Oil central heating, electric fire in Lounge
- Double glazing, new boiler
- Established, enclosed garden, shed
- Large area of paved private parking
- Disabled access & amenities

Guide Price £150,000

24b High Street, Oban



- **£5,000 below Home Report valuation**
- Stamp Duty paid
- Very well presented, spacious first floor flat
- Newly refurbished to a high standard
- Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, WC
- 3 double Bedrooms, good storage
- Convenient to town centre & amenities
- Modern kitchen units & bathroom suite
- Double glazing, electric storage heating
- Range of appliances included in sale

Guide Price £130,000

Croft 1, Deer View



- Large croft with magnificent views
- Planning permission for a single dwelling house (Ref. 13/02670/PPP)
- Approximately 4.05 acres in total
- Open views of Loch Etive, Ben Cruachan & surrounding countryside
- Wide range of village amenities & outdoor pursuits nearby

Guide Price £130,000

Croft 3, Deer View



- Large croft with magnificent views
- Planning permission for a single dwelling house (Ref. 13/02672/PPP)
- Approximately 7.4 acres in total
- Open views of Loch Etive, Ben Cruachan & surrounding countryside
- Wide range of village amenities & outdoor pursuits nearby

Guide Price £150,000

Croft 4, Deer View



- Large croft with magnificent views
- Planning permission for a single dwelling house (Ref. 13/02673/PPP)
- Approximately 7.3 acres in total
- Open views of Loch Etive, Ben Cruachan & surrounding countryside
- Wide range of village amenities & outdoor pursuits nearby

Guide Price £150,000

Plot 3, Deer View



- Sought after building plot with magnificent panoramic views
- Planning permission for a 1.5 storey dwelling house (Ref. 13/01371/PPP)
- Approximately 1 acre in total
- Elevated views of Loch Etive, Ben Cruachan & surrounding countryside
- Wide range of village amenities & outdoor pursuits nearby

Guide Price £120,000

Plot nr Ford, South Argyll



- Generous sized building plot in delightful rural location
- Planning permission in principle for single dwelling house (Ref. 12/01078/PPP)
- Approximately 0.5 hectares in total
- Open countryside views including views of Lochan Ceann a'Choin
- Located approx 1.5 mile from A816 providing easy access to Oban, Lochgilphead and all places in between

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 - 08 Fiat Doblo 1.9D Active Blue 52,000 miles..... £4,250
 - 08 Renault Megane Expression 1.6 estate, Silver 39,000 miles £4,250
 - 07 Ford Ka 1.3 Zetec Purple 41,000 miles £3,250
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Drivers urged: Don't treat country roads like racetracks this summer, as one in three admit to driving too fast

Drivers are being urged to slow down on country roads this summer to enable families, walkers, cyclists and horse riders to enjoy great British countryside, as a survey reveals that a huge proportion treat them like racetracks. Results out today from road safety charity Brake and solicitors, Digby Brown reveal one in three drivers (33 per cent) admit driving too fast for safety on country roads, by speeding, taking bends too fast or overtaking. Four in 10 (37 per cent) have had a near-miss on country roads, while driving, walking or cycling.

Since there is less traffic on country roads, some drivers feel a false sense of security [1] and are prone to take risks like speeding, overtaking, and not slowing down for brows and bends. In fact, per mile travelled, country roads are the most dangerous for all types of road user, with car occupants almost twice as likely to be killed on a country road than an urban road, motorcyclists more than twice as likely, and cyclists more than three times as likely [2]. In 2013, 895 people were killed on non built-up roads, up 1 per cent on 2012, and 6,554 seriously injured [3].

Brake and Digby Brown's survey of 1,000 UK drivers also found:

- One in five (19 per cent) admit breaking speed limits on country roads in the past year
- Three in 20 (15 per cent) admit taking corners or brows too fast
- One in 20 (5 per cent) admit overtaking when it isn't safe
- Three in 10 (28 per cent) have been a passenger with a driver who broke the limit, one in five (19 per cent) with a driver who took corners or brows too fast, and one in 12 (8 per cent) with a driver who overtook when it wasn't safe.
- Four in five (80 per cent) think traffic is too fast for safety on some or most rural roads.

Fast traffic on country roads not only puts lives at risk, it can also harm people's quality of life by preventing them from enjoying the countryside on foot or bike for fear of being hurt. Three quarters of those surveyed (76 per cent) think country roads need to be safer for cyclists, walkers and horse-riders, and two in five say they would start cycling or cycle more (37

per cent), or start walking or walk more (43 per cent), if these roads were safer [4].

To cut crashes and empower people to enjoy the countryside, Brake is calling on government to lower limits on rural roads to a maximum of 50mph, and require authorities to implement lower limits where there are particular risks. The survey found widespread support for lower limits, with seven in 10 (72 per cent) in favour of more 50, 40 and 30mph limits on country roads, and two thirds (65 per cent) in favour of a 40mph default in national parks.

Brake is urging all drivers to stay well under current limits - bearing in mind 60mph is generally far too fast for safety on these roads - and slow right down for villages, bends, brows and bad weather, and avoid overtaking. Drivers should always assume that someone, or something, could be around any corner.

Fraser Simpson, Digby Brown partner and Brake spokesperson in Scotland, commented: 'Careless and reckless driving wrecks lives. At Digby Brown we work with families affected by road traffic crashes and see

first-hand their devastating human consequences. Driving on rural roads or in countryside areas has its own challenges and all of us should bear that in mind when we get behind the wheel. We can all do our bit to stop the carnage we see far too often on our roads. Whether it is checking and obeying the speed limit on an unfamiliar road, taking a bit more time to get round a corner or thinking twice about overtaking, care and attention saves lives. This is a really important message and Digby Brown are fully supportive of Brake's campaign and work in this area.'

[1] Direct Line report on safe driving 2009-2011, part 3 - speed, Brake and Direct Line, 2010

[2] Reported road casualties Great Britain: 2012, Department for Transport, 2013 - table RA520005_p94 https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/269601/rccgb-2012-complete.pdf

[3] Reported road casualties Great Britain: main results 2013, Department for Transport, 2014 https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/324580/rccgb-main-results-2013.pdf. Non-built up roads refers to those with speed limits over 40mph.

[4] Survey of 1,000 drivers and riders conducted for Brake and Digby Brown by Surveygo, released 24 July 2014



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We are seeking a Marine Operative within our Mull site. Candidates will be enthusiastic, self-motivated and be able to demonstrate prior experience in working within small, focused teams. Day to day duties will include fish welfare, sampling, grading and moving of the fish, site maintenance, net changing and boat handling. Previous aquaculture experience is desirable for this post; the company can offer further development and training opportunities through in-house training and also by external training providers. Preference will also be given to those candidates who can offer transferable, related skills and qualifications.

In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package. A full, clean driving licence is also essential.

For an application form and job description for the above post, please contact: Veronica Anderson, HR Coordinator, The Scottish Salmon Company, Ardinglas Estate, Cairndow, PA26 8BH. Tel. No. 01499 600 415. Email: veronica.anderson@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date for applications: Thursday, 21 August 2014
 Visit our website: www.scottishsalmon.com

Argyll & Bute Community Health Partnership
Human Resources Department
Helensburgh or Lochgilphead
Personnel Officer – Band 6
 £26,041 - £34,876
 37.5 Hours
 Fixed Term 01/09/2014 - 31/03/2015
 Due to Funding Allocation

A fixed term/secondment opportunity has arisen within the Personnel department of Argyll & Bute CHP to cover the busy role of Personnel Officer within a forward thinking and focussed team. The Personnel team provides professional HR expertise in ensuring the delivery of NHS Highland corporate objectives.

The postholder will provide comprehensive and professional HR advice and support to managers and staff on all employment issues including sickness absence and employee relations.

You should be CIPD qualified or have equivalent experience and a minimum of 3 years experience in a generalist HR advisory role. Up to date knowledge of employment law is essential as is evidence of continuous professional development in this field.

A full UK driving licence is essential as travel throughout the Argyll and Bute area is required routinely. The postholder could be based in either Helensburgh or Lochgilphead.

For an informal discussion or further information please contact Gaye Boyd, Personnel Manager on 01546 605621.

Application packs are available from HR Department, NHS Highland, Argyll & Bute CHP, Aros, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8LB - Tel 01546 606788 (24 hour answering service) or e-mail - recruitment.lab@nhs.net

Please quote job reference number 14ab/132.
 Closing date for receipt of applications: 22 August 2014.

www.nhshighland.scot.nhs.uk

Oban Times RECRUITMENT
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Expressions of Interest are invited by Forestry Commission Scotland for Provision of Rural Skills training in Forestry (based in Lochgilphead).

Please notify your interest to:- Forestry Commission Scotland (Rural Skills), Whitegates, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RN by 22 August 2014.

Further enquiries to Neil Soudan, Tel 01546 602518
west.argyll.fid@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

BOOK-KEEPER/ADMINISTRATOR ORMSARY

The role includes responsibility for processing the accounting transactions of the businesses, customer and supplier contact and support, general administration, invoicing and liaison with other departments at Ormsary Estate.

Applicants should have a good working knowledge of Microsoft Office (especially Excel) and experience with finance software. A relevant qualification would be desirable but not essential if sufficient experience is demonstrable. The successful applicant will have strong verbal and written communication skills and the ability to work individually and as part of a small rural management team.

Competitive pay, depending on experience.
 Hours of work 9am to 5pm Mon - Fri
 Apply in writing with a full CV detailing current salary to
 Mrs Barbara Cutler, Finance Manager, Ormsary Farmers, Ormsary Estate Office, Lochgilphead, PA31 8PE or email to Enquiries@Ormsary.co.uk.

Scottish Sea Farms
 Marine Site Manager - Wyre, Orkney Islands

Scottish Sea Farms wish to recruit a proven and exceptionally talented salmon farm manager to manage and develop our new £2.5m marine salmon farm at Wyre in the Northern Isles of Orkney.

Wyre is a unique and challenging marine environment with exceptional potential. This new site will be equipped with 12 x 100m cages and is due to be stocked in Spring 2015. Candidates must demonstrate excellence in all aspects of fish husbandry including fish health and welfare, feeding optimisation, containment, infrastructure maintenance and skilled seamanship.

Scottish Sea Farms requires significant financial investment for this new site and we require your energy and vision to help shape our success.

To be considered you must ideally already be a highly respected site manager within the aquaculture industry, and be able to demonstrate your commitment in developing a strong safety culture. You will be open, honest and communicate with ease at all levels. Your ability to plan ahead will be matched by close attention to detail. It is essential to value our unique Orkney identity and have the skills to grow premium-quality differentiated salmon for customers with the highest expectations.

Scottish Sea Farms Ltd site managers are already expected to be industry leading - with competence in finance, budget control and planning, stock management, stakeholder interactions, personnel management and promotion of health and safety. Wyre will test and develop these skills; in return Scottish Sea Farms Ltd will offer an attractive salary package, company vehicle, pension support and production bonus. A relocation package will also be available.

All applicants are required to have a full, clean driver's license.

Please contact Claire Scott on 01786 445521 or claire.scott@scottishseafarms.com for more information.
 Closing date for applications is 31st August, 2014

Scottish Sea Farms makes it happen

Sundolitt
Maintenance Engineer
 Fort William

Sundolitt Ltd, part of the Sunde Group (est. 1917) is one of the UK leaders in the manufacture of expanded polystyrene for storage and packaging products, with 3 UK plants at Fort William, Montrose and Gateshead.

We seek a Maintenance Engineer, reporting to the Factory Manager, for our Fort William plant, which operates 3 shifts, 6 days a week at present.

This is a hands-on role and, ideally, you will have experience in the maintenance of Steam boilers, Hydraulic Systems, Compressed Air Systems and a basic knowledge of electrical systems. Although not essential, an HNC or similar in either mechanical or electrical engineering would be beneficial.

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 To conduct preventative maintenance tasks where necessary.
 To advise line management of potential plant problems.
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Oban Times RECRUITMENT

INVERARAY HIGHLAND GAMES RESULTS

Inveraray Highland Games 22nd July 2014

LOCAL RESULTS

EVENT 1 - March - Age 15 and under 18 years, 1st Daniel McDermott, Rothesay, 2nd Heather Hope, Islay. EVENT 2 - Strathspey & Reel - Age 15 and under 18 years, 1st, Daniel McDermott, Rothesay, 2nd Heather Hope, Islay. EVENT 3 - March - Under 15 years of age, 1st Jamie Campbell, Strachur, 2nd Rebecca Anne Paterson, Strachur, 3rd Rachel MacKinnon, Islay. EVENT 4 - Strathspey & Reel - Under 15 years of age, 1st Jamie Campbell, Strachur, 2nd Jamie McKerral, Campbelltown, 3rd Rebecca Anne Paterson, Strachur. EVENT 5 - Chantre, 1st Catriona MacLhinnay, Islay, 2nd Eala McElhinney, Helensburgh, 3rd Chelsea Campbell, Islay. EVENT 6 - Novice piping, 1st Fiona Anne Fletcher, Islay, 2nd Andrew McNeill, Islay.

JUNIOR EVENTS - OPEN

EVENT 7 - March - Under 18 years, 1st Daniel McDermott, Rothesay, 2nd Ciaran Ross, Dunblane, 3rd Jack Williamson, County Down, NI, 4th Donald C Stewart, Stewarton. EVENT 8 - Strathspey & Reel - Under 18 years, 1st Daniel McDermott, Rothesay, 2nd Jack Williamson, County Down, NI, 3rd Donald C Stewart, Stewarton, 4th Ciaran Ross, Dunblane. EVENT 9 - Piobaireachd - Under 18 years, 1st Ciaran Ross, Dunblane, 2nd Donald C Stewart, Stewarton, 3rd Jack Williamson, County Down, NI, 4th Callum Wynd, Dunblane.

SENIOR PIPING GRADE A

- OPEN
EVENT 10 - Piobaireachd - 18 years and over, 1st Angus D MacColl, Oban, 2nd Faye Henderson, Aberdeen, 3rd Callum Beaumont, Glasgow, 4th Margaret Smith, London, 6th Derek Midgley, New Jersey, USA. EVENT 11 - March - 18 years and over, 1st, Margaret Dunn, Glasgow, 2nd Stuart Liddell, Inveraray, 3rd Gordon Walker, Galston, 4th Alisdair Henderson, Glasgow, 5th Allan Russell, Fife, 6th Callum Beaumont, Glasgow. EVENT 12 - Strathspey & Reel - 18 years and over, 1st Stuart Liddell, Inveraray, 2nd Alistair Henderson, Glasgow, 3rd Gavin Ferguson, Glasgow, 4th Margaret Dunn, Glasgow, 5th Finlay Johnston, Glasgow, 6th Peter Hunt, Stevenston.

SENIOR PIPING GRADE B

- OPEN
EVENT 13 - Piobaireachd - 18 years and over, 1st Ben Duncan, Edinburgh, 2nd Gavin Ferguson, Glasgow, 3rd Connor Sinclair, Crieff, 4th Sandy Cameron, Roy Bridge, 5th Ashley McMichael, Country Antrim. EVENT 14 - March - 18 years and over, 1st Ben Duncan, Edinburgh, 2nd Callum Moffat, Glasgow, 3rd David Shedden, Glasgow, 4th Connor Sinclair, Crieff, 5th Bradley Parker, County Down, NI. EVENT 15 - Strathspey & Reel - 18 years and over, 1st Connor Sinclair, Crieff, 2nd Ben Duncan, Edinburgh, 3rd Steven Leask,

SENIOR PIPING GRADE C

- OPEN
EVENT 16 - Piobaireachd - 18 years and over, 1st Scott Barrie, Maybole, 2nd Duncan Beattie, Stirling, 3rd John Cameron, Falkirk, 4th Callum Moffat, Glasgow, 5th Nils Michael, Edinburgh, 6th Andrew Graham, Wallyford. EVENT 17 - March - 18 years and over, 1st Nils Michael, Edinburgh, 2nd Julie Blue, Campbelltown, 3rd Matt Fraser, Glasgow, 4th Jonathan Lambertson, Shotts, 5th David Rischmiller, Ardentinny, 6th Edward Lavender, Windermere. EVENT 18 - Strathspey & Reel - 18 years and over, 1st Julie Blue, Campbelltown, 2nd Matt Fraser, Glasgow, 3rd Glenn Ross, Forfar, 4th John Cameron, Falkirk, 5th Edward Lavender, Windermere, 6th Gary Carruthers, Glasgow.

TROPHY WINNERS

Events 1 & 2, Age 15 & under 18, Duke of Argyll Cup, Daniel McDermott, Rothesay. Events 1 & 2, Age 15 & under 18, Campbell - Birnie Shield (Runner up), Heather Hope, Campbelltown. Events 3 & 4, Age under 15, Munro Cup, Jamie Campbell, Strachur. Event 6, Novice Piping, Billy Liddell Memorial Trophy, Fiona Anne Fletcher, Campbelltown. Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, Peter MacGregor Trophy, Daniel McDermott, Rothesay. Jamie Campbell, Strachur. Events 7 and 8, Under 18 years, McPhedran Memorial Trophy, Daniel McDermott, Rothesay. Events 7, 8 and 9, Under 18 years, Clan Arthur Society Quach, Daniel McDermott, Rothesay. Ciaran Ross, Dunblane. Event 9, Under 18 years, Piobaireachd, Neil Munro Society Quach, Ciaran Ross, Dunblane. Event 13, Grade B Piobaireachd, Lesley Craig Memorial Kiltpin, Ben Duncan, Edinburgh.

MALLAIG AND MORAR HIGHLAND GAMES RESULTS

Judges: Pipe majors Ian McFadyen and Archie MacLean

Event 1 - Piobaireachd Competition, 1st John Angus Smith, London/South Uist, 2nd Gordon Walker, Moscow, Ayrshire, 3rd, Sandy Cameron, Roybridge, 4th Ed McIlwaine, Vancouver. Event 2 - March, 1st, Gordon Walker, Moscow, Ayrshire, 2nd Jamie Forrester, London, 3rd John Angus Smith, London/South Uist, 4th Derek Midgley, Glasgow/New Jersey. Event 3 - Strathspey and reel, 1st Gordon Walker, Moscow, Ayrshire, 2nd Derek Midgley, Glasgow/New Jersey, 3rd Jamie Forrester, London, 4th John Angus Smith, London/South Uist. Event 4 - Jigs and Hornpipe, 1st Gordon Walker, Moscow, Ayrshire, 2nd Derek Midgley, Glasgow/New Jersey, 3rd John Angus Smith, London/South Uist, 4th Sandy Cameron, Roybridge, 18 and under Piper Event 5 - Piping March, 1st Wallace Dempster, Arisaig, 2nd Finlay Cameron, Roybridge, 3rd Ally Weir, Fort William. MacBrayne Cup - Wallace Dempster Event 6 - Strathspey and Reel, 1st Wallace Dempster, Arisaig, 2nd Finlay Cameron, Roybridge, 3rd Ally Weir, Fort William, Simon MacKinnon Trophy - Wallace Dempster.

OPEN HEAVY EVENTS

Heavy Events Sponsors: Road to the Isles Marketing group Event 7 - Putting the 16lb ball, 1st Frank Cousins, Inverness, 2nd Willie Simmonds, Fort William, 3rd John Edgar, Mallaig, 4th Ben Grant, Yorkshire. Event 8 - Putting the 22lb ball, 1st Frank Cousins, Inverness, 2nd Stephen McCaig, Mallaig, 3rd Ben Grant, Yorkshire, 4th Willie Simmonds, Fort William. Event 9 - 56lb weight over the bar, 1st Stephen McCaig, Mallaig, 2nd Frank Cousins, Inverness, 3rd Willie Simmonds, Fort William, 4th Equal Mitchel Edgar, Mallaig, 4th Equal Ben Grant, Yorkshire. Event 10 - 56lb

Weight for Distance, 1st Willie Simmonds, Fort William, 2nd Mitchel Edgar, Mallaig, 3rd Frank Cousins, Inverness, 4th Stephen McCaig, Mallaig. Event 11 - 22lb Hammer, 1st Willie Simmonds, Fort William, 2nd Frank Cousins, Inverness, 3rd Mitchel Edgar, Mallaig, 4th Ben Grant, Yorkshire. Event 12 - Tossing the Caber, 1st equal Frank Cousins, Inverness, 1st equal Willie Simmonds, Fort William, 3rd Stephen McCaig, Mallaig, 4th Ben Grant, Yorkshire. Big Mac Cup in memory of Ian Macnaughton - Frank Cousins

LOCAL HEAVY EVENTS
Event 37 - 22lb Hammer, 1st Willie Simmonds, Fort William, 2nd Frank Cousins, Inverness, 3rd Mitchel Edgar, Mallaig, 4th Ben Grant, Yorkshire. Event 75 - putting the 16lb ball, 1st Frank Cousins, Inverness, 2nd Willie Simmonds, Fort William, 3rd John Edgar, Mallaig.

OPEN DANCING

Event 13 - Adult Highland fling, 1st Laura Smith, Cairnie, 2nd Cara McKenzie, Beaulieu, 3rd Emma McKenzie, Beaulieu, 4th Caitlin Muir, Mallaig. Adult Sword dance - Event 14, 1st Laura Smith, Cairnie, 2nd Anna McKellaig, Mallaig/Stenhousemuir, 3rd Eilidh O'Donnell, Inverness. Event 26 - Sword, 1st Molly Smith, Cairnie, 2nd Anna McKellaig, Mallaig/Stenhousemuir, 3rd Eilidh O'Donnell, Inverness. Event 27 - Sean Truibhas, 1st Molly Smith, Cairnie, 2nd Anna McKellaig, Mallaig/Stenhousemuir, 3rd Eilidh O'Donnell, Inverness. Event 29 - Hornpipe, 1st Molly Smith, 2nd Anna McKellaig, 3rd Grace MacDonald, Morar. Event 30 - Irish Jig, 1st Molly Smith, 2nd Eilidh O'Donnell, Bank of Scotland Quach - Molly Smith

LOCAL DANCING

12-16 years Event 69 - Highland Fling, 1st Caitlin Muir, 2nd Kelsey MacBeth, 3rd Aimee Sneddon. Swords - Event 67, 1st Kelsey MacBeth, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, 3rd Caitlin Muir. Event 71 - Sean Truibhas, 1st Kelsey MacBeth, 2nd Caitlin Muir, 3rd Aimee Sneddon. Event 72 - Flora MacDonald's Fancy, 1st Kelsey MacBeth, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, 3rd Caitlin Muir. Event 73 - Sailors Hornpipe, 1st Kelsey MacBeth, 2nd Aimee

Mallaig/Stenhousemuir, John and Mac Mac Varish Memorial Trophy - Laura Smith, 13 and under 16

Event 19 - Highland fling, 1st Megan O'Donnell, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, Mallaig. Event 20 - Swords, 1st Megan O'Donnell, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, Mallaig. Event 21 - Sean Truibhas, 1st Megan O'Donnell, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, Mallaig. Event 22 - Reel of Tulloch, 1st Megan O'Donnell, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, Mallaig. Event 23 - Hornpipe, 1st Megan O'Donnell, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, Mallaig. Event 24 - Irish Jig, 1st Megan O'Donnell, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, Mallaig. Bank of Scotland Quach - Megan O'Donnell, 12 and under Event 25 - Highland fling, 1st Molly Smith, Cairnie, 2nd Anna McKellaig, Mallaig/Stenhousemuir, 3rd Eilidh O'Donnell, Inverness. Event 26 - Sword, 1st Molly Smith, Cairnie, 2nd Anna McKellaig, Mallaig/Stenhousemuir, 3rd Eilidh O'Donnell, Inverness. Event 27 - Sean Truibhas, 1st Molly Smith, Cairnie, 2nd Anna McKellaig, Mallaig/Stenhousemuir, 3rd Eilidh O'Donnell, Inverness. Event 29 - Hornpipe, 1st Molly Smith, 2nd Anna McKellaig, 3rd Grace MacDonald, Morar. Event 30 - Irish Jig, 1st Molly Smith, 2nd Eilidh O'Donnell, Bank of Scotland Quach - Molly Smith

LOCAL DANCING

12-16 years Event 69 - Highland Fling, 1st Caitlin Muir, 2nd Kelsey MacBeth, 3rd Aimee Sneddon. Swords - Event 67, 1st Kelsey MacBeth, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, 3rd Caitlin Muir. Event 71 - Sean Truibhas, 1st Kelsey MacBeth, 2nd Caitlin Muir, 3rd Aimee Sneddon. Event 72 - Flora MacDonald's Fancy, 1st Kelsey MacBeth, 2nd Aimee Sneddon, 3rd Caitlin Muir. Event 73 - Sailors Hornpipe, 1st Kelsey MacBeth, 2nd Aimee

Sneddon, 3rd Caitlin Muir. Morar Community Council Trophy - Kelsey MacBeth

Open Athletics
Event 31 - 200m, 1st Ross Douglas Arisaig, 2nd Stewart Waterman, Gillingham, 3rd Kenny MacPherson, Mallaig. Mallaig & Morar Games Cup - Ross Douglas. Event 33 - 1500m, 1st Kenny MacPherson, Mallaig, 2nd Stewart Waterman, Gillingham, 3rd Christine MacVarish, Morar. Event 34 - Women's 200m, 1st Victoria Douglas, Arisaig, 2nd Christine MacVarish, Morar, 3rd Charlotte Coull, Cheltenham. Event 74 - 100m, 1st Ross Douglas, Morar, 2nd Mitchell Edgar, Mallaig, 3rd Paul MacDonald, Morar, 4th Amy MacDonald, Morar. Morar Motors Cup - Ross Douglas. Event 76 - Cross Country Race, 1st Kenny MacPherson, Mallaig, 2nd Christine MacVarish, Mallaig, 3rd Pivan Venton, Cornwall. Jackie MacKellaig Memorial Trophy - Kenny MacPherson. Event 77 - 12 and under cross country race, Boys, 1st Johnathan Hawkins, Derbyshire, 2nd Fraser Davis, Mallaig, 3rd Andrew Bailey, 4th Euan Richmond, Morar. Angus MacKellaig Memorial Trophy - Fraser Davis. Girls, 1st Victoria Connolly, Newcastle, 2nd Robyn MacDonald, Morar/Mid Calder, 3rd Grace MacDonald, Morar. Event 38 - 200m boys 13 - 16, 1st Lewis McArthur, Edinburgh, 2nd Pivan Venton, Cornwall, 3rd Logan Edgar, Mallaig. Event 39 - 200m Girls 13 - 16, 1st Amy MacDonald Morar/Glasgow, 2nd Victoria Connolly, Newcastle, 3rd Jodie Grey, Mallaig. International Relay, 1st MacDonald family, 2nd MacVarish family, 3rd Mallaig Altar boys, 4th MacLellan - Bygosh family.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Event 40 - Boys 10 - 12, 1st Lewis Mac Donald, Edinburgh, 2nd Fraser Davis, Mallaig, 3rd Arran McArthur, Newcastle. Event 41

- Girls 10 - 12, 1st Cora MacDonald, Mallaig, 2nd Victoria Connolly, Newcastle, 3rd Freya Coull, Cheltenham. Event 42 - Boys 7 - 9, 1st Andrew Batley, Derbyshire, 2nd Euan Gillies, Ascot, 3rd Dan Connolly, Newcastle. Event 43 - Girls 7 - 9, 1st Robyn MacDonald, Mallaig, 2nd Katy Henderson, Edinburgh, 3rd Ruby Coull, Cheltenham. Event 44 - Boys 5 - 6, 1st Andrew Given, Glasgow, 2nd James William Henderson, Edinburgh, 3rd Harry Waterman, Gillingham. Event 45 - Girls 5 - 6, 1st Charlotte Connolly, Newcastle, 2nd Freya Davis, Mallaig, 3rd Faith Grant, Keyingham. Event 46 - Boys age 4, 1st Matthew Given, Glasgow. Event 48 - 3 and under, 1st Alex Henderson, Mallaig, 2nd Oscar Allgrim, Switzerland, 3rd James Orr, Morar.

JUNIOR HIGHLAND GAMES
Event 49 - Boys shot 8 - 11 years, 1st Ben MacDonald Morar, 2nd William Grant, 3rd Josh Barns. Event 50 - Girls shot 8 - 11 years, 1st Eilidh Owen, 2nd Robyn MacDonald, Edinburgh, 3rd Grace MacDonald, Morar. Event 51 - Boys weight 8 - 11 years, 1st Ben MacDonald Morar, 2nd Sam Ashfor, 3rd Josh Barns. Event 52 - Girls weight 8-11 years, 1st Eilidh Owen, 2nd Victoria Connolly, 3rd Lily Gasgill. Event 53 - Boys Caber 8-11 years, 1st William Grant, 2nd Harry Power, 3rd Daniel Connolly. Event 54 - Girls Caber 8-11 years, 1st Eilidh Owen, 2nd Grace MacDonald, Morar, 3rd Victoria Connolly. Event 55 - Boys shot putt over 12-14 years, 1st Angus Cook, Kintore, 2nd Alex Diez, 3rd Calum Boyle. Event 56 - Girls shot putt over 12-14 years, Junior, 1st Heather Reid, Penicuik, 2nd Aimee Cook, Kintore. Weight for distance 15-17 years, 1st Lewis McArthur, 2nd Ally Weir. Weight for distance 12 - 14 years, 1st Lewis McArthur.

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GRADUATIONS

John Vincenzo Storr, son of Tony and Lucia Storr, graduated from Strathclyde University with a Masters Degree, with distinction, in Product Design Engineering. John has taken up a position at the Advanced Forging Research Centre, Inchinnan, Renfrewshire.

Jill McKechnie recently graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a 2:1 BA (Hons) in Entertainment and Event Management. Jill is the daughter of Paul and Lorraine McKechnie, Oban and grand-daughter of the late Hector and Mary Morrison, Oban and Mrs Kath McKechnie, Campbeltown. Jill was educated at Rockfield School and Oban High School also Evanton Primary, Ross-shire.

Victoria Tinney graduated with First Class Hons MEng Civil Engineering Design and Management from University of Dundee. Daughter of Patrick and Marion. Sister of Helen and Marion. Granddaughter of Marion and the late Billy MacCulloch and the late Pat and Betty Tinney (Bonawe). Victoria is a former pupil of Park Primary and Oban High School. She will shortly begin her career with Kirksaunders Associates, Kent.

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Fraser Ewan Brydon, graduated BSc (Hons) Biology from the University of Stirling. Eldest son of Gus and Fiona Brydon. Grandson of Helen and the late Bob McEwan of Oban and George and Ellen Brydon, Dunbar. Fraser is a former pupil of Park Primary and Oban High School and is continuing his studies at Glasgow University for a Masters of Research in Biomedical Sciences.

Hugh William Buchanan graduated with a Masters Degree in Engineering (MEng), from Strathclyde University. Son of Ann and the late Willie Buchanan and grandson of Molly Buchanan and Ian Wilkinson. Hugh is a former pupil of Achaleven Primary and Oban High School. He is now working for BEAR Scotland in Inverness.

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Paul Michael John Cummins graduated from Strathclyde University with a BA (Hons) in Marketing. Son of Paul and Gemma, brother of Thomas. Grandson of the late Jack and Jean Watson, Oban and Tommy and Janet Cummins, Liverpool. Congratulations from all the family.

Calum Peter MacLeod has graduated with a BA (Honours) in Psychology from Edinburgh Napier University. He is a former pupil of Glenurquhart High School, Drummadrocht, and is the son of Garry and Alison, and grandson of Peter and the late Jean MacLeod, The Wheelhouse, Ganavan, Oban.

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THANK YOU
I would like to thank all my family, friends and neighbours for all the cards, gifts, phone calls and texts I received after my recent operation. I would also like to thank Dr Erik and Pauline Jespersen and my lovely nurse Frances Parkinson for all their care over the years and an extra special thank you to my nana and grandad for keeping things running smoothly at home.
Sophie MacLennan

12-8-04
Happy Birthday Leah MacCorquodale 10 yrs old already Love and miss you everyday Gran xxx

12-8-04
To my special daughter Leah MacCorquodale on her 10th birthday Have a great day Love you always Dad xxx

Thank you
Hughie and Margaret Ryan (Banavie) would like to thank all their relatives and friends for the many cards, flowers, good wishes and their company on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Thank you all

Happy Birthday
Happy 18th Birthday Jay. Love Mum, Dad, Emma and Callum

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✓ Item location (as we cover a fairly large geographical area it is helpful if buyers know where the item is located)

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Michael and Sophie got engaged on 1st January
Both families are delighted to announce the recent engagement of Michael and Sophie. Congratulations from all family and friends.
5x2 colour ads with artwork, a photo and your own personal message.

Annie Birthday: 25th January
Look who's all grown up! Happy 21st birthday! Have a brilliant day. Lots of love from all the family xxx

Pauline Born: 9th January 2014
Bob and Lesley are delighted to announce the safe arrival of baby Pauline, a little sister for Susie and Gillian.

ONLY £25 + VAT

Share your celebrations with our announcements adverts
Let everyone know about an engagement, birthday, anniversary or new arrival in your family!
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BIRTHS

GILMORE - DAWSON - Marius and Tanya are delighted to announce the arrival of a daughter, Scarlett Maia Beatrice Gilmore, on August 1, at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading. A first grandchild for Stephen and Marion Gilmore of Edinburgh and Sandy and Lesley Dawson of Oban.

MARRIAGES

GRAY - MACLEOD - Both families are delighted to announce the wedding of Janet to Alasdair on the Isle of Skye on July 14, 2014.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

CORMACK - **FERGUSON** - On August 8, 1964 George and Isabel were married by the late Rev Wm. McDonald at Oban Old Parish Church.

VINCENT - COLE - At Glasgow University Memorial Chapel on August 4, 1964 by the Rev. William MacDonald and the Rev. James Brotherton, Colin, 3 Cawdor Terrace, Oban, to Susan, 11a Winton Drive, Glasgow. Present address: 1 Station Brae, Newport-on-Tay and 'Rowanlea', Port Appin.

DEATHS

FERGUSON - Peacefully on Saturday August 2, 2014, at The Royal Northern Infirmary, after a short illness, Elizabeth Fergusson nee Brunton, aged 86 years, of Beauly, County Commissioner for Girl Guides Inverness-shire. Beloved wife of the late Dr. R. Somerled C. Fergusson M.B.E., F.R.C.G.P. Much loved mother to Margaret and Alasdair, dear mother-in-law to Maggie and Jim, treasured granny to Billy, Donald and Emma and great-grandmother to Amber. Sadly missed by many. Funeral service on Monday August 11 at 1:00p.m. in the Church of Scotland, Beauly, thereafter to Kilmorack

Burial Ground. All welcome. Family flowers only. Donations invited to Girl Guiding Scotland at the service or please forward to William T. Fraser & Son, Funeral Directors, Culduthel Road, Inverness.

MACBRAYNE - Peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on Sunday, August 3, 2014, Lydia, Lithgow MacBrayne, aged 71 years, of 15 Colchester Square, Lochgilphead, beloved daughter of the late Dugald and Margaret MacBrayne and much loved sister of Anne. A dear aunt and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will be held in Donald MacDonald's Funeral Parlour, Lorne Street, Lochgilphead, on Thursday, August 14, 2014 at 11.30am, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Mid Argyll Volunteer Drivers.

MACDOUGALL - Peacefully at home, surrounded by his family, on Friday August 1, 2014, Ian MacIntyre MacDougall, aged 49, of Millhouse Flats, Precious Daddy of Rebecca and Matthew, cherished son of Duncan and Jean, a much loved brother of Fiona and loving uncle of Michael. Funeral service will be held tomorrow (Friday), August 8, 2014 at 12 noon in Kilmallie Free Church of Scotland. Family flowers only please but donations in lieu, if desired, to Fort William Ambulance Service and Kilmallie Free Church may be given at the service or forwarded to John McLellan Funeral Directors, Fort William

MACKENZIE - Peacefully at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, on July 21, 2014, Morag MacLean aged 92 years, loving wife of the late Tommy Mackenzie of Roshven and mother of Mairi, daughter of the

late Roderick and Mairi MacLean, Eoligarry, Isle of Barra. A loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and aunt.

MACLEAN - In his 91st year, on 31st July 2014, John Herbert, of 29 Dunmar Court, Oban, dear husband of the late Mary, father of John and the late Annette and Charlie, brother, uncle and much loved grandfather to Heather, Craig, Hazel and John and great grandfather to Charlie, Finlay, Dexter, Caleb and Olivia. Papa, as he was known to so many, will be sorely missed. x

McGINLEY - On Monday July 28, 2014, suddenly but peacefully at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley, with her family by her side, Amelia (Amy), 4 Fern Cottages, Dervaig, Isle of Mull. Adored by us all.

WATT - Peacefully on Tuesday August 5, 2014, after a brief illness, in her 100th year, Elizabeth (Bessie/Betty) Irvine. Beloved wife of the late Captain George Watt formerly of Greenock and latterly Ardour, much loved mother of Margaret, Sheena, Elizabeth and George. A dearly loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral particulars from John McLellan Funeral Directors Tel. 01397 702128.

WILLIAMSON MACDOUGALL - Marie Claire (nee Van Wambeke), peacefully after a short illness on July 30, 2014, aged 84. Much loved wife of the late James, mother and grandmother.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GREEN - Billy, Russell, Tracy and family would like to thank most sincerely everyone for the kind words of sympathy, flowers, cards and phone calls they received. Many thanks to Kit and all the staff at Invernevis House, especially Kristoff and Tricia for their patience

and care given to Bill, MacLean, Eoligarry, Isle of Barra. A loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and aunt.

Special thanks to Scott of John McLellan Funeral Directors for his professional services, also Alan from the Humanist Society for his uplifting words and Scott and staff of the West End Hotel for all they did with care and consideration. Finally to all who paid their respects at West End Hotel then graveside. The collection for Invernevis House raised £580.

MACDONALD - Gordon and family would like to thank all relatives and friends for the many kind expressions of sympathy extended to them on their very sad loss of Mary. A Special thank you to Fr Roddy McAulay for his support and most comforting service. Grateful thanks to all staff at Glen Mor Medical Practice for their excellent care and attention, and to Mike McFall Funeral Director for his professionalism and help. Finally heartfelt thanks to all who paid their last respects at the church and graveside, the retiring collection raised a most generous £1,000 for Lochaber Palliative Care.

MACRAE - Katie Mary and family would like to thank most sincerely all relatives, friends, Mairi's work colleagues and especially neighbours for all their support and sympathy on the sad loss of Mairi. Thank you for all cards, flowers and phone calls. Our sincere gratitude to Rev. John Paton for his comforting service and organist Mrs Jack. Thanks to Mr McClymont for efficient funeral arrangements and Salen Hotel for catering. The retiring collection raised £1,360 for Cancer Research.

McGUNIGAL - Dorothy, passed away peacefully at home on July 29, 2014. Sandy and family would like to extend their appreciation and thanks

to the district nurses team, carers, Macmillan nurses, Marie Curie and medical staff at the Belford Hospital and Tweeddale Surgery. Thanks also to Mike McFall for the sympathetic funeral arrangements. Special thanks to neighbours and friends for their kindness and support to Dorothy whilst ill, and to Sandy now.

MEMORIAMS

CHISHOLM - Sarah "Rae" King MacMillan - August 11, 2008

Tender memories of a much loved mother, sorely missed every day.

CLARK - Graham and Kirsty. Such wonderful memories always held of Graham who passed away August 7, 2006 and Kirsty who passed away December 22, 2012. Together forever. Quietly remembered and so greatly missed.

DEMPSTER - Margaret (nee MacIver). In loving memory of Nellie who blessed us with her presence from July 5, 1969 until August 9, 2010. Nellie, my music, my song, my forever friend.

GUNN - Treasured memories of Cathie, dearly loved mam, granny and great-granny who died August 5, 2003. Also dad and grandpa 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.

MACINNES - In loving memory of a dear dad and papa Tommy, passed

away August 11, 1997. Loved and remembered always.

MACKECHNIE - In loving memory of my beloved husband Angus, who died August 11, 2005 also remembering loved ones and friends no longer with us. Years slip by but memories last forever. Sadly missed, but not forgotten.

MACPHAIL - In loving memory of my mother, Chrissie, who passed away on August 10, 1995. Loved and remembered always.

McFALL - Treasured memories of our dear sister Ilene, passed away August 4, 2008. It's six 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.

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.

STEELE - Precious memories of our son James who was taken from us so tragically on August 8, 2011. We think of you in silence, we often speak your name. What we would give to hear your voice and see your face again. Loved and remembered every day.

STEELE - In loving memory of my dear son James who died August 8, 2011. So dearly missed. Rest in peace.

STEELE - In loving memory of my beloved fiancé James who died tragically on August 8, 2011. Remembering you is easy, I do it every day. It's just the pain of losing you that never goes away. Until we're together again.

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STEELE - In loving memory of my dear brother James who died on August 8, 2011. A wonderful brother, brother-in-law and uncle. So dearly missed.

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AFTER the loss of a friend or loved one life is changed forever.

Grief can take years to come to terms with and there is never a simple solution to the fear that anyone who has lost someone close to them feels.

Often immediately after a death there is lots of support from undertakers, family and friends. Those who are bereaved can feel buoyant.

But there comes a day when things go back to normal - and life will never be the same again.

We have all felt that feeling of loss at one time or another. It may have been when a school friend moved house (and school), or when a relative died when we ourselves were still children, or the loss of a pet.

The older we get the burden of bereavement lies upon us - not only in the loss of the person who has just passed away but in the loss we have experienced throughout our lives - and perhaps fear of the unknown.

There is no quick fix - recovering from the death of someone is something that takes time, with good help and support it can be eased. But the pain of loss is something that lives with us.

Writers such as CS Lewis and Jan Varnier talk about grief as a stepped process of learning to live in a different way.

And while it doesn't feel like it at the time, bereavements are a time of bringing together of families and sharing memories in the name of the one who has died.

Shortly after a death the desire to be with those who knew the person bring folks together to talk and to understand what has happened.

Often people look at old photographs together, tell stories of the person and allow the past to come forward.

In Japanese culture the past and present are all in one time - this means that the 'ghosts' of ancestors continue to live in the homes of the next generation.

In Christianity that would be similar to the concept of the Communion of Saints - the understanding of those who have passed being joined through the act of communion with those on earth and those in heaven.

Bereavement brings us face to face with our own mortality and we should be ready to open up our lives to the change a death may bring to our lives - while honouring and continuing to love the person who has passed away.

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Last Friday of the month
Regent Hotel, Oban
Group and one to one support

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For further information contact Ann on 07552 509118

Saints lose out to first minute goal

Pre-season friendly
Oban Saints 0
Ashvale Victoria 1
 A MUCH changed Oban Saints squad took on Central Scottish League opponents Ashvale Victoria at Glencruitten last Saturday and a goal by the visitors in the first minute of the match was all that separated the teams on the day.
 Saints were without Lewis Cameron and the injured Donald Campbell, Paul Kerr, Ross Maitland and Dene Cassells for this pre-season friendly against an experienced Ashvale side.
 On the plus side Daniel Cassells, Jamie Graham, Myles McAuley, Daniel Cameron and PJ Sinclair came into the squad.
 The game was only a minute old when the visitors took the lead when Robert Paterson, the former Pollok striker, fired a shot on target. Daniel Cassells made a good save touching the ball onto the bar, but was unlucky as the ball rebounded into the path of Gibby Brown, who fired the



HEADER: Dean Smith came close with a header in the first half

ball home. This setback stunned the home side and it took them a while to get going and it was the Glasgow side who had the better of the early exchanges.
 Gradually Saints hauled themselves back into the game and were unlucky after some good

FOOTBALL

play from Allan MacKay and Dean Smith resulted in Craig MacEwan fizzing a low ball across the face of the goals but there was no takers.

Dean Smith then came close with a header from a Scott Maitland corner in the 12th minute.

Both teams were playing some good football but were finding it difficult to create many scoring chances as both defences looked to be on top.

The interval arrived with the visitors leading by that first minute goal.

The second half was a bit of a stop start affair as the teams made several substitutions which disrupted the flow of the game.

Saints were pushing forward in an attempt to get an equaliser with the visitors content to sit back and hit on the break but neither goalkeeper was called into action to make a save of any significance.

Referee John Scott, who handled a sporting encounter in his usual efficient manner finally blew the full time whistle with Ashvale winning a close match with the only goal of the game.

Saints secretary David Buchanan said: 'Obviously we are a bit disappointed at losing the game. We missed Lewis Cameron and the boys who are out injured, they are all experienced players, but our young side did well against quality opposition.'

'Pre-season games are always difficult as the flow of the game gets disrupted by the number of substitutions but we managed to get all the boys on and give them a reasonable amount of time against experienced opposition.'

Saints play their final pre-season match on Saturday when they take on high flying Tynecastle. Charlie Miller, the former Rangers player and Robbie Winters ex-Aberdeen are members of the Glasgow club.

The game will be played at Glencruitten with a 2pm kick-off. Referee John Scott is in charge.



DETERMINATION: Oban Saints new signing Scott Maitland looks determined to win the ball in this midfield battle during Saturday's game against Ashfield Victoria Photo: Kevin McGlynn



HEADS YOU WIN: Saints' captain Marc MacCallum and Ashvale striker Bobby Paterson go for a header Photo: Kevin McGlynn



Killin

GENTS Open: Saturday August 2 - Scratch: The Davies Trophy 1 Andy Cousins (Killin) 68; 2 Barry Cousins (Alloa) 74; 3 John MacCallum (Glencruitten) 75 BIH.

Handicap: The Melia Quach - 1 Lachlan MacGregor (Callander) 64; 2 Adrian Wilbert (Killin) 65 BIH; 3 Jim Burton (Killin) 66 BIH.

The Wee Claret Jug: (best local overall): Adrian Wilbert 65

Longest Drive: Category 1 (9th & 18th) - Finlay O'Rourke (Glencruitten); Category 2 (7th & 16th) - Rab Blair (Glencruitten).

Nearest the Pin: Category 1 (8th & 17th) - Barry Cousins (Alloa); Category 2 (5th & 14th) - Alan Shand (Morton Hall).

All in two (6th only): Eric Lindsay (Rosemount).

Magic twos - Adrian Wilbert (Killin); Ged McWilliams (Killin); Graham Herd (Killin); Steven McCuish (Glencruitten); Chas Kemp (Killin); Alan Shand (Morton Hall); Bruce Ford (Killin); Jim Burton (Killin); Barry Cousins (Alloa); Mike Aitken (Dunblane New); Gordon Bailen (Killin).

Taynuilt

LADIES: Flag competition plus medal played July 29 - 1 Moira MacVicar 64 (26) 2 Sandra Elliott 70 (23); 3 Carol MacLarty 71 (20).

Gents: Club Championship fourth round handicap plus medal played August 3 - 1 Allan Stewart 61 (11); 2 Duncan Campbell 62 (11); 3 Ewen McGlynn 62 (21).

Medal qualifiers - Duncan Campbell and Ewen McGlynn. Club champion (handicap): 1 Andrew Diggory 252 (59 62 65 66); 2 Duncan Campbell 257 (61 62 64 70); 3 Mark Henriksen 258 (62 62 66 68).

Islay

LIFEBOAT Spoon played Sunday July 27 - 1 R Shaw 79 -9 = 70; 2 R MacIntyre 75 -4 = 71; 3 G Hamilton 85 -12 = 73 Css 72.

Glencruitten

ARVID Fagerdolv won the George Smith Trophy at the weekend with a combined score of 119. Cameron Milne was second with a score of 127. In the ladies' section the results of a bogey competition played on Thursday, July 31: 1 - Angela McLaughlan, two up (24); 2 - Christine Cameron, one up (24); 3 - Mary Plunkett one down (25).

The Glencruitten Open takes place this weekend and there are still spaces available for late entry, followed by a Stableford on Tuesday August 12.

Gearing up for the Tarbert 10k

AFTER THE success of the first Tarbert 10km race dozens of Dookers are donning their running shoes in preparation for this year's event.

In fact the number of runners in the race and in the Tarbert jogscotland club have doubled in the past 12 months, during which time the race was named the second best running event in the UK by a running magazine.

Inspired

Organisers of the event - Lorraine Macdonald and Jessica Little - say there are 390 people taking part this year including a number of villagers who have been inspired to get fitter and healthier following 2013's race.

Lorraine, a Tarbert jogscotland leader

and marathon runner, said: 'I know that my jogging club has doubled its numbers since last year. Our club also has men in it now - it used to be all women - so it's really good and positive for people in the village.'

'There are also lots of local clubs, like Campbelltown and Lochgilphead, taking part this year. I think it has urged people to get fitter and healthier.'

People are welcome to walk the race if they prefer and the Tarbert Nordic Walking Club has signed up to complete the 10km.

And it's not just Tarbert that is getting excited about the event, which takes place at 10am on Saturday, August 16, but people from as far afield as Italy who have

signed up to take part in the race, which also includes a 5km.

Entries in the race jumped to 390 and include people from across the globe after Runner's World magazine rated it amongst the best in the UK.

Really busy

Lorraine said: 'The buzz in and around the village last time was great and there were 190 runners. It was really busy and if there are even more people coming to take part this year I can only imagine what it'll be like over the weekend.'

'As far as I know all the hotels and bed and breakfasts in the village are fully booked.'

Applications to take part in the event have closed.



UNBEATEN AFTERNOON: On Thursday, July 31, The MacCalman Trophy was played for on the Oban Green. Anne Campbell, Sandy Carr and Margaret MacLean (above) completed an unbeaten afternoon's play to capture the trophy with the gallant runners-up being Gordon Cruickshanks, Gilbert Mullen and John Strettle.

Father and son in the prizes at Dalmally

FATHER and son Philip and Steven Murphy featured strongly amongst the prizes at Dalmally Golf Club's annual Gents Open.

A one over par total of 65, which included a superb inward half of 30 strokes, saw Philip overhaul a clutch of players sitting in the clubhouse on three over to claim the scratch prize.

Meanwhile 15-year-old Steven, playing consistent golf throughout, carded a net 62 (71) to be placed third in the

GOLF

handicap section, won with a net 60 (75) by Tommy Gibson of Fortrose and Rosemarkie.

Top home player was Angus MacGillivray, who took second place in the handicap section shooting a net 62 (72).

The next major event for the Orchy Club is the mixed open which takes place on Sunday August 17. Enter via the club's website or on 07867318583.



IN THE PRIZES: Philip Murphy pictured with his son Steven

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SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

COMPETITION

WIN £1550

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of Wyves Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

Please tape your £1 coin here

Name

Address

Tel No.

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

M Campbell, Glencruitten Drive, Oban

C Campbell, Java Houses Craignure

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

I enclose £1 for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB



Fixtures

Saturday 9 August
The Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup - semi final
 Kingussie v Fort William
 Billy Wotherspoon - 4pm
 at An Aird, Fort William

Strathdearn Cup
 Newtonmore v Skye
 John Matheson - 2pm
 at Spean Bridge

Orion Group Premiership
 Kinlochshiel v Kyles Athletic
 Deek Cameron - 3pm

Marine Harvest National Division
 Kilmallie v Glasgow MA
 Evan MacRae
 Oban Camanachd v Bute
 Robert Baxter - 3pm

Marine Harvest North Division 1
 Glenurquhart v Kingussie
 David Stafford - 12pm

Marine Harvest North Division 2
 Kinlochshiel v Fort William
 Martin MacLean - 12pm
 Lochcarron v Glengarry
 Graham Cameron

Marine Harvest North Division 3
 Strathspey v Caberfeidh
 Neil MacDonald - 1.30pm
 Lochbroom v Inverness
 Andy MacLean

Marine Harvest South Division 1
 Oban Celtic v Lochside
 Ronnie Campbell - 12pm
 Aberdeen v Ballachulish
 David Mitchell
 Kyles Athletic v Taynuilt
 Alex MacVicar

Marine Harvest South Division 2
 Inveraray v Aberdeen
 John MacGregor
 Glenorchy Glasgow MA
 Ewen MacDonal

Throw-ups 2pm unless stated

Results

Saturday 2 August
Orion Group Premiership
 Kingussie 3 - 2 Newtonmore
 Kyles Athletic 3 - 1 Lovat
 Kinshiel 3 - 3 Glenurquhart

Marine Harvest National Division
 Fort William 5 - 1 Beaulieu
 Glenorchy 0 - 4 Kilmallie

Marine Harvest North Division 1
 Skye 9 - 1 Inverness
 Strathglass 5 - 1 Kingussie

Marine Harvest North Division 2
 Lochcarron 5 - 4 Skye

Marine Harvest North Division 3
 Lochbroom v Kilmallie
 Postponed
 Lochbroom unable to field a team, points to Kilmallie
 Strathspey 2 - 1 Lewis

Marine Harvest South Division 1
 Ballachulish 3 - 0 Kilmory
 Oban Celtic 0 - 0 Aberdeen
 Strachur 3 - 3 Taynuilt

Marine Harvest South Division 2
 Col Glen 0 - 8 Glasgow MA
 Bute 1 - 2 Tayforth

Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup - semi finals
 Beaulieu 2 - 3 Fort William
 Lovat 2 - 3 Kyles Athletic

Bullough Cup Final
 The Scots 0 - 1 Inveraray



First Camanachd Cup semi final takes place this Saturday

'Home game' for Fort William as they play host to Kingussie

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi final

FORT WILLIAM will face Kingussie this Saturday in the first semi-final of the Camanachd Cup.

The side remain top of the Marine Harvest National Division after a comfortable 5-1 home win at the weekend against Beaulieu.

Despite going a goal down in 18 minutes, they managed to score three goals in the last six minutes of the first half, with further strikes in the 56th and 62nd minute securing the win.

Manager Adi Robertson said: 'I'm happy with the result. We played alright although it was a bit of a shaky start.'

'Them scoring seemed to spur us into life, and we got three quick goals at the end of the half at the right time.'

The win leaves Robertson's men equal on points with second place Kilmallie but with a game in hand.

Looking to Saturday's tie with Kingussie, Robertson said: 'We are looking forward to it, although it'll be a very tough game against the team which are probably the favourites for the cup.'

'It definitely won't be an easy task.'

Saturday's game will throw-up at 4pm at An Aird.

KINGUSSIE will face Fort William this Saturday at An Aird, the first time a Camanachd Cup semi-final has not been played at a neutral ground.

The decision was made at the start of the season following a television deal with BBC Alba to film both semi-finals at the ground.

Despite Fort's home advantage, Kingussie manager Russell Jones does not have a problem with the tie being at An Aird.

He said: 'It'll be an extremely difficult game.'

'Fort William are a premier league side in all but name so we know we'll have our work cut out for us.'

'It's at their own pitch, the first time a semi final hasn't been at a neutral ground, but we're happy enough as it's a good pitch.'

Jones's team took full points against local rivals Newtonmore on Friday, beating the top team in the division 3-2 in a hard fought game.

Goals from Thomas Borthwick, Ronald Ross and Louis Munro sealed the win for Kingussie, who currently sit fourth in the Orion Group Premiership.

Jones said: 'I'm pleased with the result but even more so the performance as we haven't really performed against Newtonmore recently.'

'It was a good win for the lads.'

Saturday's semi-final will throw up at 4pm.

Orion Group Premiership

KINLOCHSHIEL drew 3-3 with Glenurquhart on Saturday, having been 2-0 and 3-2 up during the game.

The draw leaves Colin Fraser's men in second-bottom place, two points ahead of bottom place Lochaber.

The side will face Kyles Athletic this Saturday, who are currently sitting in fifth place.

Fraser said: 'It was a hard game but I'm really proud of the lads, coming back twice from 2-0 and 3-2 down.'

'The boys performed really well and could have won the game, but compared with last week the whole team improved and were really up for it.'

'Saturday's game will be another hard game and we know what Kyles can do this season, but hopefully we can produce another performance like on Saturday and take something from the game.'

The game with Kyles will throw-up at 3pm in Balmacara.

KYLES ATHLETIC demonstrated their league title credentials with a 3-1 over Lovat - but their great run of form is all too little, too late.

Roddy MacDonald struck twice and Duncan Kerr added the extra.

The Tighnabraich men take on second-from-bottom Kinlochshiel in the Orion Group Premiership this weekend with the form guide backing them to record a comfortable win.

Cup distractions have been the main factor behind Kyles' position as also-rans in the

league but their end-of-season form has shown there is a championship in this team yet.

LOVAT'S title hopes slightly faltered at the weekend with a loss away to Kyles Athletic.

Fraser Gallagher scored in the 85th minute for Lovat to make the score 2-1, only for Roddy MacDonald to score in the last minute, ending the game at 3-1.

Lovat now sit third behind Newtonmore and Glenurquhart, with only two points separating the three teams.

Allan MacRae's side have no fixture this weekend.

NEWTONMORE lost to Kingussie on Saturday, but still remain top of the Orion Group Premiership.

P.J Mackintosh's men are still a point clear of Glenurquhart and have two games in hand.

The team has no game this Saturday, with their second side facing Skye in the Strathdearn Cup final at 2.00pm in Spean Bridge.

GLENURQUHART drew 3-3 with Kinlochshiel on Saturday but will be disappointed they never took full advantage of top team Newtonmore losing to Kingussie.

The results leave Glenurquhart in second place, a point behind Newtonmore, who have played two games less.

Glenurquhart have a free week this week, with their second team in action against Kingussie in the Marine Harvest North Division One with a throw-up time of 12pm in Drumnadrochit.

National Division

KILMALLIE'S title hopes remain alive after a 4-0 away win against Glenorchy on Saturday.

Duncan Kelly's men are equal on points with top team Fort William, but have played two more games.

The league is still all to play for, with only two points separating the top four sides.

This Saturday Kilmallie will face Glasgow Mid Argyll in the league, who are sixth in the table with eight points from 10 games.

The game will throw-up at 2pm at Canal Park.

OBAN CAMANACHD manager Gussie Campbell says he has warned his players of the prospect of facing a resurgent Bute this Saturday.

Bute pulled off a shock 1-1 draw against Kilmallie last time out, despite looking certain to be relegated this season.

Campbell, who became a grandfather for the first time last week, said the match could be played at Taynuilt, although it was scheduled to be played at Ganavan as *The Oban Times* went to press.

He added: 'Bute had a good result against Kilmallie, so we will need to be wary and give them the respect they deserve.'

The league is now the main focus for Camanachd after they exited the Macaulay Cup at the semi-final stage, losing 3-0 to Kyles Athletic.

Two points against Bute will be critical as they then take on title rivals Kilmallie and Fort William in consecutive weeks.

BUTE will travel to Oban this Saturday to face Camanachd in the Marine Harvest National Division.

The side have lost every

SHINTY

game except a single draw this season, and are sitting on -1 points in the league, having been docked two points earlier in the season for failing to field a team.

The game will throw-up at 3pm at Ganavan.

GLENORCHY lost 4-0 to Kilmallie on Saturday, leaving them second bottom of the Marine Harvest National Division, five points clear of bottom side Bute.

The side have no game this week, with their second team in action at home against Glasgow Mid Argyll at 2pm.

South Division One

LOCHSIDE ROVERS manager Iain MacIntyre insists the performance of his young team is more important than the result against Oban Celtic this weekend.

And he says he does not recognise the tie as a derby, because of Lochside's status as a junior team.

It has been just two weeks since Lochside lost 3-0 to their town rivals but MacIntyre says his side will come out ready to win this time out.

Asked about the rivalry with Celtic, he replied: 'I don't understand this reference to a derby; Lochside Rovers are a second team and Oban Celtic are a senior team. The derby is between Oban Camanachd and Oban Celtic.'

'I am looking for a change in attitude this time round. Of course, we want to win but it is important the boys play to the best of their abilities, so we can get a better idea of who will play in the team next season.'

MacIntyre's main concern for this weekend's penultimate league game is the throw-up time of noon, which may rule out four or five players.

He added: 'Two weeks ago we played at the same time as Camanachd in Oban and then last week we had no game.'

'I am not happy about this noon throw-up. It's a non-sense.'

SHINTY fans are gearing up for a heated match as local sides OBAN CELTIC and Lochside Rovers meet this weekend.

In response to Ian MacIntyre's claims only Oban Camanachd versus Oban Celtic is a true derby Celtic president Davy Hamilton said: 'They're two local teams so call it what you want but it's a local derby to me as it's our local boys playing against each other.'

'Lochside will be smarting after the last result so I'm sure it'll be a hard game.'

'It's not going to be easy, local derbies are never easy and we have a couple of players out through work and suspension but we'll be hoping to play as well as we know we can.'

Celtic had to settle for a share of the points on Saturday in a 0-0 draw with Aberdeen.

Despite the goalless scoreline, Hamilton said the game was action-packed but his side just could not put the ball in the net thanks to resilient defending from Aberdeen.

He said: 'I've never seen a game with so much pressure and play but no goals.'

'We just couldn't penetrate them. Their defence stuck out the whole game and they only had one sub, but their players stuck to their tasks resolutely.'

'Their goalkeeper and one



DERBY DUEL: Newtonmore's Ackie Macrae, left, and Louis Munro of Kingussie scrap for the ball during last Saturday's Badenoch derby match at The Dell. Kingussie won a close game 3-2.

of their full-backs particularly were both excellent.

'As the second half went on we had more chances but they managed to hold out.'

'Although it was a disappointing result, we played some good shinty and credit to Aberdeen, they dug in deep.'

Saturday's game will throw up at an earlier time of 12 noon.

BALLACHULISH are hoping that suspensions to key players at this critical stage of the season will not prove too costly when they take on Aberdeen this weekend.

The away match is a potential stumbling block for the South Division One leaders, who have last week's goal scorers David Grant and John Macdonald missing.

The march to the title continued last weekend with a comfortable 3-0 win over Kilmory at Jubilee Park.

Balla dominated the first half of this game at the Jubilee Grant and MacDonald gave them a 2-0 half time lead.

The flow of play continued in the second half as youngster Jack Maclean added the third.

TAYNUILT battled to a draw with Strachur at the weekend, with a goal three minutes from time clinching a point.

The side were 3-1 down by 31 minutes but managed to get back into the game through goals from David Graham and Stuart Scott.

The point leaves Taynuilt second bottom on six points, with bottom place Kilmory on equal points but having played three more games.

This Saturday, Davy Thomson's men travel to Tighnabraich to face Kyles Athletic, who are sitting in second place.

The game will throw-up at 2pm.

STRACHUR have climbed to sixth place in the South Division One league table after securing a point from their fixture against Taynuilt on Saturday.

Again it was the side's youngsters who to help secure the 3-3 draw, with Ross Montgomery taking the second goal of the game.

A regular with Strachur un-

der 14s, the youngster - son of Strachur manager John Montgomery - has scored three goals in the last two games.

The two other goals of Saturday's game came from Duncan Smart before half time.

Playing at home, the Cowal men almost had the game wrapped up until Taynuilt's Stuart Scott scored in the 87th minute to equalise.

Strachur has no game this weekend.

IT was another difficult defeat for KILMORY on Saturday as the team conceded three goals against the on-form Ballachulish.

Playing away to the Highland team, Kilmory struggled to fight back against an onslaught of goals, which came from David Grant, John Macdonald and Jack McLean.

A lack of experienced players, who have been injured this season, continues to cause problems for the Lochlighead side which is now at the bottom of the South Division One League table and in danger of relegation.

Despite a more positive start to the season, Kilmory has only secured six points from 13 games.

It's nearest rival, Taynuilt, also has six points but has three games in hand.

Kilmory has no game tomorrow (Saturday).



STRONG CHALLENGE: Kinlochshiel's Duncan Macrae goes down in the challenge with Billy Urquhart, Glenurquhart



BEAULIEU BEATEN: Fort William's Ryan Campbell shields the ball from Beaulieu's Andrew Morrison during last Saturday's Sutherland Cup semi-final at Bught Park, Inverness. Fort William won 3-2.

Photo: Donald Cameron

The Orion Group Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	12	9	1	2	32	15	19
Glenurquhart	14	7	4	3	25	16	18
Lovat	12	7	3	2	28	16	17
Kingussie	13	7	1	5	29	27	15
Kyles Athletic	11	5	2	4	19	18	12
Inveraray	12	3	3	6	17	25	9
Kinlochshiel	13	2	2	9	21	34	6
Lochaber	13	1	2	10	17	37	4

Marine Harvest National Division							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fort William	9	8	1	0	46	9	17
Kilmallie	11	8	1	2	43	15	17
Oban Caman	9	8	0	1	26	6	16
Beaulieu	13	7	1	5	34	23	15
Caberfeidh	12	4	1	7	28	36	9
Glasgow MA	10	4	0	6	20	28	8
Glenorchy	13	2	1	10	12	49	5
Bute	11	0	1	10	6	49	-1

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Skye	9	9	0	0	37	4	18
Newtonmore	11	7	1	3	34	12	15
Strathglass	13	7	1	5	36	28	15
Beaulieu	11	5	1	5	27	30	11
Glenurquhart	9	4	2	3	18	19	10
Kingussie	11	4	1	6	31	35	7
Lovat	10	2	0	8	16	35	4
Inverness	12	1	2	9	20	56	4

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ballachulish	10	6	4	0	30	11	16
Kyles Athletic	11	6	3	2	35	14	15
Aberdour	10	5	3	2	25	19	13
Lochside Rovers	12	5	3	4	30	32	13
Oban Celtic	11	3	4	4	13	25	10
Strachur	11	3	3	5	18	25	9
Taynuilt	10	1	4	5	24	36	6
Kilmory	13	2	2	9	16	29	6

Marine Harvest North Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fort William	11	9	0	2	41	19	18
Glengarry	12	8	1	3	24	21	17
Lochcarron	11	7	1	3	32	29	15
Lochaber	12	5	1	6	35	30	11
Kinlochshiel	13	5	3	5	27	27	11
Boleskine	13	5	0	8	29	41	10
Aberdeen Uni	13	2	3	8	25	37	7
Skye	11	2	1	8	22	31	

Rugby comes out in force at Oban Lorne

Magnus returns to his rugby roots

A FUTURE star of Scottish rugby says he is looking forward to returning home to Oban Lorne RFC - and he is bringing along one of the game's top international coaches for a special training session.

Magnus Bradbury, who has returned from representing Scotland under-20s at the world championship, will return to the club where he learned his trade as part of the Scottish Rugby Union's RBS Rugbyforce initiative, used to support amateur clubs.

And he will be joined on Sunday by Scott Johnson, director of rugby for the Scottish national team.

Sunday's event will be a triumphant return for Edinburgh Rugby star Magnus, who has received caps at under-18 and under-20 level.

Oban Lorne is where Magnus learned to play rugby from age eight to 16, and his mother, Dee, is the current president of the club.

He said: 'I always enjoy coming back to Oban and getting involved with Oban Lorne again.'

'I'm looking forward to Sunday, it'll be good to help give something back to the club.'

Magnus's caps include appearances at this year's International Rugby Board World Championships where he scored his first try for the under-20s.

RUGBY

Speaking to *The Oban Times* about his experience, he said: 'The world championships had a really good atmosphere, there were a lot of people there and we were playing in the best stadiums in Auckland.'

'To score for my country was a great feeling. I have scored for some of the younger teams but it's obviously quite an honour to do it in a tournament.'

'Hopefully some day I'll play a full international too.'

Johnson, who was previously the interim Scottish national team manager and played at under-21 level for Wallabies, will be overseeing Sunday's training.

He said: 'I'm very much looking forward to my visit to Oban.'

'I met some of the players last year when they travelled up to Grantown on Spey to watch a Scotland team training session and invited me to come to the club.'

Oban Lorne will play in a three-team friendly tournament at Glencruitten against Caithness and Glasgow Accies. The games will kick off at noon.

Sunday's training will be delivered by the senior teams, and starts at noon at Oban Lorne's ground at Glencruitten, with all players within the club welcome.



APPEARANCE: Magnus Bradbury during international duty Inset: Scott Johnson, director of rugby for Scottish rugby, who will be making an appearance at Oban Lorne Rugby club on Sunday

Oban golfer celebrates 18th birthday playing for his country

GOLF

WHILE most teenagers celebrate their 18th birthday in the pub, Oban golfer Robert MacIntyre was on duty representing his country in the Boys Home Internationals.

The competition started on Tuesday, as *The Oban Times* went to press, with the Scottish team looking to take top honours at Western Gables Golf Club, Irvine.

The Scottish team has not won the title, currently held by Ireland, since 2006.

Last year Robert, who turned 18 on Sunday, became the first player to win the Scottish boys and youths stroke play titles in the same year.

Leaders

He will be one of the leaders in a Scotland team that also includes the 2013 Boys Amateur Champion Ewen Ferguson, who recently added the Scottish Boys Open Stroke Play title to his Scottish Boys' Match Play crown.

Johnnie Cole-Hamilton, executive director of championships at organiser The Royal and Ancient, said: 'The Boys' Home Internationals matches give the talented young players the opportunity to gain valuable experience of representing their countries and playing against their peers from the other home nations.'

Robert has also entered the 2014 Boys' Amateur Championship, which will be held on August 12 and 13 at Prestwick and Dundonald links courses.

Match-play format

After the initial rounds, the field is cut to 64 players, who will then compete in a match-play format, from Thursday to Sunday at Prestwick.

Scotland team: Joseph Bryce (Bathgate), George Burns (Williamwood), Stuart Easton (Irvine), Ewen Ferguson (Bearsden), Adam Fisher (Newmachar), Calum Fyfe (Cawder), Ben Kinsley (St Andrews), Ryan Lumsden (Royal Wimbeldon), Robert MacIntyre (Glencruitten), Niall McMullen (Lundin) and Murray Naysmith (Marriott Dalmahoy).

Fraser wins MacBrayne Cup at Tobermory

TOBERMORY Open sponsored by local builders D and W Brown was played over 36 holes and two days on August 2 and 3.

Played in inclement weather at times some very good scores were recorded with Fraser MacKinnon winning the MacBrayne Cup

for best Scratch with a total of 142 strokes. Fourteen-year-old Lewis Brown won the Willie MacAllister cup for best net score with a magnificent 129.

Best visitor Mathew Sloggie carded a gross 145.

GOLF

Other sponsors were the Galleon Grill, Mishnish Hotel, Tobermory Distillery and Staffa tours. The picture shows competitors with the prize winners to the front.



Summer camp success

SPORTS CAMP

MID Argyll youngsters took part in a three week summer activities camp.

A partnership between Argyll and Bute Active Schools and Mid Argyll Community Pool, the camp focused on getting children active over the summer holidays by participating in a variety of sports and other activities.

Each day it hosted between 25 and 35 children aged between five and 12 at Mid Argyll Sports Centre and the pool.

This year Commonwealth sports such as table tennis, badminton, athletics and swimming were at the forefront

of the camp programme as it coincided with the Glasgow games. Clubgolf, a simplified and scaled down version of the game, was also a regular activity at the camp, as the country prepares to host the Ryder Cup in September.

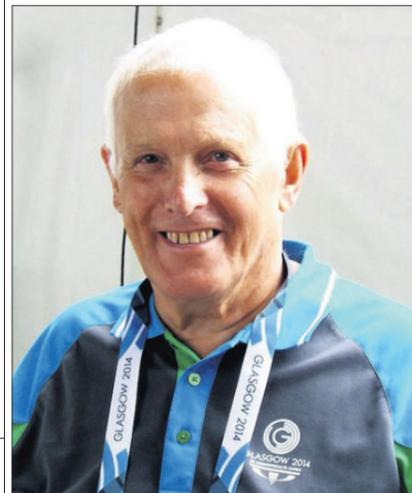
Innes Paterson, Active Schools coordinator for Mid Argyll, said: 'This summer has been a great opportunity to get children active as the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow has created so many new role models for children in this country.'

Primary shinty at the Mid Argyll Show

SCHOOL SHINTY

KILMORY and Dunadd Junior Camanachd would like to invite teams to participate in this year's Ronnie Sinclair and Alex Cunningham Memorial Tournament to be held at the Mid Argyll Show on Saturday August 9 at MacRae Park, Lochgilphead.

There will be P7 and under and P4/5 competitions. To enter please contact Fiona MacCuaig on either kilmorydunadd@gmail.com or fiona76a@btinternet.com.



DONALD ON THE MOVE: Oban's Donald MacLean, one of the selected Scottish bowling umpires has completed his duties at the Commonwealth Games. He has one day at home, then is off to officiate at the Scottish finals at Ayr, where Oban Bowling Club members including his wife Helen, along with Margaret McAlpine, Donna Forbes and Anne Campbell, will be hoping for a successful tournament.

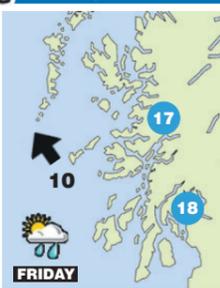
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WEATHER

Thursday	Light rain showers Winds moderate south westerly Temperatures 12°C to 17°C
Friday	Heavy rain showers Winds light south easterly Temperatures 13°C to 18°C.
Weekend Outlook	Heavy rain showers on Saturday Light rain showers on Sunday Winds moderate south westerly Temperatures 13°C to 17°C.



TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 7, 2014** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	02.28	3.1	08.42	1.5	15.19	3.3	20.57	1.4
Fri	03.37	3.3	09.44	1.2	16.09	3.6	22.04	1.1
Sat	04.27	3.6	10.37	0.8	16.53	3.9	23.00	0.7
Sun	05.11	3.8	11.24	0.5	17.35	4.2	23.49	0.5
Mon	05.51	3.9	12.09	0.3	18.16	4.3	** **	**
Tues	00.35	0.3	06.31	4.0	12.53	0.2	18.56	4.3
Wed	01.20	0.3	07.10	4.0	13.37	0.2	19.37	4.2

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

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Store delay is past sell-by date

Councillor calls for action over Fort superstore

EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

SUPERMARKET giant Tesco may shelve plans to open a supermarket in Fort William until 2020, according to well-placed industry source.

But Highland councillor Bill Clark says he is 'bitterly disappointed' about the lack of an imminent opening date.

The retail company bought a site at Blar Mhor on the outskirts of town when planning permission was granted in 2011.

It funded major infrastructure improvements including a new roundabout, access road and drainage system. Last year, Tesco said the 60,000sq ft store would open 'no earlier than 2015'.

Fort William High Street has a small Tesco Metro store but now it seems Lochaber may have an even longer wait for the much-anticipated supermarket.

A Tesco spokesman would not be drawn on a possible opening date.

He said: 'We're not yet in a position to be able to confirm an opening date but we will be sure to keep the community closely updated on our intentions. In the meantime, our town centre store will continue to work hard to provide an excellent service to local customers.'

Councillor Bill Clark, who represents Caol and Mallaig, said he was disappointed if the store opening was delayed until 2020. He added: 'I haven't heard anything recently but nothing would surprise me any more.'

'To put it bluntly I'm bitterly disappointed. When we granted planning permission, we expected them to start work right away. We were told building would have started by Christmas last year and now we have a huge area clear and ready but nothing is there.'

'The supermarket would be fantastic for the Lochaber economy. It would bring competition to the shops we already have and bring in so many jobs. We expected it to be open by now, or at least for work to be well underway.'

The councillor, who also sits on Highland Council's north planning applications committee, said the company was sitting on land that could be utilised by a competitor store.

He said: 'Tesco is not turning the same profits they used to, so they appear to be 'land banking', to prevent their competitors opening a store in the area.'

'It's not just here they're doing it, it's all over the country. They say they can't do it now but they were fast enough to do all the road improvements when they wanted planning permission.'

Pupils hit the high note at games



DRUMMING UP SUPPORT: Lochaber High School's pipe band entertained the crowd at a rainy Mallaig and Morar Highland Games. For more pictures see page 19. 20_132mandm13

Search recovers fallen man

A HILLWALKER has been found dead in Glen Etive.

The body of the man, not believed to be from the Highlands and Islands, was discovered near Coire Lotha in the glen at 1.17pm on Sunday (August 3).

His absence was reported to police at 8pm on Saturday, after he did not return from his walk on Ben Starav

when expected. After a search by local mountain rescue teams, Rescue 177 helicopter discovered the body and it was moved to Fort William by helicopter.

A Police Scotland spokesman said: 'A search of the area was commenced by members of Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team but due to poor weather the search was stood down.'

'Searches recommenced at around 8am on Sunday with members of Glencoe Lochaber and Oban mountain rescue teams.

Assistance was provided by Rescue 137 search and rescue helicopter and the Search and Rescue Dogs Association. Rescue 177 search and rescue helicopter took over the search duties from Rescue 137.'

Higher success rate rises

STUDENTS in the Highlands and the Western Isles are celebrating academic success this week after receiving their exam results on Tuesday.

In S5, almost one third (30.6 per cent) of pupils in the Highlands achieved three or more Highers and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) announced

an impressive pass rate of 80 per cent for Higher exams, which was more than the Scottish national average of 77 per cent.

Five Lochaber High School students and three from Glenurquhart achieved five A passes at Higher level.

And the number of Western Isles pupils receiving 'A' passes also

rose from 24 per cent in 2013 to 27 per cent this year.

Councillor Alasdair Christie, chairman of Highland council's education, children and adult services committee, said: 'I am pleased that once again the hard work of the students, their families and teachers has delivered very good results.'

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Tall order for gym hall campaign

RESIDENTS in Caol say they will not stop complaining until the height of a gym hall is shortened by Highland council, writes Louise Lee.

A call to mount a campaign against the height of the sports building at the new Gaelic primary school is now the plan of action for a group of community activists.

As *The Oban Times* has previously reported, residents were shocked when they saw the frame of the building climbing as high as eight metres. They hadn't been informed about the height of the gym hall.

Despite the council saying it

followed the correct procedure, 17 householders affected by the height of the building say they did not receive notification of the public consultation. Residents say the height of the building will block out the sun to their homes, especially in the winter.

At a residents meeting, on Tuesday night in Caol community centre, it was heard there was no backing down in the campaign to have the roof lowered.

Sandy Watson, chairman of Caol community council, said: 'The next step we need is to take is to send individual complaints to the council because our petition only counts as

one single complaint.

'There's no point in us sitting talking about it - we need to do something about it and do it quick.'

'The simple fact is if they see that we are not giving in they might sit up and realise they should do something about it.'

Councillor Allan Henderson said: 'When Highland council saw that four people had received neighbour notifications, they decided they had done everything properly. They haven't taken into account the fact that 17 other residents did not receive neighbour notifications.'

'The people who didn't get neighbour notifications need to write a

letter of complaint'

A Caol resident, who asked not to be named, said: 'Highland council may have the right to say they followed the right procedures, but it's morally indefensible the way they are treating our pensioners who have worked and lived here all their lives.'

Speaking about the change of site for the school - from Blar Mhor on the edge of Fort William, Birch Road resident, Warren Cameron added: 'Basically what they have done is taken a plan for the Blar site which has no domestic housing nearby and dumped it right next to houses.'

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AONACHAN CROSSROADS CLAIMED THREE LIVES IN THE PAST YEAR



WRECKAGE: This car ends up off the road at the notorious A82 blackspot



OVERTURNED: This car becomes another statistic in the road crash figures

Safety work to go ahead at Lochaber accident blackspot

EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

WORK will soon be underway to repair a road at a notorious accident blackspot in Lochaber.

The local community has welcomed the news that the Aonachan crossroads section of the A82, one mile south of Spean Bridge, is to be resurfaced later this month following two fatal accidents involving three local men in the past year.

BEAR Scotland, trunk roads maintenance contractor, will begin repairs at the area, known as Brackletter junction, on Monday August 18 on behalf of Transport Scotland with work expected to last until August 29.

Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council chairman John Fotheringham welcomed

the news but called the behaviour of some drivers 'sheer silliness' and said this could cause future accidents.

He added: 'We have been campaigning for a long time to have this road repaired and I'm delighted that it's good news at last and something is being done.'

'However anyone who drives the A82 section from Inverness to Fort William recognises that there are few clear overtaking opportunities, but the straight, south of Spean Bridge leading to the Aonachan crossroads, is one that some drivers see as just such an opportunity, without realising the inherent dangers that may occur when travelling in both directions. So drivers using excessive speed is a factor which has caused some accidents.'

The roadworks will require traffic management and maximum speed

“
We have been campaigning for a long time
”

John Fotheringham
community council chairman

restrictions of 10mph.

Lochaber road user Davie Kerr asked: 'Why do they always seem to do such repairs in the middle of the tourist season? I'd have been tempted to leave it until September when the summer traffic has died down a bit.'

But Mr Fotheringham said he would rather see the work completed as soon as possible.

He said: 'It will cause some disruption but it's not for long and the long term safety of our community is more important. The sooner the better as far as I'm concerned.'

John Wrigley, planned maintenance manager for BEAR Scotland, said: 'We are aware of, and have investigated, recent accidents which have occurred at Brackletter junction. We propose to resolve the existing carriageway issues at, and on approach to, the crossroads. This will improve the carriageway safety and hopefully reduce the frequency of accidents at this location.'

Resurfacing will be carried out between 7am and 7pm, Monday to Friday, from August 18 until August 29.

Funding control remains with Highland and islands

MONEY for the Highlands and Islands from Europe is to be protected despite changes to the distribution programme.

There had been some concern that the new European Union system would lead to a central belt focus on funding but Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) has confirmed that the area's €192m will remain ring-fenced in the new structural and investment programme.

HIE staff will be involved in the administration and delivery of the new programmes.

MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch Dave Thompson welcomed the news.

He said: 'I was aware there had been some reports in the press that the funding allocation was in jeopardy so to have the ring-fenced funds confirmed for the Highlands and Islands is excellent news.'

'I welcome the fact that HIE will still be involved in the administration and delivery of the funds and I look forward to finding out the specific details of their involvement.'

Achievements to be rewarded

BUSINESSES in the Highlands will be recognised for their achievements at an awards ceremony to be held next month.

Companies and individuals can nominate themselves for prizes in seven categories of the Highland Business Awards including outstanding performing business, best social enterprise, best family business and business leader of the year.

Winners will be announced at an awards lunch in Inverness on Thursday September 25 which will also feature a regional award, for which the Lochaber area will be sponsored by Ben Nevis Distillery.

For more details and information on how to apply contact Lochaber Chamber of Commerce on 01397 705765 or membership@lochaber-chamber.co.uk.

Insh scout camp break-in damage

POLICE are appealing for information about the following incidents in Lochaber:

Sometime between July 27 and August 1 the Insh Scout Camp at Spean Bridge was forcibly entered and property inside was damaged.

Between 9.30pm on August 1 and 10am the following day a black Gary Fischer man's mountain bike was taken from outside the Co-op in Caol.

Anyone with information can contact police on 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800555111.

Pipers gather in Lochaber

THE ANNUAL Lochaber Gathering piping festival will return to Fort William on Saturday (August 9).

Pipers from all over the world will descend on the Nevis Centre for both junior and senior competitions, with College of Piping principal Robert Wallace providing this year's lecture on the life and music of John MacLennan of Dunoon.

Contests begin at 9.15am and run throughout the day.

Tickets are available on the door.

Indoor sport gains support

LOCHABER Sports Association's bid to build a multi-sport indoor facility at Lochaber High School has taken a step forward with the area's rotary club agreeing to assist with the cost of a planning application.

Lochaber rotarians agreed that people were sorely in need of an indoor training facility if sportsmen and women in Lochaber were to be able to train during adverse winter weather.

Club president John Harvey said: 'The club was delighted to assist the association albeit in a very small way.'

'The planning fee is a statutory cost that has to be raised and hopefully the proposal

will soon come to fruition.' Jane Blanchard of the sports association gratefully acknowledged the club's support.

She said: 'The sports hall will be a huge boost to the development of sport, fitness and well-being in Lochaber.'

In another bid to cut costs, Kilmallie Community Council has agreed to submit the planning application on behalf of the Lochaber Sports Association, slashing planning fees in half from £17,954.

So far £7,350 has been raised, a Big Lottery Investing in Ideas application outcome is due and the need for a drainage impact and flood risk assessment is being investigated.



LONE PIPER: Sandy Cameron

Sandy will stand alone

A TALENTED Lochaber teenager will take centre stage at this year's Highland Military Tattoo.

Sandy Cameron, 17, has been chosen as the lone piper for the Fort George event, which is returning to the region after a three-year absence as part of Homecoming Scotland 2014.

The Roy Bridge teen will close the tattoo which runs from 5-7 September at the Fort near Inverness and showcases the best of Highland culture.

Mr Cameron, three-time winner of the overall under-18 competition at the Northern Meeting, said he was 'really excited' about piping in front of the 6,000-strong crowd expected to attend.

He added: 'I've never done anything like this before and I'm really looking forward to it. I'm really pleased I've been chosen.'

'This is quite possibly the biggest event I've ever been part of. It has a big audience and a really good atmosphere.'

The sixth year pupil at Dollar Academy has been piping since the age of nine and last year added the MacGregor Memorial Piobaireachd Competition title from the Argyllshire Gathering to his list of achievements.

Delighted father Kenny Cameron said: 'My wife and I are very proud that Sandy has been chosen. It's a big honour for him and we're both delighted.'

Bringing together a mix of local, military and international acts, the tattoo will kick off with a flypast from an RAF Typhoon from RAF Lossiemouth, and will showcase fiddlers, pipe bands, Highland dancers and Gaelic singers.

Highland Military Tattoo director, Major General Seymour Monro, said: 'The tattoo is showcasing the talents of many young local musicians and we are delighted that a fine young piper of Sandy's calibre is joining us for this prestigious role.'

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Housing chief's plea for action

Plans for 37 homes will bring £5million to town and 40 full-time jobs

LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

THE BATTLE for the former Rockfield primary school in Oban has entered a new phase with a plea from a housing boss to build 37 affordable homes on the disused site.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) argued the local economy would lose out on £5million investment and 40 full-time jobs if the council rejected ACHA's homes plan for central Oban.

Alastair MacGregor, chief executive of ACHA, said: 'We need a decision from the council on the future of Rockfield, as soon as possible.'

'If we are to take the project forward for 2015-2018 as part of our strategic housing investment plan, we need to put it into our programme. We have been working on our proposals for Rockfield for two years.'

The plans would then have to go before the Scottish government for approval.

ACHA tenants Andy Birnie and Lorraine Anne Drysdale backed Mr MacGregor saying there was a pressing need for affordable housing in the town.

Mr Birnie said: 'This site has been available for seven years. It's time it was used to meet the real needs of Oban's people. Housing for families and the elderly is desperately needed.'

'I don't believe we should ignore the benefits of 37 new homes and associated jobs during the construction phase, as well as the multi-million pound investment this will bring to the centre of Oban.'

Gordon MacNab, a director of Oban Communities Trust, the body fighting to retain Rockfield for community use, said: 'I have always maintained that I am supportive of social housing in the town.'

'But there are some sites that have more importance to the community than others, and Rockfield is one of those sites. In the last two weeks a

number of organisations in the town have shown an interest in working in partnership with us. This would form an important part of our business plan.'

One of the organisations who have said they are interested in working with the group is VisitScotland.

The tourism agency stated: 'We are delighted to hear of the community plans for a cultural and arts hub in Oban. It would certainly be a fantastic use for the old school and a welcome addition to our existing visitor attractions in the town.'

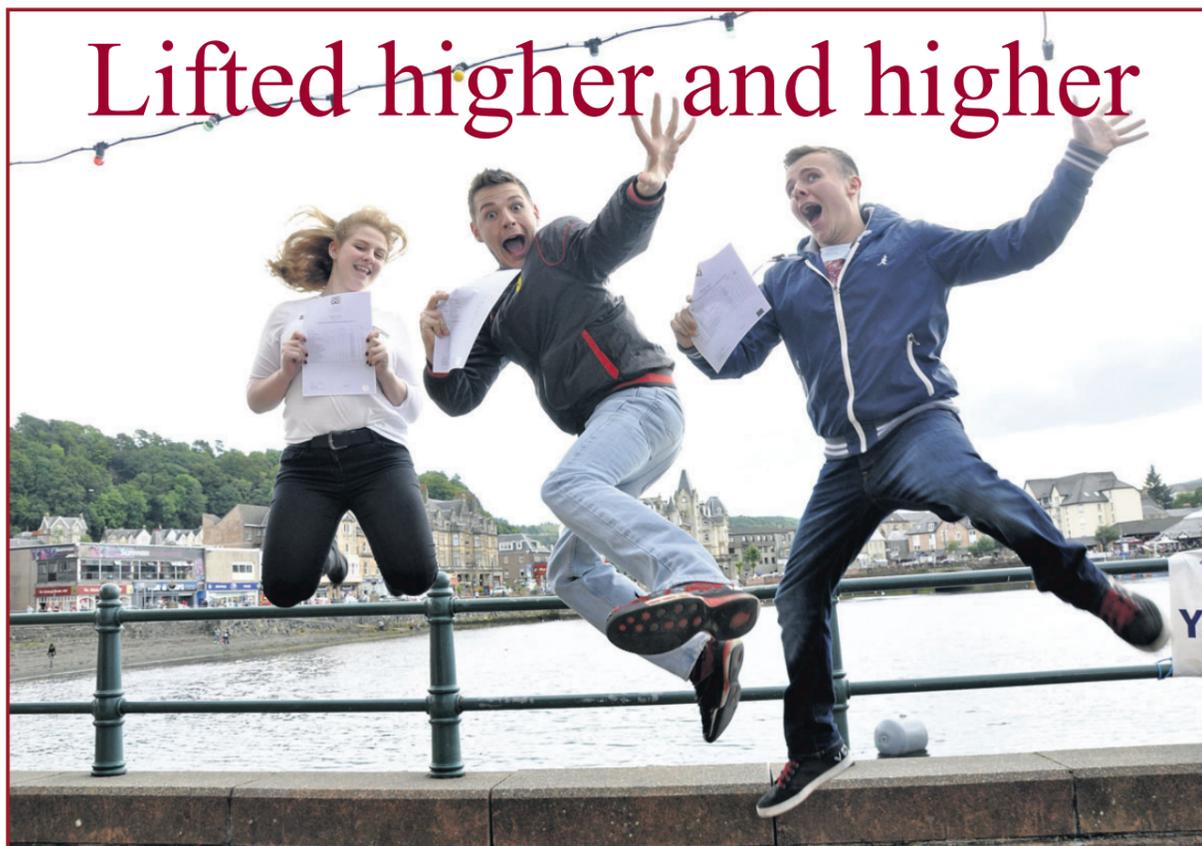
'We are continually reviewing our VisitScotland information centres (VIC), working with local authorities and partners to ensure we are meeting the changing needs of visitors.'

'VisitScotland has been approached by a number of parties interested in sharing the Oban VIC premises.'

'We look forward to meeting the community group taking on Rockfield school as another possible option for visitor information provision.'

Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell said he was supportive of the plan to buy the building for community use, provided it was underpinned by a realistic business plan.

He added: 'I have had a number of representations from people in Oban about the matter and I have told Gordon MacNab that I will assist the initiative in any way I can.'



Out-of-hours uncertainty on Mull

PATIENTS on Mull who are members of the Salen medical practice will receive out-of-hours care from their GP.

But NHS Highland, which has a duty to provide out-of-hours cover, says discussions on providing a similar service to the rest of the island have so far been unsuccessful. That has created uncertainty for patients in Tobermory, where

doctors have given notice of pulling out of providing the service.

Furthermore, two GPs in Bunnellan will leave at the end of September.

Dr Frank Teunisse and, from October, his colleague Dr Liz Pictou will provide an out-of-hours service for their own patients at Salen medical practice.

Dr Teunisse said: 'We will be

providing an out-of-hours service, regardless of what other GPs on the island are doing.'

'I like the lifestyle of being a rural GP and it is important that all the benefits of the job are balanced by the commitment there should be to the community.'

NHS Highland said it had been in discussion with all GPs on Mull to find out whether they could work

more closely together to provide services across the island.

Describing the discussions as 'worthwhile', a spokesman said they 'did not result in us being able to take it forward at this time'.

NHS Highland is planning to meet patients and work with the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) and NHS24 to cover Mull and Iona out of hours.

OBAN High School students were among 140,000 across Scotland who received their exam results on Tuesday.

It was good news for Oban pupils, pictured from left, Emma Storr Alasdair Jordan and Kyle McKechnie, who were jumping for joy after getting the grades they needed to go to university.

Initial figures show that the Higher pass rate across Scotland dropped slightly on last year,

from 77.4 per cent to 77.1 per cent, according to the Scottish Qualification Authority.

However, the number of pupils passing their Highers rose from 141,257 last year to 147,899.

The pass rate for the new National 4 exams was 93 per cent.

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OVERGROWN PATHS AND VERGES FORCING PEOPLE ONTO THE ROAD Verging on unsafe, say women

LOUISE LEE
lee@obantimes.co.uk

ROADSIDE verges in Argyll have become so badly overgrown that two women have struck the first blow in cutting the problem down to size.

They blame the council for failing to grasp the nettle by keeping the verges and paths clear of overhanging bushes and weeds.

Their claims are backed up by council insiders who are beginning to despair about the lack of basic maintenance work to verges.

However, Argyll and Bute council said there was not a problem and the council was 'up to speed' with its amenity schedule in Oban Lorn and the Isles (OLI).

But former schoolteacher Rosemary Firth, from Oban, says she has taken matters into her own hands and is now cutting down the buddleia and brambles on the path between the town, the Free Church and McCaig's Tower.

Mrs Firth said: 'It might be that they haven't put this path on any maintenance schedule - but I've taken matters into my own hands as it looks terrible.'

'This path is the only safe route up the road around Rockfield, and people are forced out onto the street to walk.'

In Appin, Fiona Wallace has been cutting down branches on the roadside for fear there would be an accident.

Fiona, a registry officer at the Scottish Marine Institute, said she wanted to clear the verges on the Port Appin road because the signs were hidden by overgrown bushes.

Fiona said: 'We have a lot of tourists this year and I want them to be safe. The road is dangerous with so many overhanging trees - I just wanted to get it sorted without any fuss.'

Council insiders said the work on verges in the Oban area had hardly started. Explaining that workers were being pulled from jobs to deal with areas that were receiving complaints, they spoke of staff shortages and machinery failure.

Last week, they said a tractor had been driven at 25 mph from Helensburgh to Oban and back to carry out four hours' verge-side work in the area.



TAKING MATTERS INTO HER OWN HANDS: Rosemary Firth cuts down the overhanging trees and plants in order that people can walk up the street

15_125over4

A spokesman for Argyll and Bute council said: 'Amenity service delivery specifications were amended for financial year 2013/14 - these savings reduced the frequency of grass cutting and strimming, together with a reduction in staffing levels.'

'Non-policy related savings were approved by members for 2014/15 which include a reduction in the

amount of hired plant and equipment and a reduction in the amount of fuel used through a rationalisation of routes.'

'At an operational level there will be urgent demands which will determine priorities.'

'As part of this new model we are working closely with community groups to maximise service delivery.'

'The council is up to speed with its amenity schedule in the OLI region.'

'Council officers work diligently to ensure that Argyll and Bute's open spaces are maintained to the highest possible standard.'

'The tractor up from Helensburgh teamed up with another tractor in OLI area, therefore, twice as much work done in that time.'



Duncan Begg

Brute who raped pregnant woman jailed for 8 years

A CONVICTED rapist from Skye was jailed for eight years last Friday at the High Court in Glasgow.

Duncan Begg, 43, of Crauchan Place, Portree was convicted of the rape of a pregnant woman, and a series of sickening assaults on women in Caithness between 1984 and 2010.

Police Scotland praised the courage of his victims who testified against Begg during a harrowing trial at the High Court in Aberdeen last month.

The brutal Skye man perversely claimed the women had consented to his 'advances'.

Detective Inspector Eddie Ross of the domestic abuse investigation unit, said: 'Police Scotland acknowledges the courage of Duncan Begg's victims in not only coming forward to the police but staying with the prosecution process to conviction and the subsequent sentencing which took place on Friday last week.'

Rural schools win extra protection

LEGISLATION came into force on August 1 giving extra protection to schools serving rural communities.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 now stipulates that councils must carry out consultations before proposing school closures.

Michael Russell, Argyll and Bute MSP, said: 'These provisions are a result of the Commission on Rural Education which was set up after the disastrous attempt by Argyll and Bute council to close 26 primary schools.'

Islay's oldest resident dies

AN ISLAY woman has died in the island's hospital just weeks after celebrating her 100th birthday.

Lily MacDougall, who was the island's oldest resident and turned 100 on July 17, died on Tuesday.

Her funeral will be held in Bowmore's Round Church on Saturday at 11.30am.

The Caolila woman had the honour of opening the new Islay lifeboat station at Port Askaig in June this year.

Remembering 100 years on

REPRESENTATIVES from different military and community groups came together in Oban on Monday to honour those who died in World War One.

A short service was held at the war memorial on the Corran Esplanade in remembrance of 100 years since the day Great Britain joined the Great War.

The service was led by Ian Blair-Simmons of the Royal British Legion Scotland, Oban branch, and his wife Leslie.

Readings included Binyon's Lines, the 23rd Psalm, and the famous poem In Flanders Fields.

A minute's silence was held with a piper signalling the beginning and end, before individual poppies were laid at the memorial.

Ian said: 'I'd like to thank everyone for coming, including the sea cadets who we weren't expecting. 'It's always good to fly the colours and pay your respects.'

Poppies laid at Oban war memorial 17_132war01



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Oban bids farewell to man who was 'force of nature'

THE FUNERAL of Oban councillor John MacGregor who died suddenly last week heard that he felt vindicated by the people of the town by his recent election.

Leading the service, the Rev Dugald Cameron told a capacity congregation in the Oban parish church on Monday that the 62-year-old businessman was a 'force of nature.'

The eulogy was delivered by Ted Heath who told of John's first career in donkeys on Ganavan Sands before progressing to thoroughbred racehorses at Cheltenham.

He was called a 'vibrant and exciting' person who was always up for a challenge. John's charitable work was noted - especially with the Ryan MacPhail Memorial dinner that raises £7,000 per year for local organisations that need support.

Mr MacGregor was born and grew up in the town's Dunollie area.

He was married to Cathie for 21 years and had four step-daughters and seven grand-children.

Police catch biker travelling at 97mph in Bridge of Orchy

TWO MOTORCYCLISTS visiting the west Highlands have been caught out by road policing officers carrying out speed checks in Bridge of Orchy.

The two men were both clocked breaking the national speed limit on the A82 near to the village at the same time.

A 34-year-old man from England was travelling at 97mph and a 31-year-old Welshman was recorded at a speed of 85mph at 9.24am last Friday.

Appeal for information in bid to track down tyre slashers

POLICE in Oban are seeking information from people in Clachan Seal after the tyres on two cars in the village were slashed.

The two incidents, at separate addresses, happened overnight sometime between August 2 and 4. Anyone with any information is encouraged to contact PC Kenny Brack on 01631 510500.

WIN! WICKED

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For your chance to win this wicked prize, simply answer this easy question, complete the form and send to Wyvex Media, Wicked Comp, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Entries must be received by Monday August 18 2014. The prize needs to be taken between November 19, 2014 and January 10, 2015 and dates must be chosen and booked by 29 August 2014.

Question: The musical Wicked is based on which Wizard of OZ character?
a) Dorothy b) Wicked Witch of the West c) Tin Man

Answer Name

Address Postcode

Telephone..... Email

By entering this competition you agree for The Knight Residence to contact you. Please tick this box if you would NOT like to be contacted

Terms and conditions: OVER 18s ONLY. The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entry coupons will not be accepted. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and associated company employees and their families. This competition is also open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications. Digital subscribers can enter by printing this page and submitting their entry along with a letter explaining you are a digital subscriber (please provide your email address). Closing date for entries is midnight Monday August 18, 2014. The prize needs to be taken between November 19, 2014 and January 10, 2015 and dates must be chosen and booked by 29 August 2014.

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BIG HITTERS: Some of the boxers and organisers who were involved in the Festival of Boxing at the weekend

Fort lose by the odd goal in three

FOOTBALL

FORT William lost out by one goal in the home game against Buckie Thistle on Saturday. Sean Grant opened the scoring early on, with Fort's only goal at Claggan but Buckie equalised 60 seconds into the second half. The visitors took the lead with a penalty in the 84th minute, bringing the final score to 2-1. A Fort William FC spokesman said: 'A Fort squad that contained seven new faces put in an excellent performance today and really deserved to take something from their afternoon's work. 'Although we went close on several occasions, we just couldn't get that equaliser. 'If we can continue to put in performances like we did today then it could be a very good season indeed.' Fort William took on Strathspey Thistle at home last night (Wednesday) and face Keith away on Saturday.

Tri-4-Life stop off in Fort William

ATHLETICS

KEEN young athletes in Lochaber were visited by a group of fundraising sportsmen when they stopped off in Fort William during a UK-wide tour. Members of Tri-4-Life have been running, swimming and cycling around the country raising money for charity but made time to visit the children of High Life Highland's summer athletics activity group. After a presentation about the work of Tri-4-Life the youngsters took part in a simulated triathlon, including skipping and 'air swimming'. Tri-4-Life organiser Liam Hanlon said the Lochaber children were 'the best and most enthusiastic bunch of kids'. Jane Blanchard of Lochaber Sports Association said: 'We would very much like to welcome them [Tri-4-Life] back next year, but meanwhile wish them luck on their travels - what an inspirational and happy troupe.'

Stableford winners at the Isle of Skye

GOLF

ISLE of Skye Golf Club Stableford pairs competition Wednesday July 30: 1 Murdo Gordon and Alasdair Grant 72 pts; 2 Dave MacVicar and Martin Bird 71 pts (bih); 3 Kyle Pirie and George Neill 71 pts. Marie Curie Shield Saturday and Sunday August 2 and 3: 1 Chris MacKinnon 43 pts (bih); 2 John Finlayson 43 pts; 3 Robert Beaton 42 pts; 4 Dave MacVicar 40 pts (bih); 5 Mike Williams 40pts (bih); 6 Danny Steele 40 pts.

Festival of Boxing at Kinlochleven

BOXERS of all ages had the chance to develop their skills on Saturday, at the inaugural Festival of Boxing at the Ice Factor in Kinlochleven. The event was organised by the Claymores Amateur Boxing Club, based in the village, and saw boxers from the north of Scotland enjoy a weekend of sparring and skill development workshops at the activity centre.

Martin Glensk, who is a coach at the Claymores, organised the event and was delighted with how the day went. He said: 'It was fantastic, first-class, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. 'We had 20 boxers from the north of Scotland, and it wasn't quite the turn out we'd

expected, but the finals of the Commonwealth Games boxing was so I think we lost a few people to that. 'The whole point of the day was to get people interested in boxing, and there were some people who had never seen boxing or had no interest in it who ended up thoroughly enjoying themselves.'

Over the weekend, organisers set-up two boxing rings to showcase the sport to non-boxers in the area and gave aspiring competitive boxers the chance to spar with others who are close to their level of competition. Martin now plans to run the event annually for the foreseeable future, saying: 'We're hoping to do this every year at the Ice Factor and

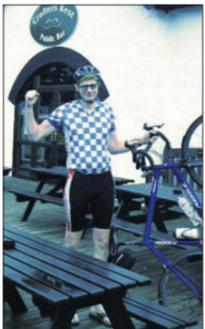
make it even bigger and better next year. 'I had five people on Saturday asking how to join our club, including two girls, so it's been really good for us as an organisation and the sport as a whole.'

BOXING

Shaun cycles 150 miles for RNLI

CYCLING

AN ARISAIG hotel worker cycled 150 miles from the village to Glasgow to raise money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Shaun Millar took on the challenge on Sunday, leaving from the Arisaig Hotel just after 6am and finished at Glasgow Queen Street station. The 40-year-old didn't let the thunder, lightning and torrential rain deter him and made it to the Clachaig Inn in three hours. Mr Millar, originally from Cumbernauld, had planned to travel before he was 'lured by the beauty of Lochaber'. He said: 'At times it was easy and at others it was like there were anchors on my legs. An event like this shows how generous people are and is a great way to see your country - you notice quite a lot at 16mph.'



FUNDRAISER: Shaun Millar, 40, cycled from Arisaig to Glasgow for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution



TEXAS SCRAMBLE: Allan and Tanya Ross with the prize winners of the Harris Ross Texas Scramble in aid of their son at Fort William Golf Club

Star for Harris charity benefits by more than £6,500

A TEXAS Scramble golf match showed the continuing support for an infant who lost his battle with cancer. Since Alan and Tanya Ross set up Star for Harris they have gone on to do incredible work alerting parents to the early signs of cancer. Research To date, their fundraising has seen more than two million cards delivered to families throughout the country. The cards give information on the early signs of cancer. The golf match last week raised more than £6,500. Tanya, a school teacher, said: 'The charity is about getting an early diagnosis for childhood

cancers and making sure those children and parents who are in hospital are as comfortable as possible. 'We also fund research. Everything we do is in consultation with professionals, parents and children. 'When we were in hospital with Harris there were other people on the ward who had also had a late diagnosis. We want to make sure people get as much information as early as possible. 'The event itself was fantastic, it always is a great event.'

GOLF

Rugby Force comes to Lochaber

THE RUGBY Force day at the Lochaber club will see some old hands and some new stars at this annual event. Up-and-coming rugby player Magnus Bradbury will join

Scottish internationalists Duncan Weir, Chris Fusaro and Peter Horn to meet and greet club members, over the weekend of August 9 and 10. The Royal Bank of Scotland gives the club funds towards sprucing up the premises and carrying out essential maintenance.

RUGBY

Controversial meeting of Lochaber Welfare League

A CONTROVERSIAL meeting of the Lochaber Welfare League association saw all games involving Caol Cosmos scrapped after they withdrew from the league last week. The team was second in the Marine Harvest table but dropped out after they were unable to field enough players for two consecutive fixtures. The four teams represented at last Thursday's special general meeting voted 3-1 to make all of Cosmos' games null and void, taking three points from Loch-

aber and one from Lundavra. An appeal was supposed to be heard after the committee refused Inverloch points for a victory over Ballachulish as they had ineligible players but the group didn't appear to make their case. Ronald Wegner of the league committee said: 'The day after Caol Cosmos withdrew Inverloch were playing their boys, the rules are you have to wait seven days before players can switch teams. We gave the points to Ballachulish and Inverloch

WELFARE FOOTBALL

wanted to appeal but they didn't turn up. I think they knew they didn't have much of a case.' Results: Marine Harvest League - Lochaber 6 v 1 Nevis Range; Lundavra 6 v 6 Mallaig; Caol Utd 7 v 1 Inverloch; Uisdean MacDonald Cup semi-finals: Lochaber 4 v 1 Lundavra; Mallaig 6 v 2 Ballachulish. Weather permitting, Lochaber will take on Mallaig in the final at Canal Park at 7pm on Friday (August 8).

Jude and Alan keep it in the family

A HUSBAND and wife were the proud winners of the Railway Bowling Club nominated pairs tournament. Jude and Alan Robinson were

presented their plate by Scott Greenlees of John McLellan & Co Funeral Directors at the Inverloch green. Angus and Wilson Thain, also

BOWLS

married, were named runners up of the competition.



BOWLED OVER: Competitors of the Railway Bowling Club's nominated pairs tournament with Scott Greenlees and winners (front right) Jude and Alan Robinson

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WEATHER

Thursday Light rain showers
Winds moderate south westerly
Temperatures 12°C to 17°C

Friday Light rain showers
Winds light south easterly
Temperatures 12°C to 17°C.

Weekend Outlook Heavy rain showers on Saturday
Light rain showers on Sunday
Winds moderate south westerly
Temperatures 13°C to 17°C.

FRIDAY

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 7, 2014** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	02.28	3.1	08.42	1.5	15.19	3.3	20.57	1.4
Fri	03.37	3.3	09.44	1.2	16.09	3.6	22.04	1.1
Sat	04.27	3.6	10.37	0.8	16.53	3.9	23.00	0.7
Sun	05.11	3.8	11.24	0.5	17.35	4.2	23.49	0.5
Mon	05.51	3.9	12.09	0.3	18.16	4.3	** **	**
Tues	00.35	0.3	06.31	4.0	12.53	0.2	18.56	4.3
Wed	01.20	0.3	07.10	4.0	13.37	0.2	19.37	4.2

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

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