

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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Great Oban Raft Race on the crest of a wave PAGE EIGHT



'Massive crowds' flock to Bunessan Show PAGES 16 & 17



Care in the Community FEATURE PAGE 11

Drivers vent anger over problem parking meters



LOUISE GLEN
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FRUSTRATED motorists in Oban are venting their anger on staff in some of the town's businesses when they cannot find change for the parking meters. At the moment some parking meters only take old £1 coins, which are being withdrawn from circulation. Argyll and Bute Council has said meters accepting the new £1 coins will be installed by the end of October. In one Esplanade hotel, the manager said he had to call the

police after abusive behaviour from tourists to reception staff. The manager, who cannot be named for legal reasons, said: 'A guy came into the hotel thinking that it was our machine and asked for change. 'We simply do not have that much change and we are unable to provide it. We get people in all the time. We only get so much change. 'The guy then started speaking to staff in a manner that was simply unacceptable. 'I put them out of the hotel and informed the police, who I later saw speaking to the man and

giving him a caution. We are happy to help with change - but only if the council can give us some to exchange. There are hardly any old pound coins in circulation and this problem is only going to get worse.' Another man, Jim Baillie, contacted *The Oban Times* to say he was concerned after receiving a parking ticket while he went to search for change. Mr Baillie, from Greenock, said: 'I was away for less than five minutes and I managed to get a parking ticket on my car. 'I didn't have the correct change.'

Another frustrated driver put a notice on a parking meter that stated: 'This parking meter only accepts the old £1 and 20 pence pieces, shillings and farthings. 'It will accept 50 pence coins if they are not the shiny ones. If they are shiny, then forget it. 'Also you can forget the new (but have been out for 10 years plus) 10 and five pence coins. 'We totally expect you to have these of course, or magic them out of thin air.' A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council confirmed: 'Many meters have been replaced and the remainder will

be replaced or upgraded in time for the old coins going out of circulation in October.' Between April 1 and June 30, the council raised £113,598 from parking on- and off-street in Oban. Plans to extend the parking in Oban are currently under consultation until August 18. A consultation on parking charges has been announced by the local authority and, while changes are causing concerns to workers on social media, only a small number have actually contacted the local authority to give their views. For more on this visit www.obantimes.co.uk

INSIDE YOUR OBAN TIMES THIS WEEK

Seil sewage saga
THERE is still no consensus on Seil over the best way to correct the failing sewage system, which has seen untreated waste dumped into Balvicar Bay. Full story - page two.

Campervans
COMPLAINTS have again been voiced over the lack of provision for campervans in the Oban area and the problems arising from random parking. Full story - page three.

Brave little ship
THE pleasure boat Chico, operating out of Oban all summer, has a fascinating history dating back to the emergency evacuation at Dunkirk. Full story - page four.

Vision for future
CalMac chief executive Martin Dorchester speaks to *The Oban Times* about his vision for the future of the company and its services. Full story - page five.

Games on
FULL report and a picture special from a fantastic Killin Highland Games, which drew a great attendance. Turn to pages 16 and 17

Best for shinty
UNRIVALLED shinty coverage with reports and pictures from all the weekend's games, as well as this weekend's fixtures. Turn to pages 28 and 29.

Argyll's heroic Great War nurse is honoured

HIGHLY decorated with military honours, nurses Elsie Knocker and Mairi Chisholm were affectionately known as 'the Madonnas of Pervyse' by the press during the Great War. The two women now grace the Royal Mail's commemorative stamps, which were released last week. What is less known is that after the war, Mairi Chisholm moved to Barcaldine where she lived with her childhood friend May Davidson for decades. Among the many medals Mrs Knocker and Miss Chisholm were awarded were the Order of Léopold II (1915), the Order of Queen Elisabeth of Belgium (1915), the Military Medal (1917), the 1914 Star (1917) and the Order of St John of Jerusalem (1918) for bravery in Belgium and for saving the lives of thousands of soldiers on the front line. At the time, many women ripped up the rule book and nursed against official British regulations at the front. Near Flanders, at first the women collected men midway onto the field

of battle before moving them to the hospital to wait for treatment, or to the mortuary. Miss Chisholm wrote in her diary: 'No-one can understand ... unless one has seen the rows of dead men laid out. One sees men with their jaws blown off, arms and legs mutilated.' The women came to the conclusion that they could save more lives by treating the wounded directly on the front line. They set up a treatment area 100 yards from the front line. Acting as free agents and raising their own funds, they stayed on the front line for three and a half years, leaving, due to ill health, only months before the armistice. Their bravery was legendary as they carried men on their backs from the front and survived gas attacks. Following the war, the two nurses went their separate ways and, after an argument, barely spoke again. The war had taken its toll on Miss Chisholm's health. She had been poisoned, contracted septicemia and had a

weak heart. Yet, after a brief stint in the women's RAF, she took up motor racing. Partly on doctors' advice, Miss Chisholm returned home to Scotland where, it was hoped, she would lead a quieter life. She based herself in Barcaldine where she became a successful poultry breeder with May Davidson. The women had a gardener, Miss Partridge, and a cook, Miss Johnson, who lived for more than 60 years in a house called Dock Cottage but later changed its name to Cnoc an Hurrin and is now Creran Cottage. People still remember Miss Chisholm shooting rabbits from her bedroom window. In her later years, she spent much time corresponding with The Clan Chisholm Society. Mairi Chisholm died on August 22, 1981, aged 85, from lung cancer. Thank you to reader Moira Hayward for highlighting the story to *The Oban Times*. A book on the subject, *Elsie and Mairi Go to War*, by Diane Atkinson was published by Cornerstone in 2009.



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Vehicle thefts: two in Oban court

Oban Sheriff Court.

FOLLOWING an appeal on Facebook and an investigation by police in Oban and Taynuilt, last Friday morning a man and a woman appeared from custody at Oban Sheriff Court charged with theft of motor vehicles. Sheriff Patrick Hughes was on the bench. The pair made no plea or declaration. The two, 41-year-old Euion Smith, of 3 Millpark Terrace, Oban, and Melissa McLaughlin, 26, of 3A Millpark Terrace, Oban, jointly face two charges of stealing vehicles on July 29 and between July 30 and 31. Smith was further charged with two counts of driving full trial. The two accused were released on bail. Police Scotland reminded vehicle owners and drivers that car theft in the area remains very unusual but advised people to take precautions to secure cars. A Police Scotland spokesperson said: 'Keep your car off the street if possible. If you're at home and you have a garage, then use it. Make sure you lock both the car and the garage. 'Always secure and lock your car, and remove the keys. It is likely to invalidate your insurance if you don't do this. 'If you don't have a garage, make use of the driveway if you have one. If parking in public or using airport parking, look for a car park with the Park Mark sign. These designated car parks have complied with specific measures to deter crime and anti-social behaviour. 'Lock all items out of sight. Don't leave anything on display and take valuables with you. 'If you have a satnav, hide the cradle and take the system with you. Don't forget to wipe the suction marks off the window. If you have personal correspondence in the vehicle, then take it with you. 'Use an electronic or mechanical immobiliser such as a steering lock and if you have an alarm, then make sure it is set.'

The Deck Restaurant at The Isle of Eriska

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Tel: 01631 720371 Website: www.eriska-hotel.co.uk

The Argyllshire Gathering OBAN HIGHLAND GAMES

Mossfield Park, Oban

Thursday 24th August 2017

March to Games Field leaves Station Square at 10.30am

OBAN HIGH SCHOOL PIPE BAND
12noon from Station Square

Highland Dancing
Track & Field Events
Traditional Heavy Events
Piping

TUG O' WAR • FUN RACES
HERITAGE TENT

TRADE STANDS & FOOD STANDS
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AT MOSSFIELD PARK, PARK AND RIDE FACILITIES
AVAILABLE AT GLENGALLAN ROAD

PREMIER PIPING COMPETITIONS
AT VENUES ACROSS OBAN

Wednesday 23rd August 2017
PIOBAIREACHD Gold Medal
MacGregor Memorial Competition
Senior Piobaireachd
LIGHT MUSIC:
March, Strathspey & Reel (former winners)

No consensus yet on new proposed Seil waste plant

SANDY NEIL
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SEIL islanders are yet to find consensus on a replacement to its failing sewage plant.

Scottish Water's (SW) £11 million Clachan Seil Waste Water Works, unable to separate run-off from heavy rain, has been overflowing untreated human waste into Balvicar Bay.

Its final report on the options for a new plant was published on its dedicated website in June.

It acknowledged due to 'significant dissatisfaction' the community view of SW was already 'very poor' when the current plant was commissioned in 2008-09. Complaints then grew when its membranes 'clogged up quicker than expected, spilling untreated screened discharges to the shellfish water more frequently', which were reported to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA).

To fix it and 'a raw public outfall' into Easdale Bay from eight houses on Seaview Terrace, SW presented a single scheme which had the 'lowest whole life cost': turning the plant into a pumping

station to pass effluent for treatment at a community septic tank at Seaview Terrace. However, SW admitted, the proposal led to 'very negative responses, compounded by an exceptionally low level of trust'.

A stakeholder group, composed of SW employees, an independent expert, local representatives, councillors and MSP Michael Russell, was set up in June 2016 'to engage the community in the development of a mutually acceptable option'. Twelve options were narrowed down to two, 'based on cost, feasibility and acceptability'.

The first, termed option 1A, would cost £5.6 million and replace the existing plant with a new tertiary treatment works away from the immediate community, still discharging to Seil Sound shellfish water, and create a small septic tank to serve the Seaview Terrace residents'.

The second, costing £5.5 million, termed option 3, would see a 'single large septic tank and UV system located in the vicinity of Seaview Terrace to serve all properties currently connected to the public sewerage system, with

disinfected effluent discharged to Easdale Bay'.

The report concluded: 'While option 1A is more expensive, on balance it is believed to have the best opportunity to successfully deliver the outcomes and maintain community support.'

A map places the proposed plant around 300m west of the current one, behind the low hill running alongside the B844. The plant, approximately five metres high, and 50m by 135m, would require a land purchase, security fencing and a new access road, resulting in 'significant local vehicle movements to import construction material'. A diagram puts its likely entry point on the road from Balvicar to Ellenabeich, between Kilbride Farm and the 'Tin church'.

SW then held an information event in June, 'to explain the process' and take feedback to help shape the project's delivery, and then published these comments on its website.

According to SW's summary, many accepted 1A as the best option, thanking stakeholders and SW for their work. 'It is cheering that after years of seri-

ous problems and negativity, SW is working hard to engage with the community to listen and find solutions,' one stated.

But some responders disagreed: 'Option 1A [is] not my preferred option,' wrote one, 'but [it] could be acceptable if a different route was chosen for [the] access road.' Another said: 'The environmental impact on this untouched part of the island could be catastrophic.' Another commented: 'A scar on the island.'

While acknowledging 'no-one can see it', others raised concerns about the location and length of the access road, plus the number of 'commercial' or 'heavy' vehicles using it, and the 'amount of litter left by contractors'.

Another asked for 'any prospect of Ellenabeich getting a proper sewerage facility?'

Ellenabeich was being 'left out', another argued, adding: 'This is not a consultation but an event to announce a single decided option which has been driven through by an entirely self interest group.'

'There has been a lack of information circulated by the group to the wider community,' complained another.

On behalf of local stakeholders, Anne Marie Robin said they had always given progress reports at community council and public meetings. 'The minutes of the public meetings are displayed locally and are on the Seil website, as are the reports in the local newsletter which is also distributed to every household.'

'The draft options appraisal which assessed the 12 options was sent to stakeholders in late December with a request from SW for confidentiality within the group as it may not have been easily understood by people who have not been as closely involved as the stakeholder group.'

'Despite this, the stakeholders were able to inform the public at the March community council meeting and subsequently in the newsletter that the preferred option was an inland site with full tertiary treatment with an approximate location. The stakeholders invited a representative from SW to inform the public at the community council meeting of May 23 which was attended by 20 members of the public.'

'There has been no lack of publically available information.'



David Mundell meets Stewart, Scott and Andrew Laing at Ardnahoe Distillery, on the east coast of Islay.

Scottish Secretary visits Islay distilleries

SCOTTISH Secretary David Mundell met representatives of the Scotch Whisky Association and Diageo at the Caol Ila distillery on Islay yesterday (Thursday August 3) to discuss how the UK government is hoping to reduce export tariffs on Scottish produce.

Whisky is worth around £5 billion to the UK economy, and accounts for three-quarters of Scotland's total food and drink exports.

The UK government is hoping to ensure that, as we leave the EU, the industry is able to tackle tariffs and boost overseas sales.

Mr Mundell said: 'Scotch whisky is a world-class product, globally recognised for its quality and heritage, and the industry employs thousands of people in Scotland and around the rest of the UK.'

'We are determined to open up new markets around the world for the very best whisky our distillers have to offer and to drive down any tariffs they face.'

'By strengthening ties with key partners, identifying new markets and tackling tariffs, the UK

government is paving the way towards an even brighter future for Scotland's whisky industry.'

For whisky, export tariffs currently range from zero to more than 150 per cent. The UK government is looking at how future trade agreements could reduce export tariffs for iconic Scottish goods such as whisky, smoked salmon and gin.

Mr Mundell visited the building site of the Ardnahoe distillery, set to be the ninth distillery on Islay when it opens next year.

Overlooking the Sound of Islay and Paps of Jura, it is set to bring more jobs to Scotland's third biggest industry, which already employs more than 7,000 people in Scotland's rural communities.

Karen Betts, Scotch Whisky Association chief executive, said: 'The Scotch whisky industry is delighted that Mr Mundell is visiting Islay.'

'He saw the importance of the Scotch whisky industry to Islay's communities, and how whisky production there contributes more broadly to the Scottish and British economies.'

From Island to Highland – cyclists take on distilleries challenge



Nearly 40 cycling enthusiasts took to the roads of the Highlands and Islands recently to raise money for charity. The annual Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy fundraising cycle saw the group depart from Ardbeg Distillery on Islay on July 27 to undertake a four-day, 233-mile cycle to Glenmorangie Distillery in Tain. Colin Hammond, one of Glenmorangie Distillery's Men of Tain, took part in the cycle to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Care in memory of one of his colleagues. The route saw the cyclists ride on day one from Islay to Kennacraig, day two 100km to Oban, day three 150km to Drumnadrochit and day four 80km to the Glenmorangie Distillery.

Karine leads stellar cast at Colonsay fest

SINGER/SONGWRITER Karine Polwart returns to her musical roots to headline Colonsay's 10th year celebrations.

Along with guitarist brother Steven Polwart and multi-instrumentalist Inge Thomson, she will reprise her appearance at the first festival in 2007.

Ceol Cholasa 2017 will span the week from Tuesday to Sunday, September 12 to 17, and the organisers are delighted to have representatives from the four bands that started it all off.

Festival director Keith John-

ston said: 'We are delighted to welcome back old friends but very excited to have the new wave in Scottish music represented by the Elephant Sessions and Inyal.'

Also confirmed, among others, are Kathleen MacInnes, Anthony John Clarke, Iain MacFarlane, Rallion, Lorn Macdougall and the superb fiddler Ryan Young accompanied by Colonsay regular Jenn Butterworth.

For information and tickets, www.ceolcholasa.co.uk or www.colonsay.org.

MP says phone signal on islands is not good enough

EE/Orange customers in Uig, Lewis and Barra are continuing to experience problems with mobile signals.

Customers in Uig have been without a signal since the end of June and in Barra from beginning of July.

EE has confirmed to Angus MacNeil MP that engineers have been on site in Uig over the past week but as yet there is no resolution to the prob-

lem. In Barra, the company says it has issues at two different sites but hopes to have engineers working there later this week though it does not guarantee a fast fix.

Mobile customers in Barra who are with mobile company Three are also affected as Three uses the EE/Orange masts.

Mr MacNeil said: 'I have been in

touch with EE/Orange over the past few weeks and have impressed on them the need for a speedy resolution to these faults.'

'Despite recent press releases and engineers being onsite, customers are still without a service and this is not good enough.'

'People in these areas rely heavily on mobile phones and the loss of service

has a big effect on all aspects of life, in particular for calling emergency services. Lack of a mobile signal could result in delays in getting help and add to already stressful situations.'

'I am continuing to push all mobile operators to upgrade to 4G and to co-operate to ensure improvements to communications within the Western Isles.'

Hugh Smith's letter from Islay

Open air worship

WORSHIPPERS from the various congregations throughout the island will take part in an open air service at the foot of the Kildalton Cross on Sunday August 13, beginning at 3pm.

This now annual act of worship continues a long tradition at one of the island's most historic and sacred sites.

The Kildalton Cross dates from the second part of the eighth century and is widely regarded as being the finest surviving cross of its kind in Scotland. Specialists also consider it to be the most perfect monument of its type to survive in Western Europe.

It stands in the burial ground which surrounds the former parish church of Kildalton (Cill Daltain), the Church of the Foster Son, and which most likely refers to St John the Evangelist, one of the 12 disciples and writer of the Gospel that bears his name.

The Kildalton parish is of medieval origin and early records date it to around 1425AD. The church building is certainly older and probably dates from the late 12th to the early 13th centuries.

Following the Reformation in 1560 the Kildalton Church continued as a place of worship and served a parish which stretched from MacArthur's



Kildalton Cross.

Head in the north to the Oa peninsula in the south. The eventual drift of the population to the Ardbeg settlement and surrounding districts led to the discontinuation of worship at Kildalton and the formation of a new place of worship at Lagavulin at the end of the 18th century.

The open air ecumenical worship at this hallowed site recalls the allure of and the ethereal nature of the Celtic Church where the accent was on the telling connection between people and creation and the height-

ened awareness of time and seasons. All denominations will be welcomed at the service at the cross where midge repellent is not compulsory but is highly recommended.

Art exhibitions

AN EXHIBITION of works by the Aviemore-based artist Ann Vastano has opened at Ionad Chalumh Chille Ìle and will continue until the end of September.

The St Columba Gaelic Centre display is entitled 'An Tilleadh' (The Return) which is an apt description as the artist was born on the island when her parents lived at Bushmill Cottages in the Gruinart district where her father was a dairyman with the farming Epps family. She left these shores when she was six years old and spent her formative years at the Grant family's Rothiemurchus Estate before studying at Gray's School of Art at Aberdeen.

She has also exhibited at the Scottish Parliament and one of her commissioned paintings graces the walls of Scotland First Minister Nicola Sturgeon's parliamentary office.

'An Tilleadh' is subtitled in Islay Gaelic and also available at the venue are Gàidhlig Ìle calendars which showcase the exhibition content. Proceeds from calendar sales go to the Islay And Jura Sick Children's Fund

and sponsorship has been received from Caledonian MacBrayne and the catering equipment specialists New Concept who have been involved in the design and supply at Bowmore's latest eatery and piazza outlet.

As well as being an Ileach the artist is a goddaughter of Berneray's Mary Sinclair who now lives with her husband Finlay at Bridgend.

Another art exhibition by an artist who hold island life in high regard is currently running at the Outback Gallery on the north west of the island at Sanaigmore.

This features works by Fiona Charis Carswell who has a long association and a paternal connection with the neighbouring isle of Jura.

Fiona, who lives in Chester and is also well known as a children's author and book illustrator, spent long summer holidays on Jura when she was child. She adored the island way of life and its people and this enchantment has remained as she still regularly visits the island and is heartened that her own family share her enthusiasm for the 'dear isle'.

The Outback Gallery, owned and operated by Petra Pearce, is open seven days a week from 10am to 4pm and, exhibits apart, also provides splendid cakes and coffee.

Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX Tel: 01496 810 658

SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION

is holding an informal
MEET & GREET event on:

**Thursday 17 August 2017, from 7pm
at Coran Halls, Oban**

Come and find out more about the new Scottish Land Commission, who we are, what we do and the roles of the Land Commissioners and Tenant Farming Commissioner.

This is a free event open to all, tea and coffee will be available.

To find out more visit www.landcommission.gov.scot or call **0300 244 4452**

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New defibrillator is installed at Bonawe

ANYONE who suffers heart failure in Bonawe will have an opportunity to get treatment quickly.

After campaigning and raising funds over a number of years, the hamlet on the north coast of Loch Etive now has its own defibrillator.

'We are delighted to see this life-saving machine installed in Bonawe,' said Tony Dalgaty, community councillor for Ardchattan. Tony has been working with various bodies over the past year to have the device installed.

The defibrillator is located behind the telephone box at Kenmore Cottages and is attached to the BT building and is highly visi-

ble. The British Heart Foundation said people who attend awareness sessions react with greater speed. Awareness sessions are planned for the next few months, including at Ardchattan Primary School. Details of dates and times will be advertised locally.

Ardchattan Community Council (CC) has also secured defibrillators for Benderloch and Barcaldine, which will be installed in the near future.

The CC is grateful for assistance from Oban, Lorn and the Isles Health and Wellbeing Network, Taynuilt Medical Practice, D J Barr, Masonic Lodge Taynuilt and the British Heart Foundation.



Tony Dalgaty and Robin Dodman from Ardchattan Community Council inspect the defibrillator.

Call for help to improve facilities for campervans

LOUISE GLEN

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LOVE them or loathe them, campervans and mobile homes are becoming a larger part of our local economy, yet owners say facilities do not exist to allow users to offload effluent or hook up to electricity safely.

And community council members in Oban, Mull and Taynuilt say something needs to be done to ensure the facilities available for holiday-makers in motorhomes are at the very best.

David Sloss, chairman of Taynuilt Community Council said: 'Taynuilt sees a large number of people who holiday on the pier in a campervan.

'There is a problem with the legal definition of wild camping and a confusion in the minds of some people when it comes to camping in a tent and right to roam, and then there is a further issue in some places with people thinking there is a right to park a campervan or mobile home anywhere.

'There is an argument for being able to park responsibly where you are not going to cause a disturbance and not leave rubbish.

'The legislation needs to be reviewed in light of the number of people who overnight camp. In Taynuilt, people have been known to come for



Campervans park in the car park by Homebase, Oban, but there is a lack of infrastructure for them.

much longer periods. Many of the vehicle owners know if the police ask them to move on they will have a period of time to do so – and it is unlikely that they will be charged with an offence.

'In Taynuilt, we have put signs up that people have turned round and there are continuous concerns about where people offload bins and human waste. But until the government or local authority come up with a plan for dealing with the issue it will go on.'

On Mull, the community council has been dealing with

campervans and mobile homes for 'many years' and feels dismayed at the lack of success in moving matters forward.

Steve Willis of Mull Community Council said the island was at breaking point, saying: 'We have been asking the local authority to help us for many years and we just cannot seem to get the help we need to make the stay of these holiday-makers a little bit better.

'First, we wanted signs to make people aware that some roads on Mull are not suitable for motorhomes or campervans.

'For example, there is an overhanging rock on the single track road on the way down into Lochbuie.

'If the van you are travelling in is too big then you simply will not get down the road. If you can't get past the rock, it is a long way to reverse.

'Many people who are driving these vehicles have hired them for a holiday or are not used to driving them. In some cases, they simply cannot reverse.

'One of the site owners on the island approached the council looking for help to install a piece of machinery that would

be able to take all the human waste from campervans but so far we have been told it is unlikely to happen.

'Tobermory car park at Le-daig is often full to overflowing with campervans.

'Some idyllic places around the island are now completely ruined with toilet rolls after people empty human waste with no thought. I have even seen it thrown into the river at times and that cannot be good for anyone.'

In Oban, there has been a large number of campervans parking on the Esplanade and near the war memorial.

Last year, Oban Community Council was told that some people hung their washing on a line tied between the campervan and one of the soldiers. They have also asked local councillors to look into the matter after the vehicles caused difficulties at beauty spots such as Ganavan and can often stay for long periods.

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'As with all visitors, we welcome campervans and motorhomes to Argyll and Bute – tourism is of huge importance as it significantly benefits our economy.

'Drivers are entitled to park where they wish. Those using pay and display car parks and taking up two spaces are asked to pay for both.'

POLICE FILES

with Sergeant Iain MacNicol

Break-in on Tiree

BETWEEN July 26 and 31, an empty thatched cottage at Balevullin, Tiree, was broken into. Police are investigating and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them.

Woman detained

ABOUT 6am on Tuesday August 1, following a report of a woman assaulting a man in a house in Connel, a 39-year-old woman was detained. The woman was later arrested and charged with serious assault, was held for court and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Theft of wiring

BETWEEN July 17 and August 1, a quantity of electric cable and copper wiring was stolen from Kinloch sub-station, Pennyghael, on the Isle of Mull. Police are appealing for anyone with any information to contact them.

Dunbeg assault

ABOUT 3pm on Tuesday August 1, following a report of a woman assaulting a man, in a house in Dunbeg, Oban, a 16-year-old woman was detained. The woman was later arrested and charged with assault, was held for court and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Vehicle damaged

BETWEEN 1.45pm and 5pm

on Wednesday August 2, on St Conans Road, Lochawe, a silver Skoda was damaged by having its paintwork scratched.

Arrested

ABOUT 12.30am on Sunday August 6, on the B8073 near Dervaig, Isle of Mull, a vehicle was stopped and the 25-year-old man was arrested for allegedly driving while under the influence of alcohol. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Disqualified

ABOUT 9.30am on Thursday August 3, on the A85 near Taynuilt, a vehicle was stopped and the 29-year-old man who was driving was arrested for driving while disqualified. The man was also in breach of court bail conditions by being in the company of a woman. The man was held for court and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Abusive behaviour

ABOUT 4.45pm on Friday August 4, following a report of a man behaving in an abusive manner and assaulting a woman in a flat in High Street, Oban, a 33-year-old man was detained. The man was arrested and charged with assault and abusive behaviour, was held for court and a report was sent to the procurator fiscal.

Anyone with information in relation to the above is asked to call local police 101.

Council congratulates pupils on exam results

PUPILS in schools across Argyll and Bute are being congratulated for their hard work in exams.

Results this week show – National 4: 1,551 awards with a 100 per cent pass rate; National 5: 3,744 awards with an 81.4 per cent pass rate; Higher certificates: 2,202 awards and a 75.9 per cent pass rate; and Advanced Highers: 227 awards with a 77.2 per cent pass rate.

Argyll and Bute Council's education spokeswoman Yvonne McNeilly said: 'Congratulations go to all of our young people throughout Argyll and Bute for their success in their exams.

'We want to ensure that our young people are equipped to secure and sustain positive destinations and achieve success in

life. Supporting our pupils to get the best possible outcomes is a priority for the council and the success of these exam results is down to the hard work of pupils and teachers, and the support and encouragement of parents and guardians.

'My sincere thanks to everyone involved in supporting our young people.

'It's important to remember, however, that some students may not have got the results they had hoped for.

'For young people in this situation, we have support in place and staff available to help them explore various options.'

Any young person needing further support or advice should contact their school.

Taynuilt farmer guilty of assault on ex-partner

A TAYNUILT farmer has been found guilty under provocation of an assault on his ex-partner.

Jonathan Mackenzie, 22, of 2 Brenva Cottages, Taynuilt, denied assaulting his former partner at an Oban address on May 1 to her injury.

The woman told Oban Sheriff Court on August 2 an argument developed after she had called Mackenzie 'probably about five times' that day, and it escalated when he and his brother came into her kitchen.

She told the court: '[Jonathan] kept getting closer and closer. I felt like he was intimidating me. I was shouting, "Please get out! Leave me alone!" I was scared.

'All I felt was him grabbing my arms. He put his hand over my mouth and nose and would not let go. I felt like I could not breathe. He was holding both my arms with one of his hands. I am just under five foot. I felt like my feet were coming off the floor. I could not get him off me.

[His brother] said, "****'s sake, Jonny" and pulled him back. 'I had bruising up my arms and on my wrist.'

Defence agent Edward Thornton produced Mackenzie's mobile phone records.

'There were a total of 93 phone calls. That would suggest you were out of control,' he said.

She replied: 'He hurt me. He hurt me for so long. We were both as horrible to each other. I was angry and upset.'

Mackenzie's brother also gave evidence.

He said: 'There was a wee kind of fight. She hit him first. It was a punch. Jonny grabbed her face, then grabbed her arms to restrain her.'

He denied pulling Mackenzie off.

Mackenzie said: 'She turned after she hit me, she grabbed the object from the kitchen counter and swung towards me, so I grabbed her wrists. At the time I did not know it was a phone.'

District procurator fiscal Laura Mundell said: 'You are using this as an excuse for your assault.'

'No,' Mackenzie replied. 'This is not correct.'

Mrs Mundell asked: 'In his own words, Christopher said, "Jonny grabbed her face." Who is telling lies here?'

Mackenzie said: 'I did not grab her by the face. I grabbed her wrists.'

Sheriff Patrick Hughes passed a verdict of guilty with provocation. He deferred sentence until August 30 for reports.



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OT

A brave little lady who rescued hundreds of men

SANDY NEIL
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SHIPS, like people, harbour incredible stories, and no exception is Chico, a 'gentleman's motor yacht' now taking luxurious tours around the Hebrides.

However, 77 years ago she saved more than 200 British soldiers by evacuating them from Dunkirk as the German army advanced through France during the Second World War.

Chico is the only 'Dunkirk little ship' still active in Scotland, explained her skipper, Gus Geddes, who runs this national historic vessel for West Coast cruises from Oban and Mallaig every May to September since 2011, with his partner, Sue Maclachlan. 'Many people know the boat but not necessarily her history,' Gus said.

The ship, built in 1932 with pitch pine on oak and a copper-sheathed hull at St Monans in Fife, was sold to the land and water speed record holder, Sir Malcolm Campbell, in 1933 as Freebelle III. She was the third of four yachts he was to own, each in turn named Blue Bird after his famous record-breaking car.

Blue Bird was sold to the Countess of Onslow for an elegant life on the waves in 1935 but, at the outbreak of war in 1939, was rudely requisitioned by the Royal Navy, renamed Chico, fitted with Lewis machine-guns and echo-sounding gear, and dispatched to Dover for minesweeping duties.

According to the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships, at 9.30pm on May 25, 1940, Chico



Gus Geddes and Sue Maclachlan on Chico's bridge.

and two other yachts, seven trawlers, five motor boats and two drifters were ordered to France, ready to ferry the retreating British Expeditionary Force off the beaches.

The order finally came on May 30 when the 73ft-long Chico rescued 217 troops back to Dover, then ferried 1,000 more from Dunkirk to waiting ships offshore, and a further 100 men on her return to Blyth.

'She would have been a little top heavy,' imagined Gus. 'All the decks and cabin space would have been full of people, mostly completely exhausted and sleeping the whole way back. The engine room is so cosy and warm, which they

must have appreciated after wading and swimming from the beach. They must have been so relieved to get away.'

A year later, while minesweeping off Dungeness, Chico and three other small ships of the Dover Command – the Fyldea, Young Mon and Forecast – saw 'serious action' fighting off an attack by a diving enemy bomber, shooting off its tail with machine-gun fire.

The engine fell into the water on each side of the Young Mon, leaving no casualties in any of the ships.

Chico's commanding officer, Jack Mason, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) in recognition of gal-

lantry during active operations against the enemy at sea.

'We had one of his daughters on board earlier this year,' Gus recalled. 'It was very emotional for her. She had never seen her father's boat before. He seems to have been an extraordinary man, serving with distinction in the RNVR before becoming a teacher after the war.'

The war over, Chico had her machine-guns replaced by a deck saloon, and civilian owners returned to using her as a charter or private yacht, including Garry and Beth Tenison of Glasgow, who owned her from 1954-60 and cruised the same area as she does today.

'Since then Chico has been

in the Baltic, the Med, Bristol, Crinan, Aberdeen, the south coast of England, the Thames, France and who knows where else before we brought her back to the west of Scotland,' Gus writes on Chico's website. In the 1970s, Chico sailed to the Baltic and Russia as a research and demonstration vessel for Marconi.

Gus and Sue bought Chico in 2010 after they retired, and now live on the boat for three-quarters of the year.

Chico saw service last week during the 70th West Highland Yachting Week, ferrying organisers in style between the races at Craobh Haven, Oban and Tobermory.

She was berthed at Oban Bay's busy new £2.5 million pontoons, which officially opened just in time for the races. 'We have been looking forward to their opening since plans were finalised last year,' Gus said.

'It makes it so much easier to pick people up and drop them off. It certainly will help our business and there are at least a dozen other charter boats that operate out of Oban. It is early days but I think everyone is very positive about it. It is like opening a new car park: the space just fills up.'

'It is a very nice life,' he reflected. 'It just floats by. We look after her as best we can. You never really own a ship like this. You just look after her and hope to pass her on in as good a condition as you found her.'

The new blockbuster *Dunkirk* is will be showing its final screenings at Oban's Phoenix Cinema today (Thursday).



Aimee Didcock with judges Nick Wesley and Claire Hutchison.

New mascot for Atlantis is unveiled

Atlantis Leisure's new mascot will be ... Leo the Lion.

The design competition to replace Alf the dinosaur, who has retired, was won by nine-year-old Aimee Didcock, from Rockfield Primary School.

Three finalists, Mr Cookie, Leo the Lion and Tigger, were all vying to become the new face of the Oban leisure centre, but in the end the judges put Leo, whose name stands for Let's Exercise Oban, at the apex.

A delighted Aimee explained: 'I was inspired by a lion for my mascot because they are strong, powerful and full of courage.'

'Leo likes to exercise and

keep active with his friends. He is not keen on his vegetables, but likes to use his super-powers which make him run extra fast.'

Organisers look forward to unveiling Aimee's winning design at the centre's party as Atlantis Leisure celebrates its 25th birthday this year and has launched a fundraising drive to pay for new changing rooms.

The committee is organising lots of great activities over the year-long celebrations, which start with a birthday cake competition, fun day and the official opening of the play park on September 30.

Oban High warms up for Piping Live!

OBAN High School Pipe Band are all set to be in a winning position at this year's World Pipe Band Championships after its A and B band came first and second in competitions at Bridge of Allan at the weekend.

The world's biggest piping festival celebrates visitors to Glasgow from 14 countries until August 13 when the final competitions for all grades take place.

Piping Live! will see more than 40,000 music fans, families and tourists flock to the city from numerous countries from, including Estonia, Argentina, Canada, Czech Republic and Italy to enjoy 200 events and 8,000 performances throughout the week.

Roddy McLeod, director of Piping Live!, said: 'We are thrilled to welcome pipers and musicians from all over the world to Piping Live!'

'It's a huge honour to host the world's biggest week of piping and we'd like to thank the Scots School Albury Pipe and Drums who have travelled more than 16,000 miles to be part of the celebration.'

'We can't think of a better way to toast Scotland's Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology than a full week of traditional music for visitors to enjoy.'

'Come join in the fun – you're bound to hear and enjoy something new.'

The World Pipe Band Championships return to Glasgow Green on August 11 and 12.

Bands are coming from as far afield as New Zealand, Australia, Canada, USA and South Africa as well as from across Europe to compete.

Tickets and further information available via www.theworlds.co.uk.



Chico has been moored at Oban's new pontoons.



Sub-lieutenant Jack Mason, commander of the Chico at Dunkirk, was awarded a DSC.



The Chico's wartime crew fought off a German dive-bomber.

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Great Oban Raft Race really floated my boat WHERE IS THIS?

WHAT a hectic weekend we've just had, writes BIDA Oban town ambassador Kay MacDonald.

The Great Oban Raft Race was fabulous as always with a fantastic turnout of spectators and – although I shouldn't have favourites – the raft by Autoglass with the dinosaur was great, as was the fact that they donated the dinosaur to be raffled by Oban and Lorn Lions.

It has also been good to see the new pontoons so busy. I've spoken to so many people who are enjoying a walk along to look at all the boats berthed there.

The town has a real buzz to it just now, despite the weather, and August promises to keep it going.

We have the Argyllshire Gathering to look forward to later in the month and a variety

of cruise ships will be calling, of varying sizes, from some holding a few hundred passengers to those holding more than 1,000. And they're all very welcome.

For those of you still entertaining children for the last gasp of the holidays, I would again recommend the cinema.

I was entertaining my godson today and really didn't expect to enjoy *Cars 3* as much as I did. I even made him sit through the credits to find out who did the voices.

We also enjoyed a visit to the Ocean Explorer Centre in Dunbeg one day. I thought it was fantastic, especially for slightly older children.

For the music lovers among us, I'm quite excited about another live screening at the cinema. This time it's *Carmen on the Lake*



on Thursday September 14. I've always wanted to see *Carmen* and this version sounds beautiful.

So it's still all go and likely to stay that way for the rest of the month.

The photograph last week was

taken at the memorial for those lost at sea in the park beyond the war memorial, always a beautiful walk along and a lovely place to sit. For this week's you need to keep looking up.

☐ Raft race special – page eight.

WHITE VAN Man

THE government plans to do away with petrol and diesel vehicles by 2040.

Oban alone has four filling stations so, unless business owners are already thinking about diversifying, folk will be out of work by 2040.

The impact on the petrochemical industry – from Oban's garage forecourts to whole towns such as Grangemouth – will be catastrophic.

The redundancy of workers will be the biggest issue.

Is the plan to get rid of fossil fuel vehicles more to do with American gas guzzlers, where their drivers would rather step



into a car than walk down the road? Has anyone in government thought about the wider issues?

What about our railway

stations, especially Oban? If we are 40 years behind with rolling stock now, how are we going to be in 2040? At a standstill.

What about our haulage industry? Oban will starve to death without the food and supplies that come from elsewhere to supply our tourism industry. Thousands of heavy goods vehicles are on the road daily keeping Argyll supplied.

Where are the owners of this industry going to get the money to replace vehicles?

Then there is our merchant fleets, many still using a mixture of fuels, including heavy

oils. This whole idea has been badly thought-out.

What about the infrastructure that has to be put in place to charge up the planned new electric vehicles? How many charging units will be needed?

The whole idea beggars belief. It's another dim-witted plan from a government completely out of touch with the daily mileage people need to cover just to live and work on the west coast of Scotland.

In Oban alone, there will need to be hundreds of charging points. Where on earth are we going to fit all of those?

George Berry

CalMac's vision for the future

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk



Martin Dorchester.

LOCAL jobs, a voice that is heard and a service which goes above and beyond to serve communities is what CalMac's chief executive wants for the next five years of Scotland's biggest ferry contract, worth £900 million.

Martin Dorchester spoke to The Oban Times in depth for the first time since renewing the contract to run the ferry service throughout the west coast of Scotland.

He says his commitment to achieving what can be done in the shortest order can already be seen by the introduction of the Kerrera ferry to the CalMac fleet this summer.

While negotiations continue between Transport Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council for further services, including Jura, Lismore (passenger ferry), Easdale and Luing, the way in which local people are engaged with the ferry

operator have never been more important, argues the company.

A community board is being set up by CalMac to 'hear the voices of the communities from the rural West Coast and its islands'. The board of 12 people and one 'chairman' will meet twice a year and be separate from the board of CalMac but will inform it.

Mr Dorchester is confident about the future of the ferry service, and the way in which it can bring value to the communities it serves. He previously announced his resignation from the company but then reconsidered, saying at the time in the press 'the government will be undertaking a review of Scottish ferry services'.

The review could remove the requirement to put ferry services

out to tender. Other consequences may be the management structure of CalMac would change to accommodate the Scottish Government being not only the sole shareholder but also as the de facto employer and manager.

Mr Dorchester sees the staff of the company as its biggest asset, saying: 'We want to make sure that we are beginning to grow the workforce that will be need in the future.'

'In the 10 years since the first time we tendered for the contract, we have steadily been growing our workforce.'

'The jobs with CalMac are often well paid, with good terms and conditions, great career paths and it will remain that way. 'What we will continue to do

is create opportunities for local people wherever possible. That may be within the company or that may be something that we support in creating.'

'Take the music festivals - Oban Live, Tìre Music Festival, HebCelt, Bute Fest. They are all opportunities to grow a new market for our islands.'

'We have a funding programme, Vital Spark, that enables groups and individuals to apply for support in setting up something that will be the catalyst for a business or an opportunity for growth within our communities.'

Vital Spark has supported 23 early-stage social enterprises on the West Coast.

Mr Dorchester said: 'One of our questions 'is how do we work

smarter with the community? Initially, what we can do is sit down with our island communities and find out what works for them.'

'At the moment we are being tasked with finding ways of providing wifi on all our routes and ports. In some areas, it is a hugely difficult problem but we will try to find a solution for the area because it will benefit all our customers.'

'We have regular meetings with the government and local authorities and are in good position to find solutions to concerns.'

'We can work together. If it is feasible to do something while considering the whole of the network then we will do our best to deliver.'

Residents invited to public event

THE newly-formed Scottish Land Commission has announced a series of community 'meet and greet' events, the next one of which is in Oban.

The Scottish Land Commission, which was officially established on April 1, 2017, is holding an informal event to give people across the region the opportunity to find out more about the work of the organisation and to meet its chairman, Andrew Thin, and land commissioner Lorne MacLeod.

The event is being held at the Corran Halls, Oban, on Thursday August 17 from 7pm to 8.30pm.

Mr Thin said: 'The commissioners and I are really keen to get out and about to speak to people across Scotland, in both urban and rural communities.'

'We want to let members of the public know more about the work of the commission and to also find out what they think the priorities for land reform should be.'

'This is one of a number of monthly events taking place across Scotland - from Stornoway to Dumfries, Inverurie to Clydebank - and we hope to meet as many people as possible.'

'Lorne and I will be hosting the event and I would encourage everyone to attend and make the most of the opportunity to meet us to discuss the land reform agenda.'

'It is important that all voices are heard and we work together to make the most of our land.'

The event is free and tea and coffee will be provided. For more information please visit www.landcommission.gov.scot, call 0300 244 4452 or send an email to info@landcommission.gov.scot.

Oban researcher grade ocean's climate change

Sir David Attenborough has said a major new publication, involving Oban researchers, that outlines the effects of climate change on UK seas and coastlines has 'never been more important'.

Staff from the marine lab at the Scottish Association for Marine Science, Dunstaffnage, wrote for the report which was issued on July 28.

Named the UK Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership (MCCIP), the report demonstrates the important effects climate change is having on UK seas and coastlines.

The publication follows on from the first MCCIP report card in 2006, which identified a range of impacts on the marine environment linked to climate change, and considered potential future effects.

These included warming seas, changes in the distribution of marine species and increased risks of coastal flooding.



Professor Michael Burrows from SAMS at Dunstaffnage was one of the report's authors.

Work begins on A82, A85 and A828

WORK has started this week at a number of locations on the A82, A85 and A828 trunk roads to carry out a programme of carriageway retexturing to restore skid-resistance on the road surface.

The work will see more than 2km of carriageway resurfaced across five locations. The sites include the A82 at Letter Findlay, A82 at River Coe, A85 at Stonefield, A85 at Cruachan Visitor Centre and the A828 south of Benderloch.

The work began on Tuesday (August 8) for five days between 8am and 7pm each day. Each scheme will take a day to complete.

The roads will remain open throughout the improvements but to ensure the safety of road workers and users, a traffic management system will be in operation during working hours.

Information can be found at www.trafficscotland.org

Oban woman in research success

AN OBAN woman has been at the forefront of research into the mental health of young people with autism.

Fern Adams, from Lerags, was a co-researcher with the charity Ambitious about Autism and the Centre for Research in Autism and Education (CRAE) at University College London, looking at mental health and young autistic people.

Fern, 24, said: 'Our findings have now been released in a report and we have created a toolkit to help young autistic people identify their own mental health and know when to seek help.'

'Four out of five young people with autism have experienced mental health issues.'

Fern is one of 40 young people

fighting to change the way people think about autism and mental health.

Fern is a youth patron with national charity Ambitious about Autism helping to raise awareness about autism nationally.

For the past six months Fern has been working on a report and some newly released resources. According to the report, four out of five young people with autism have experienced mental health issues.

Fern said: 'I'm so proud to have been a part of this work, which is already making a huge difference.'

'It's great that people are beginning to understand that autistic people don't have to be unwell, that like everyone else we can,

and should, seek help but that when we do people must listen.'

'Our toolkit is available to all GPs as part of their online autism resources, which is a pretty big thing already.'

The report outlines three key points young autistic people believe will make the biggest difference to their experience of mental health:

■ They must have support identifying and communicating how they feel.

■ To reduce stigma and increase the knowledge around mental health and autism.

■ They must be able to find and access suitable support when they need it.

The report is at www.ambitious-aboutautism.org.uk/the-research

Mascot for Euros is from Argyll

A NEW era in world sport begins next summer when Glasgow and Berlin host the inaugural European Championships - an exciting new multi-sport event.

And the face of this brilliant sporting extravaganza comes from Argyll in the shape of Bonnie the seal.

Glasgow 2018 brings together some of the continent's leading sports including the existing European Championships for athletics, aquatics, cycling, gymnastics, rowing and triathlon with a new golf team competition.

To be staged every four years starting in August 2018, the European Championships will be a new highlight on the global sporting calendar, elevating the status of European champions during an 11-day celebration of world-class sport and a packed 10-day broadcast schedule.

Fronting the publicity campaign



is Bonnie, a young female harbour seal. She is gregarious, has bags of energy, confidence and is very agile. She is adventurous which, coupled with her natural curiosity, allows her to give just about anything a go.

Launched this week, the character said: 'Hey, my name is Bonnie and I love meeting new people and trying new things.'

'I'm really adventurous and

I discovered a lot about some amazing sports when I swam all the way from Argyll, up the Clyde to the exciting city of Glasgow. I hope lots of new friends will join me in Glasgow and be part of the moment. I'll see you all soon!'

Glasgow and Scotland will host aquatics, cycling, golf, gymnastics, rowing and the triathlon, while Berlin will be the venue for athletics.

The championships will take Scotland's sporting reputation to a new level. With a potential television audience of up to 1.03 billion set to watch the action, Glasgow will again be in the spotlight with the event being covered by free-to-air broadcasters, including the BBC.

This new celebration of European sport will be staged from August 2-12, 2018, and will see approximately 4,500 athletes compete.

shook to the foundations and objects rattled on shelves. Accompanied by a deep, booming rumble.'

'Did anyone else out here just feel the earth move?' asked one amazed reader 50 miles south of the epicentre near Oban. 'I've never felt anything like that. The whole house was shaking, things rattling on shelves.'

Reports also came in from Tiree, Mull, Ballachulish, Kinlochleven, Skye and Balloch.

One person blamed a dodgy curry, while another accused a friend of dropping his wallet.

Biggest tremor in 30 years hits Moidart

FRIDAY'S earthquake in Moidart has gone down in the record books as the biggest on Scotland's West Coast for 30 years, and felt from Tiree up the Great Glen.

The magnitude 3.8 tremor was recorded by the British Geological Survey (BGS) at its epicentre 5km below the wild Moidart peninsula at 3.43pm.

The BGS stated the earthquake was 'felt across the west', and recorded a second tremor two minutes later measuring 3.4, and an aftershock almost two hours later registering 2.2.

One stunned Moidart resident reported: 'Been here all my born days and I've never felt anything like that before.'

'It was very scary here in Acharracle,' a resident of Ardnacharracle said, adding: 'Thought the house was coming down.'

Two loud rumbles were also felt in Mallaig, and further south in Fort William where 'it felt like a helicopter passing' as offices and computer monitors shook, doors rattled and water bottles shooled. Further east 'in Fort Augustus', another wrote, 'our whole house

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Colonsay

Prestigious award for gin born on island

A GIN born on a remote Hebridean island has come top in the prestigious International Wines and Spirits competition.

Wild Island Botanic Gin scored more than 90 per cent in a blind tasting by industry experts putting it ahead of hundreds of other spirits from across the globe.

The company behind the gin describes it as Hebridean Botanical. It features six wild plants infused in a 100 per cent British Grain Spirit on an ancient copper still in one of the country's oldest family-owned distilleries.

Wild Island Botanic Gin sales director Keith Bonnington says they are astounded to have netted a top award so early in the life of the gin which was only launched just before Christmas.

Mr Bonnington said the award was a vindication for their open and transparent marketing values.

'Far too many gins try and hide the fact they are produced by third parties and go to some length to suggest they are being distilled in one place when the reality is different.'

Mr Bonnington revealed they were about to start small scale distilling at their premises on the Isle of Colonsay but is adamant the main production will continue at Langley in the Black Country.

'We have a still being installed this week on Colonsay and we will be using it to produce one-off expressions of Wild Island Botanic Gin focussing on seasonal produce and experimenting with different ingredients - but the core product will continue to be distilled at Langley.'

'We are grateful for the widespread support we have gained for the gin in the last few months. We are now stocked in more than 300 high end off and on sales in Scotland, two Michelin Restaurants and Selfridges department stores.'

Full complement of members on board

AT ITS recent annual general meeting, Colonsay Community Development Company (CCDC) saw its board of management strengthened by the addition of three younger members and the co-option of an experienced hand.

Councillor Robin Currie came from Islay to Colonsay for the meeting, joining an impressive turnout of more than 55 residents. For the first time in several years, there were more candidates than there were places on the board. Ros Jewell, an artist and carer for the elderly, Colm McNicholl, a crofter and fencer, and Caroline Seymour, also a crofter and school and shopworker, were the three new candidates. The result of the election, with 42 members of CCDC completing a return, was as follows, in alphabetical order: Andrew Abrahams 29, Sue Dance 30, Alex Howard 19, Ros Jewell 36, Willie Joll 30, Liam McNeill 31, Colm McNicholl 36, Chris Nisbet 18, Caroline Seymour 31 and Scott Weatherstone 38.

At the first meeting of the new board, members were delighted to co-opt Dannie Onn onto the board.

The general response from islanders to the election result was that being represented by a committee with its full complement of members could only be positive in regard to the development of Colonsay.

Colonsay

THE MUSEUM of Islay Life marks its 40th anniversary this weekend.

The Port Charlotte museum opened in August 1977 after two years' hard work by local people to get it up-and-running. After finding premises in the former Free Church in Port Charlotte, the museum got off to a quiet start, with only a few artefacts on display. But islanders soon donated a wide variety of objects and today the museum has around 3,000 artefacts, 5,000 pictures and postcards and 1,300 books.

To celebrate the 40th anniversary, the museum will be holding a free open day on Sunday August 13, from 2pm to 5pm. Trustees will be in attendance to explain the museum's history and displays. Anyone visiting the open day will be given a free copy of a new booklet entitled '40 Star Objects'. The publication will go on sale after the open day.



A team of volunteers serve soup lunches every Tuesday and Thursday in aid of St Oran's Church funds.

Soup lunch recipe for success

THE SUCCESS of fundraising soup lunches in aid of St Oran's Church in Connel depends in equal measure on the dedication of volunteers and the loyal support of locals and visitors.

'We raise between £2,000 and £3,000 each season,' said Dorothy Hitchin, a volunteer on the soup-making rota. Dorothy's speciality is a hearty mushroom soup and over the last six years she estimates she has supplied about 18 gallons, or 81 litres.

As well as a choice of four soups, there is a wide selection of home baking on offer accompanied by tea and coffee.

This twice-weekly event not only provides fine homemade fare but allows the community to meet for a chat.

Lots of holidaymakers find their way to the church hall from caravan parks and many visitors return year after year to enjoy the hospitality.

There is also an opportunity to pick up a book for some summer reading. The selection of books for sale is reflective of the diverse people who support the lunches and live in the area.

The soup lunches take place every Tuesday and Thursday in August between noon and 2pm in the church hall in Connel.

Everyone welcome. A suggested donation of £3.50 is appreciated.

Craobh Haven pub up for top award

THE LORD of the Isles pub at Craobh Haven has been shortlisted in the gastro pub of the year category in the Food Awards Scotland.

'LOTT' as the pub is known, will find out if it will be crowned winner at a ceremony at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Glasgow on Monday August 14.

Wil Craig, the owner of LOTT, is delighted to be nominated for such a prestigious award and said he understands the importance of promoting food in Argyll.

'Food is our passion here at the Lord

of the Isles,' he said. 'We want our customers to come here and experience West Coast hospitality at its best.'

'We want to be able to offer a first-class dining experience in a beautiful part of Scotland, our customers leaving with a positive impression of what Argyll has to offer. By working together and setting the bar high, Argyll will continue to be a favourite for tourists from all parts of the globe.'

'Being shortlisted for gastro pub of the year helps us achieve these goals and hopefully encourages holiday

makers to make Argyll their prime holiday destination for great food, drink and accommodation.'

The Food Awards Scotland seek to distinguish and show appreciation to those establishments that serve us the best dishes. The awards celebrate and reward the very best in the Scottish food sector. Based on a public vote, the awards commend the talented individuals and businesses dedicated to constantly delivering high-quality dishes, produce and supplies to ensure impeccable service to their customers.

Youngsters learn their lesson

A THIRD group of Highland children completed their 'Dolphin Snorkeller' course in Ullapool last week.

The course is a series of seven lessons put together by the British Sub Aqua Club. The Scottish Wildlife Trust and Ullapool Leisure Centre have been working together to deliver the training to local children, ensuring they gain an introduction to how to snorkel safely and stay safe in the sea.

In January, two groups of children trained in the pool. This time around, the trainees attended pool lessons from Monday to Thursday, then on Friday, Highlife Highland staff and Living Seas Officer Noel Hawkins and snorkel instructors took the youngsters into the sea beside the village

Ullapool

jetty. The children were put into 'buddy' pairs and taught how to enter and exit the sea.

'Getting children into the sea and seeing the marine life and habitat off our shores is a great way of introducing them to their local environment whilst having fun,' said Noel Hawkins.

'Of course, going into the sea raises risks and safety issues. By training in the pool first we can ensure the youngsters are aware of what to do and how to stay safe, watch out for each other and enjoy their experience in the sea.'



The children show off their 'Dolphin Snorkeller' certificates.

Skye and Wester Ross

SEAFISH is calling for vessel owners and skippers in Skye and Wester Ross to participate in its 12th annual economic survey of the UK fishing fleet.

As part of this year's survey, researchers will be in ports from Gairloch to Kyle from August 7 to 11.

Researchers want to gather data on fishing and vessel costs to provide a comprehensive overview of the financial and operational performance of the fishing industry.

The 2017 survey hopes to uncover a similar success story to last year, which saw the UK fishing sector experience its best economic performance since 2008.

The most recent results published found that the total UK fleet income increased by 19 per cent, while the operating profit increased year-on-year by 22 per cent.

The researchers will also canvass fishermen's views on a range of current and future industry issues.

Despite last year being positive for the sector, a number of skippers and vessel owners expressed concerns for the future. Uncertainty in regulation and political developments, issues around quota availability and affordability and market prices made the list.

The next round of research, to be published in 2018, is crucial for uncovering the direction the industry is moving in. With the UK set to leave the EU, the survey will capture the mood on the ground and provide an insight in to the expectations and concerns of the fishing industry. Steve Lawrence, Economics Project Manager at Seafish, said: 'Our annual survey provides us with a detailed picture of the UK fishing fleet's economic performance. Anyone interested in taking part in the survey should contact Steve Lawrence at Seafish on 0131 524 8663 or email steven.lawrence@seafish.co.uk. To view the results of last year's report, visit the Seafish website.'

Tyndrum

A KEY section of the National Walking and Cycling Network, crossing part of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park, has officially opened.

The walking and cycling route, which forms part of the Cross Scotland Pilgrims Way, is situated in the community-owned woodland at Dalrigh, Tyndrum. It creates a circular loop from Tyndrum, allowing cyclists to bypass the A82 trunk road.

The path has been created by Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust, a charitable organisation which aims to encourage more people to get outdoors.

It has been delivered in partnership by Sustrans Scotland, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park, Tactran, Forth Valley and Lomond LEADER, the Brown Forbes Memorial Trust, the Garfield Weston Foundation, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and Strathfillan Community Development Trust.

The route takes in impressive views of Ben More, crossing the river Cononish with views of pine forest. Since completion in the last two months, 1,446 walkers and 317 cyclists have enjoyed the new path.



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MARTIN LAING
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Solutions needed to parking problem

THERE is undeniably a problem with traffic congestion in Oban.

Yet it is a curious conundrum that the busier the town gets, the more prosperous it becomes.

Some of us who live in the town are repeat offenders when it comes to bumping our gums about the volume of cars, caravans, campervans, vans and lorries clogging the streets and the inadequate provision of parking.

But we all benefit from the influx of visitors, whether directly or indirectly.

Tourism is absolutely booming in this area, with countless tourists from across the world thronging our streets. The sheer diversity of people choosing to come here is brilliant, and makes for a festive atmosphere around the town. And the money they spend helps to keep local people in decent jobs.

However, as a town centre resident, I find it frustrating that I often cannot find a parking space anywhere near to where I live.

I paid Argyll and Bute Council £85 last year for a resident's parking permit for zone A, which includes my street and few others in the area. I have to say, I believe it represents pretty good value for money most of the year, though it doesn't seem like it right now.

There is also the added problem that 'it cannot be used outwith the



Traffic congestion and a lack of parking are a problem in Oban.

relevant sub-zone or in off-street car parks even if all parking bays in the sub-zone are full.

Why can't the permit be used in car parks? After all, I'm paying up front and in advance as a goodwill gesture for the right to park near where I live.

The issue of parking is an emotive one. Every time we post a message on our Facebook page on the subject, there is an immediate and significant engagement, with people always demanding a multi-storey car park to be built.

A post last week drew a number of comments from people asking why the yachting fraternity has been provided with new transit berths at the Esplanade when there's such a shortage of parking spaces for cars.

The obvious response, of course, is that drawing such an equivalence is like comparing apples with oranges. I know a number of people with boats who are hugely enthusiastic about the new pontoons.

The North Pier berths will bring economic benefits to the local economy as well as additional revenue to Argyll and Bute Council, which manages the pontoons, so that is a win-win situation.

There are two things the council can and should do, one in the short term and one for the long-term, and touched upon here already.

The first is to allow permit-holders to use off-street car parks and the other is indeed to build a multi-storey, probably beside Tesco at the free-to-use at Lochavullin car park.

Let the new rugby season begin ...

OBAN Lorne RFC held its inaugural Tower 10s competition on Saturday as a curtain-raiser for the new season.

It was an excellent way to let the coaches see players in competitive action and in different positions.

The competition was preceded by a come-and-try session for women.

Rugby is thriving in this area (there are teams in Mull, Jura and elsewhere in Argyll), with a very successful youth set-up. Indeed, between them, Oban Lorne and Oban High School have teams for under-13, under-14, under-16 and under-18 boys as well as under-12, under-15 and under-18 girls.

Rugby really is a game for all shapes and sizes, all ages and both genders – and anyone who fancies trying the sport will be made very welcome at any of the local clubs.

For the record, Oban Lorne 1st XV's league campaign in BT West Division One begins on Saturday September 2 with a home fixture against Garnock.

Why not make a note in your diary to go along and enjoy the game as a spectator?

What do you think?

Write to me at mlaing@obantimes.co.uk or The Oban Times, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB.



Edie, Jessica and Alex helped to build Bran the turf dog.

Dunollie Links initiative helps bring history to life

MANY people recognise Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds to be an international visitor attraction. But did you know it is also a social enterprise creating a wide range of opportunities for Oban's community?

Dunollie Links is the social impact programme run by the team at Dunollie under the charity the MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust. The programme was kickstarted by the Robertson Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund in 2013, and hasn't stopped growing since.

In the past year, more than 1,200 people have benefited from taking part in Dunollie Links activities through learning and education, volunteering, social inclusion and personal development in a comfortable, welcoming environment.

Dunollie now has a team of at least 60 regular volunteers who have the opportunity to acquire a variety of heritage skills. Through Dunollie Links, the team can provide volunteers with special curatorial training for researching, handling and care of the artefacts and archives held in the ancient collections at Dunollie, all of which have been unearthed over the past 12 years.

Volunteer weavers have successfully restored a 19th-century loom and are now



Volunteer weavers were pictured warping up Hope MacDougall's 19th-century loom.

demonstrating their skills for visitors. Traditional skills are also shared through Dunollie's Threads and Yarns sewing group, whose members design and create gifts inspired by the collections at Dunollie to sell in the gift shop and raise funds for Dunollie Links.

As part of Dunollie Links, two new volunteer units have been created: a gardening group to regenerate and maintain the Victorian garden, as well as an exhibition team which is planning, creating and building a new exhibition of childhood for Dunollie in 2018 as part of Scotland's Year of Young People.

Dunollie also hosts heritage-inspired winter workshops

for local primary schools, and last year welcomed around 600 children.

The Oban High School Pathways programme is a great supporter, and last year eight students attended weekly work experience sessions at Dunollie, ranging from archive transcribing to visitor services.

This engaging programme offers meaningful activities for clients of the local mental health service, which stated: 'Dunollie Links provides a valuable supportive environment for people with mental health conditions to be able to tailor voluntary placements according to their needs.'

Jane Isaacson, Dunollie's



Dunollie's heritage director Catherine Gillies providing volunteers with training in handling ancient textiles.

sustainability and development manager, said: 'The skills and knowledge learned by participants shines through all areas of the historic site. Dunollie Links meets the needs of the community and keeps the local heritage alive.'

'The project is fast gaining recognition as an amazing cultural and historical resource for the people of Oban.'

'However, like most supported programmes, funding for Dunollie Links must come to an end. This summer the charity has launched an eight-week campaign to raise enough money to run the next year of Dunollie Links activities.'

Funds raised will contribute

to the next three community programmes: New Roots, a rehabilitation opportunity to support and assist clients with mental health illness; exhibition team will allow volunteers to be supported through their project; and the 2017 winter schools programme will provide more remote schools access to the fascinating local heritage Dunollie holds.

The team at Dunollie is currently fundraising through a Crowdfunding page as well as with regular activities for visitors to Dunollie. If you would like to support or become a sponsor of this extremely valuable programme, visit www.dunollie.org to find out more.

Lisa has designs on the windows at No 8, much to Mike's surprise



Mike, the front door is great but we really need to upgrade the windows to match.

I thought this might happen, so I've given Cairngorm a call and they are sending someone round.



These are just a few of the window ranges that would suit your home

There's such a choice but I think this one will look the best, what do you think honey?

Martin from Cairngorm shows Mike and Lisa a specialised computer programme which lets them choose from a massive range of styles and see how they would look on their property.



Hmm... I wonder what we can do next?

I agree, they will really improve the look of the house, we'll go for them Martin.

MORVERN lines

Debate on hill tracks

I WAS pleased to see *The Oban Times* a few weeks ago highlighting the work being done by the Scottish Environment LINK Hilltracks Campaign about the rising number of tracks appearing on the sides of mountains associated with new hydro schemes.

In many cases, says the group, these are a blot on the landscape and can lead to serious erosion and damage to the environment.

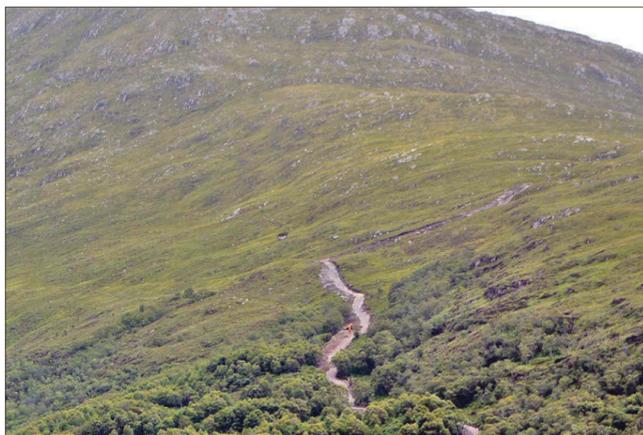
Since December 2014, all landowners have had to give prior notification to local authorities of their intention to construct new hill tracks or carry out improvements of existing tracks where they are required for agricultural and forestry purposes. They still don't need to apply for full planning permission.

However, LINK Hilltracks is monitoring the effectiveness of the advance notification system in the hope it will lead to improved construction standards and the enforcement of restoration conditions which, in some parts of Scotland, has brought a raft of complaints from concerned members of the public.

There are, of course, examples of good practice as well as bad. Often it is only at the construction phase that people become aware of the scale of such schemes as it tends only to be larger developments that result in local exhibitions at the early planning stages.

This needs to change. Once schemes have been given permission and are under way, LINK Hilltracks cannot influence the process though, of course, it is possible for interested parties to flag up to the planning authorities concerns about adherence to planning conditions.

Beyond that, long-term monitoring is needed to see how schemes eventually sit in their settings and how well reinstatement has been done. Local



The Rois-Bheinn hydro track runs through mature woods and over a ridge.

people can play a role in that. Other organisations, such as Mountaineering Scotland, are also taking an interest in this issue.

I have not met many people who are against small hydro electric schemes; the water is free and for sure there has been no shortage of the stuff this year, so why not take advantage of it?

Common sense should also come into play in the building of hill tracks by farmers, crofters, shepherds and stalkers who require safe access to higher ground in all-terrain vehicles to carry out their daily and seasonal work.

So, a big tick for 'green' energy but it should not come at any price no matter how much Holyrood wants to use it to generate 100 per cent of Scotland's gross annual electricity consumption by 2020.

Judging by some of the recent schemes in the area, it is almost as though the planners have been instructed to pass

every application without insisting on too much detail. The latest is a track which punches its way from sea-level up the west side of Rois-Bheinn through a magnificent, mature birch wood, over a high ridge and into a corrie beyond.

Rois-Bheinn (2,875 ft) has been described to me as one of the most beautiful hills in Lochaber and a masterpiece of its kind. It is so well positioned above Loch Ailort that it can be seen by the naked eye from Mull, Arisaig, Scarba, Jura, Ben Cruachan, Ben Hiant, lochs Sunart, Shiel and Moidart, Eigg, Muck, Canna, Rum and Soay, Tallisker on Skye and the far away hills of North Uist and Applecross.

It does not say much for SNH that it failed to recognise the importance of Rois-Bheinn in the broader cultural landscape. It says even less for the Highland Council's planning staff and its elected members for not taking more of an interest.

More importantly, it says nothing at all for the applicant. The approval seeks to lessen the visual impact at the end of the construction phase by some form of restoration but, given the steepness of the virgin slope, and the overlying soil, it will inevitably become a drainage channel for all to see 100 years from now.

A vandal going on the rampage in the Louvre and drawing a knife blade across the face of the Mona Lisa could hardly do more damage.

There is, however, one track in Lochaber which no-one would complain about, regardless of what the Highland Council did to it, and that is the A884 from Carnoch Bridge to Lochaline. The surface of this single carriageway, which is now servicing a burgeoning Morvern peninsula and much of Mull, has had no serious money spent on it for decades. It has reached the stage where even patches are being patched and holes, as near bottomless as mine shafts, appear almost daily.

If any readers are considering a jaunt to Morvern, think carefully and make sure your breakdown cover is up to date. The good news is that the A884 is receiving funding from the Scottish Timber Transport Scheme to help finance a short stretch of overlay work through the White Glen in two phases. The Highland Council's roads capital budget is funding one section with STTS covering the other.

The bad news is only one and three-quarter miles of this 18-mile stretch is to be repaired. As an old Morvern minister once wrote: 'Of the Morvern roads, little can be said.'

Quite!

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#MeetTheCairns



The RNLI team's Mora Less came in a comfortable second, but was slowed by heavy furniture. 16_T32_Raft_race_02

The Rafty McRaftface crew celebrate their victory.

Raft racers on the crest of a wave

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

EIGHT rafts lined up along a busy Oban Bay for the Oban Lions' charity race on Saturday. 'The first idiot back is the winner,' explained Ian Hall of Autoglass, who had returned for their fifth raft race with Jurassic Ark, sporting a six-foot inflatable dinosaur, which was auctioned for charity afterwards. Their ark faced the Oban Air Cadets' pallet streamlined by a Vulcan bomber and a comfy stool. 'The wreckage will wash ashore,' predicted one of its three co-pilots. The Campbell and Keys families from Kerrera pinned their hopes on Jabberwocky: a surfboard

strapped to planks, flagons and buoy stabilisers. 'A powerful force,' skipper Moley Campbell called it. The RNLI team sat on plastic chairs to power the Mora Less, decorated like the Oban lifeboat in the bay. Beside them was TSL's Adventurer, a first-time entrant whose 'constructive thinking' had deployed underground pipes for flotation. Oban Distillery's Rafty McRaftface reappeared, versus the Ledaig Loonies in their Yellow Submarine, which they hoped to keep afloat with strapped-on fence posts, but confidence was not high. Last to arrive was a crew of Scottish pirates making final-second repairs to their galleon called Fawnti (pieces), as race

commodore Graham MacQueen announced the start. The race, from George Street round North Pier and back, ended decisively, with 'unstable' Rafty McRaftface comfortably powering in first thanks to 'good spirits' (a dram of 14-year-old whisky) in front of a 'too heavy' Mora Less. The Jurassic Ark came in third, followed by the Yellow Submarine, the Adventurer, the Fawnti (pieces), Vulcan and finally the Jabberwocky. All vessels stayed afloat and finished intact. So it was a victory of sorts for all, but especially for the Oban Lions who successfully organised their fifth race, and the charities who will benefit from the fundraising total, which will soon be added up.



Questions remain whether Jurassic Ark's inflatable dinosaur was a help or hindrance. 16_T32_Raft_race_03



Oban Air Cadets' 'Vulcan' swoops majestically into Oban Bay. 16_T32_Raft_race_06



The crowd cheered Jabberwocky as she finished last. 16_T32_Raft_race_07



The pirate ship did not fall to pieces as predicted, and finished sixth. 16_T32_Raft_race_05



The Adventurer's 'constructive thinking' got it safely round the course on its first race, but only in fifth. 16_T32_Raft_race_08



The Ledaig Loonies were 'definitely not' confident about their Yellow Submarine. 16_T32_Raft_race_04

SABHAL MÒR OSTAIG
Ionad Nàiseanta Cànan is Cultar na Gàidhlig

DIOPLÒMA ANNS NA MEADHANAN GÀIDHLIG

"Cha bhithinn anns an dreuchd anns a bheil mi mura b' e an cùrsa seo agus mholainn an cùrsa do dhuine sam bith aig a bheil ùidh ann an obair sna meadhanan."

VICKY KILGOUR
Neach-deasachaidh

AIRSON FOIRM-IARRTAIS CUIRIBH FIOS GU

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DIOPLÒMA ANNS NA MEADHANAN GÀIDHLIG
Anns a' chùrsa seo, gheibh thu cothrom air caochladh sgilean sna meadhanan a leasachadh a tha riatanach airson dreuchd fhaighinn sa ghnìomhachas. Neartaichidh tu na sgilean sgrìobhaidh is labhairt agad sa Gàidhlig le bhith stèidhichte an dà chuid aig a' Cholaiste agus anns an àite-obrach. Gheibh thu taic is cuideachadh bho eòlaichean craolaidh aig a bheil eòlas ioma-cuspaireil agus cothrom air na goireasan craolaidh aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig a chleachdadh. Tha an cùrsa làn-ùine thar dà bhliadhna, leis a' chiad bhliadhna stèidhichte aig a' Cholaiste, agus an uair sin cuiridh an luchd-trèanaidh 10 mìosan seachad air greis-obrach cuide ri craoladair stèidhichte no companaidh riochdachaidh neo-eisimeileach. Tha ìre fastaidh fìor àrd aig luchd-ceuma an Dioplòma, le còrr is 70% a rinn a' chùrsa seo a-nis a' dèanamh am beòshlaint anns a' ghnìomhachais.

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Argyll prepares for the invasion of the Maclaines

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

KINSMEN of Clan Maclaine of Lochbuie from 11 different countries will attend this year's Argyllshire Gathering on August 24, before touring clan sites on the Isle of Mull. This will be the first time since the early 1900s that the clan has attended the gathering in such numbers, its chief told The Oban Times, and there will be a clan tent at which all Maclaines and Macleans will be welcomed. Clan Lean, founded by a medieval warlord descended from the royal Cenél Loairn called Gillean of the Battle Axe, split more than 500 years ago into two clans with two chiefs: Clan Maclean of Duart and Clan Maclaine of Lochbuie. In 1360, the Lord of the Isles granted the first Lochbuie chief, Hector the Astute or Hector the Stern, lands on Mull occupied by the MacFadyens. Clan legend tells of Hector climbing the barmkin's defensive wall and firing an arrow at a bone from which the MacFadyen chief was eating, whereupon, apparently, he took his leave and departed. In another legend, the clan's



Lochbuie House.

website explains, Hector was given permission to build his castle 'no bigger than the skins of four deer'. So the Astute Hector cut the skins into continuous thin slivers and laid the pieces end to end, and established the ground plan of Moy Castle. In 1752, John, 17th Lochbuie, abandoned the castle when he moved to a new house, in which he entertained Dr Samuel Johnson and his biographer James Boswell during their famous tour of the Highlands in 1773. Boswell wrote: 'We had heard

a great deal of Lochbuie being a great roaring braggadocio both in size and manners. The truth is that Lochbuie proved to be a bluff, comely, noisy old gentleman, proud of his hereditary consequence, and a very hearty and hospitable landlord.' Boswell also admitted drinking a whole bottle of Lochbuie's 'admirable port', and suffering Johnson's reprimand the next day. The current chief, Lorne Maclaine of Lochbuie, the 26th Baron of Moy, lives in South Africa but is travelling to Oban

for this year's Argyllshire Gathering, before leading the Clan Maclaine's own gathering on Mull and touring the island's historical sites. For the Lochbuie kinsmen, Oban will be the second stage of their week-long gathering in Scotland. On Tuesday August 22, their clan will be the featured clan at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Thereafter they come to Oban, and then travel to Mull for their official clan gathering at Lochbuie. Lochbuie has also sponsored a new piping competition – the Coel Beag – that will be awarded to the aggregate winner of both the March and Strathspey/reel competitions at the Argyllshire Gathering. In South Africa, Lochbuie founded the first Highland gathering to feature 'heavy athletics'. 'South African gatherings had previously been solely piping and drumming competitions,' said Lochbuie, 'but the inclusion of heavy athletics has added appreciably to the enjoyment of the day. There are some 50 odd pipe bands in South Africa, so its fair to say Scottish culture is alive and well in Africa.'

Glencoe trademark warning 'too harsh'

THE NATIONAL Trust for Scotland (NTS) has admitted it may have been 'too harsh' with an Aboyne-based outdoor clothing company after becoming embroiled in a row over the use of the name 'Glencoe'.

Owners of Hilltrek Outdoor Clothing, who have been manufacturing and selling their 'Glencoe' jacket for almost 30 years, received a letter last week from the conservation organisation stating it was in breach of trademark.

The letter from NTS's lawyers warned Hilltrek it should 'immediately stop selling any goods which include the name Glencoe' and must 'refrain from using Glencoe in any future products or packaging'.

A picture of the letter was posted on Hilltrek's Facebook page, with owner Dave Shand calling on NTS to 'play fair', saying: 'Is this how small Scottish businesses should be treated? We have been making the Glencoe jacket for 30 years and how long has Glencoe existed without a trademark?'

NTS has since conceded the tone of the letter may have been misjudged. Mark Bishop, a director at NTS, said: 'I have now spoken with Hilltrek. Although it was a standard legal document with standard wording, it was in the circumstances of this particular company too harsh in tone.'

NTS controversially applied to trademark 'Glencoe' in 2015, along with other famous place-names. Mr Bishop continued: 'We have had to take defensive measures and begin registering trademarks for some of the properties we own.'

Union claims fewer quarry job cuts now being sought

MARK ENTWISTLE
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THE TRADE union involved in the dispute over working terms and conditions and threatened redundancies at Glensanda Quarry on the Morvern peninsula claims company bosses have backtracked on the number of jobs it wants to cut.

And the GMB Scotland union has praised the *Lochaber Times* for its coverage of the issue, saying this has played a major role in supporting local employees.

The *Lochaber Times* recently reported that three-quarters of the workforce at the quarry had formally lodged grievances with new haulage operators Oban Earthworks over the threat of redundancy and changes to their terms and conditions.

Relations between the union and the company have been strained, with the former accusing Oban Earthworks of blatantly disregarding employee protections enshrined under TUPE regulations and of threatening to axe 25 workers.

The company hit back, accusing the union of 'ill-advising' workers to raise grievances.

Oban Earthworks, a new Spanish company, was recently awarded the primary load-and-haul contract at Glensanda by Aggregate Industries, which operates the quarry site.

This week GMB Scotland organiser Gary Cook claimed recent developments had seen Oban Earthworks reduce the number of redundancies it was seeking from 25 to 16.

'Nine workers have opted for voluntary redundancy, while former operator Hargreaves

Oban Earthworks just needs an additional person to go

Gary Cook
GMB Scotland organiser

has agreed to take six staff back onto its books. That means Oban Earthworks just needs an additional person to agree to go,' Mr Cook said, adding that there had also been movement on disagreements over new shift patterns.

'All this only happened after we went to yourselves, the local press, and it proved the press often has a very important role to play in such situations.'

'The guys working there have really appreciated the paper's support.'

However, Mr Cook also added that a formal request for GMB recognition lodged with the company was not going smoothly.

'Unfortunately, the company replied saying news reports it regarded as negative and derisive were not the way for us to seek union recognition. It seems like they'd prefer us, basically, to be licking up to them,' he said.

Asked to comment on the union's statements, Jon Simarro,

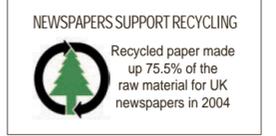
director of Oban Earthworks, said: 'As the consultation process is still ongoing, we are unable to confirm the exact number of voluntary redundancies at this stage.'

'However, we are continuing to have positive conversations with staff members and continue to support them during the process.'

The *Lochaber Times* has also seen an email exchange between employment consultants Solve HR, which acts on behalf of Oban Earthworks, and Mr Cook. In it, Solve HR suggest the GMB should postpone its request for union recognition for its Glensanda members for various administrative reasons.

Solve HR also say Mr Cook's refusal to give any future assurances on collaborative working and restraint in using the press meant the company was likely to see little value in recognising the GMB.

Mr Cook's response was withering, telling Solve HR that he would not 'cow down' to them or anyone else when it came to how people are treated in the workplace. And Mr Cook told Solve HR that the GMB was prepared to use legislation through the Central Arbitration Committee, the independent body responsible for resolving workplace disputes, as well as the courts, to pursue its quest for GMB recognition.



Kinlochleven achievers, left to right, Hannah Newson, Alex Dent, Josh McFatrige and Lewis Heriot. Photograph: Abridgeside Photography.

Lochaber pupils' exam success

AFTER weeks of waiting, Lochaber secondary pupils got their exam results on Tuesday.

At Ardnamurchan High School Kay Christian, S4, achieved six As at National 5; Kate Bradley, S5, got three Highers at A and one Advanced Higher at A; Mary Ellen MacIntyre, S6, achieved two Highers at A and B and two Advanced Highers at A; and Hannah Hunter, S6, achieved two Highers and one Advanced Higher at A, and a further Higher at B and an Advanced Higher at B.

Charlie Anne Fleming, S6, has been accepted to Oxford University after achieving two

As at Higher and two As at Advanced Higher, meaning she has now achieved an A in all her National 5s, Highers and Advanced Highers during her school career.

In Kinlochleven, Hannah Newson, S6, achieved five As at Higher, following her six As at National 5 last year. Four other Kinlochleven High School pupils – Freyja Ward, Alex Dent, Lewis Heriot and Josh McFatrige of S5 – got six straight As at National 5.

Head teacher Rebecca Machin said: 'I am so proud of all the Kinlochleven High School pupils who have taken our National, Higher and Ad-

vanced Higher examinations this year. I know how hard they have worked and how ambitious they are to do their best.'

Lochaber High School head teacher Jim Sutherland said: 'Many of our pupils will be delighted with their results, as I am, although, as always, there are a few disappointments.'

'The most notable successes this year come at Higher where eight of our S5 pupils have achieved five A passes, with one of those achieving six A passes having studied an additional subject in her spare time. I congratulate our pupils who have done so well.'



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Drop in for careers advice

ADVERTORIAL

IF YOU'VE just received your exam results and are thinking about life after school, remember that we're here to help. Your local centre is open next week so come along to speak to us about what courses and options are available to you.

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So if you want to boost your existing qualifications, you're looking for a change of direction or you simply want to make the most of the opportunity to learn, achieve and advance while in the beautiful surroundings of Argyll, why not visit your local Argyll College UHI learning centre and find out what's on offer.

With more than 80 full-time courses starting this September, principal Fraser Durie said now is the time to look into the opportunities provided

by the college. 'Last year more than 1,600 people chose to study with us, which shows not just the importance of Argyll College UHI to the local communities it serves but also the variety of subjects and courses on offer,' he said.

'We're constantly developing our curriculum to ensure it best reflects the demands of our local population, and have added several new courses this year which we believe will be popular additions to an already exciting range of options.'

'We now have a huge range of courses available covering an array of subjects.'



'I'd like to think there's something of interest for everyone, regardless of age or background.'

'National statistics published earlier this year show that more Argyll College UHI students than ever before are successfully completing their courses, and we're delighted that so many are able to move onwards and upwards, whether that be in terms of progressing to other qualifications or in terms of moving into employment.'

'We look forward to welcoming a new cohort of students in September. We're confident that choosing to study at Argyll College UHI is a decision they won't regret.'

Anyone interested in finding out what courses are available should either visit their local learning centre to chat to our staff and pick up a prospectus, or else look at the College's website at www.argyllcollege.ac.uk

Argyll College UHI is one of 13 academic partners of the University of the Highlands and Islands, and is the main provider of further and higher education in Argyll and Bute.



OT

Viewpoint



Write to us: send your letters to editor@obantimes.co.uk or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

The problems at Glensanda quarry – or, more specifically, the company awarded the load and haul contract, Oban Earthworks – continue to drag on.

The GMB Scotland trade union now says that Oban Earthworks has backtracked on the number of redundancies it is seeking from its workforce.

A few weeks ago, it was reported that the company wanted to shed 25 jobs, more than half its staff. Oban Earthworks then responded by saying it was 'unlikely' there would be any compulsory redundancies.

GMB Scotland fired back by slamming the firm for what it claimed was the blatant disregard of employee

protections enshrined under TUPE regulations – rules that govern the transfer of staff between businesses.

Now, according to GMB Scotland, Oban Earthworks has had nine members of staff apply for voluntary redundancy and, with six staff rejoining the former contract-holder, Hargreaves, is seeking just one more worker to leave. This is a messy situation which does no credit to Oban Earthworks, which has treated its staff poorly from the start.

GMB Scotland has praised *The Oban Times* for fighting the workers' cause. The staff deserve better treatment and we will continue to support them.



Days gone by – 1995

This week we turn the clock back to the end of July 1995 and a great photograph of the staff at Argyll Square dental practice. However, our archive neglects to say what the occasion is. Can our readers help?

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL
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WE MUST be careful in our interpretation of media flurries and headlines but, from recent reports, it at least shows the possibility that the British fishing industry will, as predicted by many, once again be used as a valuable but dispensable bank of bargaining chips for the government in the Brexit negotiations.

It also brings to mind just how undervalued that industry has become over the past number of decades. Once a proud industry that was revered by the population of these shores as a provider of food, jobs, economic prosperity and food security, it is now a shadow of its former self. The industry has both shrunk greatly in size and been reduced still further in the esteem in which it is held by the general public.

There are varied, complex and numerous contributory factors that have led to this decline and the road to reversing it is not on the current horizon. The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the agreements relating to it reached by politicians and inflicted on the UK fleet have done probably more damage than any other single factor.

Before being accused of being anti-EU, I would state that I see this not as a problem with the European Union, but with the deal-making by politicians of all colours over many years who have treated the fishing industry as both secondary and as Prime Minister Ted

Heath reportedly said 'expendable' compared to other sectors while at the negotiating table.

I sympathise with those in the industry who campaigned to leave the EU in the hope of extracting the British fleet from the clutches of the CFP. This may well be fruitful, but the worry – as accentuated in the headlines of last week – is that history may repeat itself. The industry was sold down the river on the way into the EU and it may well be again on the way out.

As well as the European-related problems, there is domestic mismanagement, counter-productive regulation – including a monetised quota system that means you would need to be richer than Warren Buffett to be able to afford to enter into and operate in some sectors. Add to this the increasingly ridiculous portrayal of fishermen as planet-pillaging, eco-thieves greedily destroying the oceans for personal gain and you have a recipe for the current state of affairs. With a swarm of celebrity chefs convincing us that it would be more ethically acceptable to eat a puppy than a North Sea cod, it is no accident that the public are becoming less supportive of the industry.

There is no doubt that overfishing has played its part in some areas at certain times, but this could have been pre-empted and dealt with much more effectively by better management.

The fall of the humble herring in this part of the world is a multi-faceted tale of tragedy. When I was in Poland for a few days last weekend, I was struck by how prevalent it still is in the diet there. In restaurants, on trains, in supermarkets and in the hearts of the people, herring is held high as a staple of their healthy diet.

For a fish that was once such a major presence in the lives of those on the West Coast, it was striking to be reminded of the lack of it nowadays. Shoals of herring once sustained a people, served as sgadan ùr (fresh herring) in summer, on its own or coated in oatmeal and, through the rest of the year, pickled or, the most common of all, as salt herring with potatoes. Nowadays, landing a box of heroin on the Railway Pier at Oban would be seen as less of a crime by the authorities than landing a box of herring without the correct quota.

I don't have the answers as to how to unravel the tangled mess that the industry is in but what will definitely make a difference is support from the rest of the population.

Around our shores is landed some of the healthiest, tastiest, most nutritious, eco-friendly and sustainable food on the planet. Just by eating these mouth-watering fruits of the sea and showing support for those who catch it, we can all help the continued survival of this great and noble enterprise.



Social media

A proposal to introduce some kind of 'tourist tax' to help fund public toilets and litter clearance drew a spirited response from readers.

Tom Hayward argued: 'An issue with taxing tourists is that as one of only 4 EU states that charge full VAT on tourism and hospitality, others charge from as low as 3%, effectively we already have that because of this. How would you prove what litter was from a tourist and which was from locals, especially near roadsides?'

Willie MacDonald said: 'Seems like a sensible idea so long as there is a mechanism which makes sure the monies raised are spent in the local area.'

Debra Brown Johnson lamented: 'The only problem with a "tourist tax" is it will be collected & sent to Westminster

never to be seen again. Unless they come up with a means of retaining it in the local council.'

Vicki Burnett posted: 'So dreadful that people think it's ok to litter up the beautiful countryside – we come to Scotland twice a year in our van and if we ever wild camp we always clear any litter we come across. I'd be happy to pay a 'tax' as a visitor – whatever helps the area and economy.'

Karen Anderson said: 'Yep, it should be the same as we're charged going to Europe in tourist tax!! Although it's not just tourists that leave the mess behind!!!'

David Wheeler wrote: 'Sadly, it does seem to be getting worse and it's really broken my heart to visit lots of my special places around the country this year to find them strewn with litter

and rubbish. I'm really at a loss as to how people can do this in such beautiful places. it's a huge worry to me that we're messing our own nest and there's not a thing we can effectively do about it. Very sad.'

Robert McCall affirmed: 'Yes !! If you visit any of the Balearic Islands in Spain you are required to pay a "Tourist tax" for your accommodation at a rate of 2euros per night which then goes to the local government to protect the environment and assist with the upkeep of the islands..Seems only fair that we do the same here.'

Rebecca McKenzie posted: 'I just hate it when tourists and members of the public use bins that belong to businesses. The business does not pay for the public to use them, that's what public bins are for.'

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

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can

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

Diversification without damage

Sir, 'Leave only footprints, take only memories.' Our wilder places and remote communities are changing, maybe even under threat. There is a huge surge in people wanting to enjoy time out of the mainstream, second-home owners, holiday-let owners or the greater general public searching out escape, adrenaline sports in wilderness areas.

Tiree is a perfect example of the pressures such communities and locations are now facing. For example, a 160 per cent increase in visitors in just 10 years, and year on year this is accelerating.

Crofting was never meant to be a primary form of employment. It can only offer a finite number of jobs. Given Brexit and the probable reforms of CAP, the future is uncertain as to what percentage a crofter's income will come from the land, but that it will not increase is certain. Crofting has always meant diversification of income.

But it need not be a destructive process if a compromise can be made that is not detrimental to the resident local community, the culture or natural environment that we all wish to work with or holiday in.

We as a family decided to diversify our croft, to tap into the seasonal holiday trade. In general, visitors come and go from Easter to early October, peaking obviously in the summer months and school holidays. We live in Balevullin, bought our croft land a couple or so years ago, croft a little under seven acres – 20 chickens and a small flock of Hebridean sheep and the ubiquitous vegetable patch. I work an offshore rotation and for now have managed to ride out the oil downturn and associated redundancies. I've pumped my hard-earned coffers back into improving a run-down, poorly managed piece of heaven, the place is now looking good, ragwort has gone and all was well.

I am due to finish working overseas next spring, so we decided rather than place three large mobile homes (which we can legally do) or jump on the 28-day camping bandwagon, we would do something special. Special for the visitors, special for our little piece of heaven.

We applied for planning permission. Planning permission for a small seasonal campsite, simply an area set aside for campervans and tents, a maximum of 10 of each. We will still graze the land once the visitors have gone back to the mainland. We plan to construct a small toilet block in keeping with the existing barn (Scottish larch clad), two toilets, two showers, also ensuring provision for wheelchair users. We plan to install solar LED lighting, rainwater harvesting for utility water. We decided on a central area of the croft, an area unaffected by surface water.

I have restored the derelict barn, which will continue to be used as an agricultural shed, planted some goat willow and hawthorn for some wind protection and a little screening, installed nesting boxes, established a bee meadow etc. On top of this, we are already members of the Tiree Campervan initiative, Dark Skies Lobby, RSPB, Rare Breeds Trust and the green tourism org.

Once the planning application went

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
ailean@obantimes.co.uk



CHAN EIL TEAGAMH nach robh milleanan luchd-cleachdaidh British Gas air an t-amailteachadh nuair a nochd a' bhuidheann sin àrdachadh pris dealain de 12.5 sa cheud is ceannard na buidhne ag argamaid gum feumadh iad seo a dhèanamh gus cosgaisean malairt is rianachd a bharrachd a chòmhdach.

Ged a tha roghainnean againn uile a thaobh càite an ceannaich sinn connadh na dachaigh, agus feumte a' aideachadh gum bheil Riaghaltas is eile gar brosnachadh gu bhith a' rannsachadh nam prìsean as fhèarr, saoilidh mi gum bheil mòran nach eil a' faireachadh deònach neo air chomas cumail an sàs bitheanta san seorsa rianachd sin.

Tha sin a' fàgail iomadh neach a' pàigheadh barrachd air na dh'fhaodadh iad agus a' faireachadh caran mi-chomasach air cothachadh ris na companaidhean mòra aig am bheil greim cho daingeann, agus cho iomlan, air margaid dealain is gas. Ged a tha uallach air oifis margaid gas agus dealain (OFGEM) còraichean luchd-cleachdaidh nan connaidhean

online we were hit by some expected but a multitude of unexpected objections. In general, the vast majority of our community have remained neutral. I was expecting one or two 'usual suspect' local objectors and I accept that. But what was or is so shocking is the majority of complaints are from transient second-home owners and holiday-let landlords. These are not people who live on the island. Yes, they may have some family connections, but they do not live on Tiree.

It is hypocrisy in the extreme to holiday on Tiree, earn revenue from holiday rentals and then dictate to a local family whose children attend Tiree school, who were born in Blackhouse in Balevullin, and who croft in Balevullin that they cannot earn a living on Tiree. All the more hypocritical given these are the people who complain about human excrement in the dunes (the nearest public toilet is seven miles away), campers on the machair, barbecues on the beach, increasing vehicle numbers ... while other Tiree-based people are trying to make a seasonal living from our visitors and their enjoyment of our beautiful isle.

We have offered a small but viable way to earn a living within an area recognised for development by Argyll and Bute Council, while doing our small part to reduce the pressure on, specifically, Balevullin beach. Our seasonal visitors will park and walk or cycle to the beach, will go to the toilet in a toilet. There will be no additional noise, no additional light pollution, no additional erosion to the machair ... it's a win-win situation. Or is Balevullin now simply a development area from new-build holiday homes?

I have to say that, outside of the summer season and public holidays, when the sun sets early, and the wheelie bins blow across the machair, it's like nothing ever happened. But it is sad that my children have fewer visitor friends to play with. It is sad to see so many empty and dormant second homes and holiday lets. But to me and my family it is home and not a holiday destination.

If everything works out and sense prevails it will remain home to the end of our days. After all, why leave home when you live in such a beautiful place? And should any of these absentee holiday home-come-rental owners manage to get to Tiree in the darker, quiet months, please note my camping area will not be empty – it will contain my grazing sheep.

Karl Hughes,
Sunset Cottage, Balevullin.

Medical provision is hi-tech and excellent

Sir, As usual I purchased my *Oban Times* on Thursday July 27 and, with inimitable unbounded enthusiasm as usual, and cup of tea, proceeded to read the gems of top-notch reports therein, in preparation for our usual Thursday afternoon discussion group.

Of course I eventually came across the readers' letters page and was absorbing the contents of the first letter, from Mike Foster, and his derogatory remarks about NHS Highland bureaucrats and their inability to organise a skifuln in a brewery.

He also made attempts at scornful humour with reference to carrier pigeons and quills.

As I read on, an invisible bubble containing a large question-mark formed above me – lo and behold, a text message on my six-year-old mobile phone arrived, saying, 'Dear Kenneth, your prescription is now ready to collect. Boots Oban.'

There was not a carrier pigeon or quill in sight.

But it got me thinking. Last week when I made a same-day appointment to see one of Oban's GPs, I used a reasonably modern communication device referred to in his letter, the telephone.

Does Mr Foster realise that most of us, not all, have multi-frequency buttons on our telephones to help direct our calls at the speed of light and, despite the signal from my phone being directed possibly through Glasgow and back, as the last digit is signalled, the surgery phone rings (unless busy, appropriate tone returned at same speed, that of light).

How much faster does he want? On reflection, am I correct when I recall a letter of objection from this gentleman when the large trees were removed from opposite Alma Crescent, opening up stupendous views across our lovely wee town and the realms of objections to the construction of the lovely modern house in front of Ardtornish?

I, like most people, will welcome with open arms people who choose to retire to and enhance our wee town but in this case it begs the question: what was so bad about Worcester that made him choose Oban with all its bad points?

Kenny McLennan,
Oban.

Government figures are not to be trusted

Sir, The article about the amount of air weapons still not handed in here in Scotland comes as no surprise.

After all, the cycle track from Benderloch north was used by 345,000 people according to 'official' figures. I questioned it and was told it was an estimate.

Like a lot of things that issue from the Scottish Government, these figures are not to be believed.

Cyril Bonnet,
Ballachulish.

Residents are plagued by 'garden parties'

Sir, I write regarding your story about Pulpit Hill ('Viewpoint is littered with rubbish', *The Oban Times*, July 27).

A few weeks ago, I had broken bottles in my garden and my gutter was torn from the house. Obviously these bottles were thrown with some force.

I reported it to the police but they did not respond.

This is now the second time this has happened. Can the 'garden parties' not be moved or dispersed?

Aileen Miller,
Villa Road, Oban.

Aileen Caimbeul

sin a dhìon, tha cuid den bheachd nach eil rian gu leòr air na prìsean a tha tighinn air luchd-ceannaich agus gu dearbh, far am bheil an gnìomhachas fo smachd na roinne prìobhaidich, nach eil cus is urrainnear a dhèanamh gus cosgais connaidh a chumail sìos.

Ach tha e na amas aig an Riaghaltas gum bi cosgais connaidh ga chumail cho saor 's a ghabhas ann am Breatann agus tha an Ministearan a' cur romhpa obrachadh a dh'ionnsaigh an amais sin a' ghleidheadh fhad 's a bhios an dùthaich aig an aon àm a' coileanadh a cuid deastanais gus a bhith a' lùghdachadh truaillleadh carbon na h-àrainneachd.

Chan eil leasachadh gun chosgais agus tha mòran ag argamaid gum bheil rannsachadh agus gluasadan a dh'ionnsaigh barrachd cumhachd thuathan-gaoithe agus faire air cur ris na sinn uile air a bhith a' pàigheadh fad bhliadhnaichean airson ar cuid cumhachd dachaigh.

Tha an Riaghaltas a-nise air rannsachadh a stèidheachadh gus grùdadh às ùr a dhèanamh air ciamar as fhèarr a thèid aig Breatann air a cuid amasan uaine a choileanadh agus aig

an aon àm prìsean luchd-cleachdaidh a chumail cho isèal 's a ghabhas. 'S e an t-Àrd-Ollamh Dieter Helm bho Oilthigh Oxford a tha gu bhith os cionn an rannsachaidh ghoirid ach chudromach seo, agus tha Helm air gealltainn gun soilleirich toradh na h-obrach seo an fhirinn a thaobh cosgaisean cumhachd agus gun toir an aithisg, ris am bheil dùil deireadh an Dàmhair, molaichean air an t-slighe as èifeachdaiche air adhart. Bidh fiughair aig luchd-cleachdaidh gas is dealain uile ris an aithisg sin, òr dhan mhòr-chuid 's e cosgaisean air gun lasachadh firinn na cùise an-dràsta!

GAS AND ELECTRICITY users will look forward to the outcome of the new independent review of UK energy costs and green target delivery.

Study chairman Professor Dieter Helm is promising that his group's report, due at the end of October, will separate facts from myths in relation to energy costs. At present increasingly high energy costs are a fact for the majority of householders!

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

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THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses

must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not

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To find out more call Alyson on 01397 705077 or email reception@lochaberhope.org.uk
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Call in to see us above the Hub cafe,
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LOCHABER HOPE CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

LOCHABER Hope provide care in the community, we offer a wide range of services including confidential counselling, mentoring, youth peer mentoring and one to one support. Everyone in the community is welcome to come along to our "open house" where you will receive a warm Lochaber Hope Welcome. We also offer a wide range of support groups, including SMART recovery, Anxiety support and Parenting group. Very soon we will be launching our 'Men's Den' hour alongside a self-harm support group and bereavement support.

All our staff are trained to HND level or higher and provide confidential, non-judgemental support to everyone that we work with.

Lochaber Women's Space are based at Lochaber Hope and offer lots of different fun activities in what might seem like an isolated community for some. So far we have held Tai Chi and Yoga sessions and a Creative Writing Group. We are looking for women to come along and pioneer their own projects and champion their own ideas in a supportive environment.

We offer as much as we can and continue to grow, the main thing we offer is HOPE...

Call us on 01397 704836 or email admin@lochaberhope.org.uk



SOMETIMES people need extra help. The unexpected happens, or disability or illness strikes. And, as loved ones inevitably grow older, a bit of assistance is often needed. Asking for help is the first step, and easy to do with a wide selection of products and services available locally.

Growing older with grace

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

Special needs

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

Making relationships work

Successful relationships are hard work. But sometimes even hard work isn't enough, when there are changes within the family, addiction issues, death or financial crisis. Counselling allows family members or couples to talk about their feelings and problems with a trained, neutral professional in a confidential environment. Counsellors can help people deal with negative thoughts and

situations and help heal family rifts, so there is no need to suffer.

When love hurts

The statistics on domestic violence are sobering. A domestic violence incident is recorded every 10 minutes in Scotland. At least one in five women in Scotland will experience domestic abuse, and one in three teenage girls suffers an unwanted sexual act. These things are nothing to be ashamed about or keep hidden. Local organisations are there to listen and provide solutions, whether a victim needs to get safely out of a situation immediately or counselling for emotional trauma.

It's not just the blues

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

What type of help is available?

There are a wide range of care services that are available in the community, including:

- Home care services: help with personal tasks, such as bathing, washing, getting up and going to bed, shopping and managing finances.
- Home helps: can provide assistance with general domestic tasks, including cleaning and cooking, and can help in maintaining hygiene in the home.
- Recreational, occupational, educational and cultural activities: day centres, lectures, games, outings and help with living skills and budgeting. This usually also involves providing transport to attend facilities.
- Mental health care and therapies: relationship counselling for families and couples.

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Email: Inverclydeargyllhub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk
Phone: 01475 600 442

Royal Voluntary Service is a national charity established in 1938 that works to support older people to have happy and healthy independent lives in their own homes for as long as possible. Currently we are accepting applications for friendly and caring volunteers who are interested in helping. Best known for delivering meals on wheels, we have a number of new services starting in the Oban area. These include a 'meet and greet' and on-ward service at Lorn and the Islands Hospital, a 'home from hospital' service for people over 65 who need a bit of support at home to recover and a 'supporting you at home's service for those over 65 who want to be reconnected with their community and do the things they enjoy most. Our books on wheels service brings library books to people who are housebound or simply can't get to the library. If you would like to benefit from any of these services, or if you would like to join us as a volunteer to support people in your community, call into our office in Hut 1, The Rockfield Centre, Stevenson Street, Oban.

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As a local, caring, charity the Home is always grateful for any financial support, whether through donations or legacies, to continue to provide exceptional residential and respite care for our old people.

For more information please contact:
North Argyll Eventide Home Association Ltd.
North Argyll House, Connel Rd, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG
01631 562168 info@northargyllhouse.org
www.northargyllhouse.org

Lochaber Action on Disability Lochaber District

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Arena

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

Freak winds and earthquakes fail to spoil the party at West Ardnamurchan regatta

Even strong freak winds and earthquakes were unable to spoil the fun at this year's West Ardnamurchan annual regatta.

It was early on the Friday morning, the second day of the races, that saw freak winds damage the marquee which housed the bar, burger counter and stalls, and it required a Herculean effort at six in the morning to re-erect it and tidy the mess.

Then, as spectators watched the early afternoon races, two of the strongest earthquakes in 30 years rocked the area.

Regatta chairman Alastair MacColl commented: 'We're used to this sort of thing. One year the marquee blew away during the races but everyone carried on.'

'The important thing was that both spectators and competitors thoroughly enjoyed themselves, with 25 races competed in front of an enthusiastic crowd.'

'The highlight of the first day was the participation of round-Britain canoeist Colin Skeath who, with his wife Katrina, rigged two sails on their boat and gave the more conventional yachts a good run for their money.'

'As a result, Katrina and Colin came third in the Ellan Vannin Handicap Series and second in both the Portu-

airk Quach and the Challenge Cup – a considerable achievement.

'In recognition of his feat in completing the circumnavigation, the regatta committee presented Colin with one of our top awards, the Carraig Plate for Outstanding Achievement in Sailing.'

There was also plenty of excitement in the inshore racing. The hardest-fought race was the canoe men's doubles, in which Geoff Campbell and Alex Hester hauled themselves up from third place to win in a thrilling final few metres.

The men's canoe singles offered the strongest field, with nine competing in a race won by Fraser Glasgow, who was British reserve in the under-18 single canoe slalom. Added excitement came from Tim White's two capsizes, from each of which he quickly recovered with textbook Eskimo rolls.

There were other notable moments, with competitors colliding, a rower losing an oar and a competitor in the yacht races overturning when he was hit by a sudden gust of wind.

The youngest competitor was Allan Curtis, aged six,

who won both the Junior Mixed Doubles' Rowing with his cousin Emma MacLachlan and the Boys' Doubles Rowing with his cousin Stuart MacLachlan.

Despite some rain, the usual crowds of spectators attended and were able to browse the stalls which included a bicycle-powered smoothie maker, a 'guess the weight of the lobster', and a raffle for a large hamper of generously donated goods.

Mr MacColl added: 'We had two thoroughly enjoyable days crowned

by a great evening's dancing at the annual regatta dance, but none of this would have been possible without the hard work of the committee and many others, all of whom I sincerely thank.'

Once incidental expenses are covered, the money raised goes to the RNLI, the Red Cross, and to the West Ardnamurchan Jetty Association, which maintains the Kilhoan jetty and the moorings available for visiting boats.

Next year's regatta is on Thursday and Friday, August 2 and 3.



Senior mixed doubles winners Rachael Haylett and Tim White cross the finishing line.



Youngest competitor Allan Curtis and Emma MacLachlan show plenty of determination in their race.



The men's canoe event gets under way.

Colin Skeath and his wife, Katrina, centre, are presented with the Carraig Plate by Elaine Shaw.

Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk



Glasgow in Lorient

As I write this week's Glasgow Letter, I am sitting here in Lorient at the Interceltique Festival and basking in a wonderful European heatwave with the sound of the Bombarde (a traditional Breton bagpipe) caressing my ears in its own unique and unavoidable fashion.

In such circumstances, it can sometimes be difficult to turn my mind to what is happening in Glasgow and, this week, I have been having a particular struggle finding a suitable Glasgow subject about which to write.

As I sat in the backstage area of the Scottish pavilion and stared blankly at my laptop, the reason for my struggle suddenly hit me:

the majority of the Glasgow music scene were, in fact, sitting right under my nose here in Brittany.

Blasta, Blazin' Fiddles, Breabach, Elephant Sessions, Fara, Hò-rò, Ross Ainsley and Ali Hutton, Sophie Stephenson, Talisk, and Tannara are all acts whose members can often be found in bars in the West End of Glasgow playing a tune.

I can only imagine that bars such as the Ben Nevis and the Lismore are a little quieter this week while such musicians have swapped Finnieston and

Partick for baguettes and bombardes.

Beesnees Media, based in Glasgow, are over here filming for BBC Alba - so a lot of the events will be documented for audiences

back home. Even my own flatmate is here with Beesnees.

It really does feel like a Scottish invasion of Lorient and as though much of the Glasgow folk scene has uprooted, headed to France, and carried on business as usual for the week.

The organisers of 'the year of Scotland' have done a fantastic job in organising such an invasion.

We do, of course, have company out here. Every year, about 900,000 people descend upon Lorient for the nine-day festival and this year is apparently the busiest yet.

It is hard to imagine such an immense number of people until you physically try to get from A to B in time for an interview and get caught in the huge and impenetrable throng of crowds - as

I have discovered to my detriment a number of times so far.

Every second person in the town (no matter what nationality) is bedecked in tartan, which makes for an incredible spectacle. The Bretons have their own kilt and tartan tradition.

Yesterday, I even spotted a gentleman wearing a Glasgow Warriors rugby top on top of his kilt.

Assuming I had bumped into a Glaswegian, I explained that I lived in Glasgow and asked if he was a regular attendee to watch the Warriors at Scotstoun.

'Je suis desolé,' he replied. 'I do not understand English.'

What's on

Thursday August 10: Pipe

Idol - the grand final at 5pm in the Strathclyde Suite of the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Friday August 11: The Peatbog Faeries and Jose Manuel Tejedor Trio at 7.30pm in the Drygate Brewery. Over-18s only.

Saturday August 12: The After Worlds Shindig Cèilidh at 9pm in the National Piping Centre.

Pub scene

Park Bar.

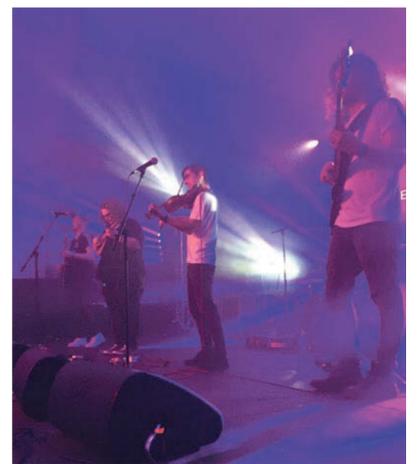
Friday: Scott Harvey.

Saturday: Dun Mòr.

Sunday: World Pipe Band Championships Hangover Cure.

Islay Inn.

Friday August 11: Gunna Sound.



Lomond School
Helensburgh

Come and join the
Lomond School
Family

Interested in boarding but not sure what to expect?

Join us for **Open Morning on Saturday 30th September** for an opportunity to see our facilities, tour the school and talk to staff and pupils.

We provide a wide-ranging curriculum and an extensive programme of extra-curricular and outdoor activities, including hockey, rugby, sailing, skiing, canoeing and much more.

To confirm your attendance at Open Morning, contact:
admissions@lomondschool.com

lomondschool.com

Argyll's only boarding school opens doors to interested families

'At all stages of the school, children and young people are highly motivated and actively involved in their learning. They are respectful, hard-working and respond very well to the overall high-quality learning experiences' - said Education Scotland.

Argyll's only boarding school is inviting families to come and see for themselves what makes Lomond so unique.

Located in the picturesque coastal town of Helensburgh, with its safe community environment and excellent transport links, Lomond School has a long tradition of boarders from the West Highlands and Islands.

As the top performing school in Argyll, Lomond offers a wide-ranging curriculum, including eight National Fives as S3/S4 and the traditional five Highers in S5.

Extra-curricular activities include hockey, rugby, sailing, skiing and canoeing. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is another significant feature and Lomond has enjoyed great

success carrying out expeditions both locally and abroad. In 2015, Lomond was the top performing school in Scotland for the gold award. The school also has a long-standing history of traditional Scottish music.

Boarders at Lomond benefit from excellent facilities with the new Burnbrae boarding house, built in 2003, offering comfortable lounges, a gym and mostly twin en-suite study bedrooms. Lomond also allows male and female siblings the opportunity to live together in the same boarding house. Families are also offered the flexibility of weekly boarding.

Lomond School principal Johanna Urquhart said: 'Here at Lomond we pride ourselves on taking an individual approach to the education and care of each and every pupil. Boarding provides a particularly rewarding experience thanks to our family ethos, excellent facilities and professional, dedicated staff. We are also very proud of our long-standing links to the West of

Scotland and would welcome any families interested in boarding to come and see us.'

A parent had this to say: 'We would like to say that it's the individual approach to education that we value the most, along with the breadth of the curriculum from forest school to music that allows all the children an opportunity to excel.'

Families interested in boarding at Lomond can confirm their attendance at the open morning. To find out more, please contact admissions@lomondschool.com

Key facts

- High academic attainment.
- Broad-ranging curriculum.
- Extensive programme of extra-curricular and outdoor learning.
- Strong focus on art, music and drama.
- Purpose-built, modern facilities.
- On demand boarding - eg, weekly boarding.
- Excellent transport links to the West Highlands.

What's on at **The Nevis Centre**

Superbowl
open everyday from
12 noon until 10pm

SPECTRUM
Spectrum soft play area
Suitable for children of all ages. Baby area 0-2 years, toddler area 2-5 years and older children can be let loose in all the other areas.

The Nevis Centre An Aird, Fort William
Tel: 01397 700707 www.neviscentre.co.uk

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Gringolts String Quartet
Ilya Gringolts violin Anahit Kurtikyan violin
Silvia Simionescu viola Claudius Herrmann cello
6.30pm Thursday 17 August 2017
Crear, Kilberry, by Tarbert. Tickets £20
T01880 770 369 www.crear.co.uk www.eventbrite.co.uk

An Comunn Gàidhealach - Meur Chruachain - Cruachan Branch
Sixth Tainnuilt Summer Ceilidh
Featuring Fear an Taighe: Rev. Brian Wilkinson
Piper: Stuart Campbell
Singers: Katie Houston, Maria, Oliver & Aoibheann Clark
Mod Gold Medallists - Mary Catherine MacNeil & Freddy MacKenzie
Alasdair MacDonald - Accordion Andrew Lockhart - Piano
Helen Watt - Ukelele The Isla Sinclair Dancers
Tainnuilt Village Hall, Thursday 10th August 7.30pm
Admission: £4 Children: £2
A family friendly ceilidh of song, music and dance
A warm welcome is extended to all



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Thursday 11 – Friday 17 August

CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS | U | 109 MIN

Fri: 12:30, 15:00, Sun: 12:30, 16:45, Mon: 15:00, Tue: 12:30, 15:00, Wed: 15:00, Thu: 12:30, 15:00

From DreamWorks Animation comes an epic feature film about a hero and his underpants. It's about two boys who create a homemade comic book character that becomes real when they hypnotize their fun-crushing school principal and convince him that he...is tra-la-la...Captain Underpants.

CARS 3 | U | 129 MIN

Fri: 14:45, 17:00, Sat: 14:45, 16:20, Sun: 14:45, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu: 14:45, 17:00

Blindsided by a new generation of blazing-fast racers, the legendary Lightning McQueen (voice of Owen Wilson) is suddenly pushed out of the sport he loves. To get back in the game, he will need the help of Cruz Ramirez, an eager young race technician with her own plan to win, plus inspiration from the late Fabulous Hudson Hornet and a few unexpected turns. Proving that #95 isn't through yet will test the heart of a champion on Piston Cup Racing's biggest stage!

DESPICABLE ME 3 | U | 110 MIN

Fri: 13:00, Sun: 12:30, Mon, Wed, Thu: 13:00

Parent and baby: Tue: 13:00
Kids Club: Kids tickets £2, accompanying adult's tickets £2! Sat: 11:30

The team who brought you Despicable Me and the biggest animated hits of 2013 and 2015, Despicable Me 2 and Minions, returns to continue the adventures of Gru, Lucy, their adorable daughters—Margo, Edith and Agnes—and the Minions. Parker voices the role of villain Balthazar Bratt, a former child star who's grown up to become obsessed with the character he played in the '80s, and proves to be Gru's most formidable nemesis to date.

DUNKIRK | 12A | 126 MIN

Fri: 17:30, 20:00, Sat: 17:30, 20:00, 21:15, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu: 17:30, 20:00

"Dunkirk" opens as hundreds of thousands of British and Allied troops are surrounded by enemy forces. Trapped on the beach with their backs to the sea they face an impossible situation as the enemy closes in.

GIRLS TRIP | 15 | 142 MIN

Fri: 19:30, Sat: 18:45, Sun: 18:45, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu: 19:30

When four lifelong friends travel to New Orleans for the annual Essence Festival, sisterhoods are rekindled, wild sides are rediscovered, and there's enough dancing, drinking, bawling, and romancing to make the Big Easy blush.

ALONE IN BERLIN | 12A | 123 MIN

Berlin, 1940. The city is paralysed by fear. When Otto and Anna's son is killed at the front, their loss drives them to an extraordinary act of resistance: they start to drop anonymous postcards all over the city, attacking Hitler and his regime. If they are caught, it means certain execution. Soon their campaign comes to the attention of Gestapo inspector Escherich (Daniel Brühl), and a murderous game of cat and mouse begins. Alone In Berlin is based on Hans Fallada's bestselling novel, described by Primo Levi as "the greatest book ever written about German resistance to the Nazis."



The mixed doubles event gets under way.



Damage caused by freak winds early Friday morning is clearly visible at the refreshments and food marquee.

West Ardnamurchan Regatta 2017 Results

A. Yachts – Ellan Vannin Handicap Series for Ormsaigbeg Cup and Hand Painted Glasses: 1 Geoff Campbell, 2 David Syme, 3 Colin Skeath; Drascombe Races : Day 1 New Zealand Cup – 1 David Syme, 2 Tom Colville; Day 2 Glashven Cup: 1 Tom Colville, 2 David Syme, 3 Paul Bentley; Races for Other Sailing Craft: Day 1 Portuairk Quaich – 1 Geoff Campbell, 2 Colin Skeath; Day 2 Challenge Cup: 1 Geoff Campbell, 2 Colin Skeath. Carraig Plate for Outstanding Achievement in Sailing: Colin Skeath.
B. Inshore Races: Rowing: Boys' Doubles – 1 Allan Curtis and Stuart MacLachlan, 2 Niven and Gilleasbuig Peterson; Ladies' Singles: 1 Katie Gane, 2 Rosie Curtis, 3 Caitlin MacDonald; Girls' Doubles: 1 Emma MacLachlan and Chloe Curtis; Men's Singles: 1 Alasdair MacLachlan, 2 Will Shaw, 3 Cameron Whitley; Boys' Singles: 1 Stuart MacLachlan, 2 Gilleasbuig Peterson; Girls' Singles: 1 Emma MacLachlan; Ladies Doubles: 1 Katie and Lauren Gane, 2 Anne and Catriona MacDonald, 3 Rosie Curtis and Nan MacLachlan; Men's Doubles: 1 Neil MacDonald and Phil Shaw, 2 Alasdair MacLachlan and Justin Cameron, 3 Kristian Longden and Gulliver Lord; Over-50s: 1 Geoff Campbell, 2 Neil MacDonald, 3 Anne MacDonald (1st Lady home); Senior Mixed Doubles: 1 Rosie Curtis and Alasdair MacLachlan, 2 Nan MacLachlan and Justin Cameron, 3 Catriona MacDonald and Cameron Whitley; Junior Mixed Doubles: 1 Emma MacLachlan and Allan Curtis, 2 Iona and Niven Peterson, 3 Morag and Finlay Peterson.
Canoes: Boys' Singles: 1 Stuart MacLachlan, 2 Finlay Peterson; Girls' Singles: 1 Lauren Gane, 2 Katie Gane, 3 Rachael Haylett; Men's Singles: 1 Fraser Glasgow, 2 Lachlan Peterson, 3 Geoff Campbell; Boys' Doubles: 1 Gilleasbuig and Finlay Peterson; Girls' Doubles: 1 Morag Peterson and Sarah Cameron-Sutcliffe, 2 Rachael White and Kirstyn Rowantree; Junior Mixed Doubles: 1 Finlay and Morag Peterson; Senior Mixed Doubles: 1 Rachael Haylett and Tim White, 2 Kirsty Glasgow and Lachlan Peterson, 3 Rachael Laing and Fraser Glasgow; Ladies' Doubles: 1 Rachael Haylett and Peggy May Chapple, 2 Liza Easmon and Miranda Kronfli, 3 Katie and Lauren Gane; Men's Doubles: 1 Alex Hester and Geoff Campbell, 2 Ben and Tim White, 3 Lachlan Peterson and Fraser Glasgow.
Raft Race: Position Cock-a-Leakie; Best-dressed Raft Cock-a-Leakie.
Outboards: 3 – 6 hp – 1 Neil MacDonald; 6 – 10 hp – 1 Nan MacLachlan; RIBs – 1 Ben White, 2 Alan Thomson, 3 Chris Gane; Solid Hull: 1 Neil MacDonald.
Other Awards: Youngest Competitor: Allan Curtis. Best Boy Overall: 1 – Stuart MacLachlan, 1 – Finlay Peterson, Gilleasbuig Peterson. Best Girl: 1 Morag Peterson, 2 Emma MacLachlan, 3 – Chloe Curtis 3 – Sarah Cameron-Sutcliffe; Best Juvenile Canoeist: 1 Morag Peterson, 2 Finlay Peterson.



The happy prize-winners.

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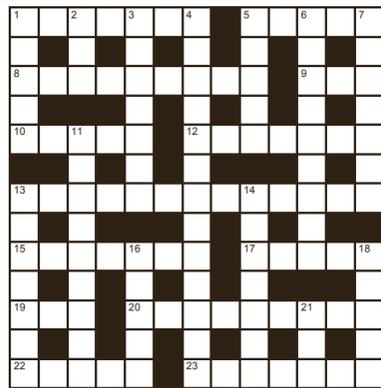
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THE OBAN TIMES GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Tool (4-3)
 - 5 Distressed (3-2)
 - 8 Whale secretion, used in perfumery (9)
 - 9 Eggs (3)
 - 10 Work with the hands (5)
 - 12 Large woodwind instrument (7)
 - 13 Used at football matches at night (13)
 - 15 Agog (3-4)
 - 17 Well-known (5)
 - 19 Select (3)
 - 20 Whirlpool (9)
 - 22 Father (5)
 - 23 Tidal-formed raised area (4,3)

- Down**
- 1 Sound heard when metal touches metal (5)
 - 2 Typewriter key (3)
 - 3 Walked in front of (7)
 - 4 Alexia (4,9)
 - 5 Receipt listings (5)
 - 6 One intent on physically harming many, i the name of religion or gain (9)
 - 7 Old German coin (7)
 - 11 Stretched (9)
 - 13 Benign tumour (7)
 - 14 Manual operation (5-2)
 - 16 Scrumptious (5)
 - 18 Object (5)
 - 21 Polish (3)

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MONDAY: 08:00 AM on FM, 08:10 Breakfast Show, 09:00 Monday Morning with Stephen, 11:00 Ian Simmonds on Monday, 13:00 Clyde 2 17:00 Drivetime, 18:00 Drivetime, 19:00 Rosie's Highland Fling with Rosie Macoll, 20:00 John McLuckie's Show, 21:00 David Cullen Show, 23:00 station close, midnight Clyde 2
TUESDAY: 08:00 AM on FM, 08:10 Breakfast Show, 10:00 Ken Hunter's Tuesday Morning, 13:00 Macky on FM, 15:00 Clyde 2 17:00 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 19:00 Highest Praise with Stuart Chalmers, 20:00 Elaine Lamb, 22:00 Northern Soul with Gordon Cove, midnight Clyde 2.
WEDNESDAY: 08:00 AM on FM, 08:10 Breakfast Show, 09:00 Sound Scottish Repeat, 10:00 Comfort Zone with Doug Carmichael, 11:00 Comfort Zone, 12:00 Comfort Zone, 13:00 Clyde 2 15:00 Elaine Lamb, 17:00 Drivetime, 17:30 Drivetime with Campbell Cameron, 19:00 Country Meets Rock & Roll with Len & Ken, 21:00 Gordon's Grooves, midnight Clyde 2.
THURSDAY: 08:00 Breakfast with Laura, 10:00 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 13:00 Elaine's Time Capsule, 15:00 Gordon Covey, 17:00 Drivetime with Stephen McPhee, 19:00 Christine's Collection, 21:00 Ann's Ceilidh, 22:00 Margo till midnight, midnight Clyde 2.
FRIDAY: 08:00 Breakfast with Laura, 10:00 Teeny and Tiny, 13:00 Clyde 2 17:00 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 18:45 Sports View, 19:00 Country meets Country with Jackie Craig, 20:00 Lewis Binham.
SATURDAY: 08:00 Breakfast show with Archie Darling, 10:00 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Cosher, 13:00 Clyde 2 18:00 Sports View with the Dream Team, 19:00 Sounds Scottish with Archie Darling, 20:00 Dave Lewis, 22:00 Margo till midnight, midnight Clyde 2.
SUNDAY: 09:00 Sunday morning with Breege, 11:00 Sunday Morning with Archie, 12:00 Sunday Brunch, 13:00 Clyde 2 16:30 Archie Darling, 18:00 Ken's Friends with Ken Hunter, 19:00 New Country Show with David Entwhistle, 21:00 Drum & Bass with Graham Scott, 23:00 Station close, midnight Clyde 2.

Arena

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

Killin games are 'best attended for years'

The rain stayed off this year for the Killin Highland Games and a great day was had by the visitors to the village.

Around 150 people from many parts of the world were in Killin for the Clan MacNab Gathering.

The clan are gathered to lead the first parade at the Edinburgh Tattoo, and they were joined by clan chief Jamie MacNab and his wife in the parade.

The large parade, led by Doune Pipe Band, moved from the Falls of Dochart to Breadalbane Park to open the games.

The games committee have encouraged the children to become involved this year and, who knows, some may become the stars of the future. Games organiser Charlie Grant said this year was the best attended for many years and thanked all his many helpers.



It is the Highland pipes for this fine woman.

Graceful movements from the Highland Dancers.

A piping competitor gives a rendition of the Strathspey and Reel.



Number 11 is coming home after the hill race.



And this wee one just love, love, love(s) it... don't know if granny is quite so sure.



A toss of the junior caber.



Sebastian Wenka putts the stone.



The hill race competitors set off.



This wee guy gave a huge throw with the children's hammer.



Och, it is not that heavy.



The gathering of the Clan MacNab.



The hill race men's winner Steven Rollinson with ladies' winner Diana McDonald.



A' cur 's a' Buain

Listings for Thursday 10 August - Thursday 17 August 2017

DIARDAIN 10 LUNASTAL
THURSDAY 10 AUGUST
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
19.00 **Gach Creutair Beò: Vets** (rpt)
19.30 **Beul Chainnt** (rpt)
20.00 **An Là** - News
20.30 **Eileanan Fraoich** - Heather Dewar visits South Lochs (rpt)
21.00 **UR | NEW: Belladrum 2017** - The Pretenders and Feeder
23.30 **Ceòl bho Perthshire Amber** - music from the Mae Trio (rpt)
23.55 **Fraochy Bay** (rpt)

DIHAINE 11 LUNASTAL
FRIDAY 11 AUGUST
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
18.35 **Machair** (rpt)
19.00 **An Là** - News
19.25 **Fraochy Bay** (rpt)
19.30 **O Mo Dhùthaich** - life on the Hebridean islands of Uist (rpt)
19.55 **Binneas - Cuirn @ Celtic** - music from Session A9 (rpt)
20.00 **Struilleag** (rpt)
21.00 **UR | NEW: Belladrum 2017** - final night with Franz Ferdinand and KT Tunstall
23.00 **UR | NEW: An Klondike** - Dominion Creek - Drama, S1, Ep4
23.55 **Binneas - Na Trads** - music from Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain (rpt)

DISATHAIRNE 12 LUNASTAL
SATURDAY 12 AUGUST
16.00 **UR | NEW: Camanachd Beò** - Oban Camanachd v Lovat
18.00 **UR | NEW: Scottish Premier-**

ship - St Johnstone v Motherwell
20.00 **Machair** (rpt)
20.25 **Fraochy Bay** (rpt)
20.30 **Mnathan-Glùine** - Highland Midwives (rpt)
21.00 **Na Worlds 2013** (rpt)
22.00 **Lorgan Linda** - The parents of Linda Norgrove take an emotional journey to Afghanistan (rpt)
23.00 **An Klondike** - Dominion Creek - Drama, S1, Ep4 (rpt)
23.55 **Philomena Begley: 50 Bliadhna de Cheòl** (rpt)

DIDÒMHNAICH 13 LUNASTAL
SUNDAY 13 AUGUST
16.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
18.35 **Seachd Là** - News Review
19.30 **Alleluia!** (rpt)
20.00 **Dualchas a' Chaisteil** - The story of renovation of the Lews Castle in Stornoway (rpt)
20.30 **Eileanan Fraoich** - Heather Dewar visits South Lochs in Lewis (rpt)

21.00 **Farpaisean chon-chaorach** - Sheepdog Trials (rpt)
22.00 **Na Worlds 2013** - music from the World Pipe Band Championships (rpt)
23.00 **UR | NEW: Aghaidh ri Aghaidh** - The rivalry between Korolev and Von Braun
23.50 **Dhan Uisge** - River Garry

DILUAIN 14 LUNASTAL
MONDAY 14 AUGUST
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
19.00 **Turas a' Bhradain** (rpt)
19.30 **Beul Chainnt** (rpt)
20.00 **An Là** - News
20.30 **Stoidhle** - Sandra Murray explores how people create their own individual style (rpt)
21.00 **UR | NEW: Trusadh** - Tioram air Tìr - a look at the west coast of Scotland's sea ports
22.00 **Bannan** (rpt)
22.30 **Nationwide an Alba:**

Na h-Eileanan - stories from the Nationwide TV series (rpt)
23.30 **Belladrum 2016: Cridhe Tartan** - highlights from the set by Madness (rpt)

DIMÀIRT 15 LUNASTAL
TUESDAY 15 AUGUST
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
19.00 **Gach Creutair Beò - Vets** (rpt)
19.30 **Beul Chainnt** (rpt)
20.00 **An Là** - News
20.30 **Mnathan-Glùine** - Highland Midwives (rpt)
21.00 **Farpaisean Chon-chaorach** - Sheepdog Trials (rpt)
22.00 **Trusadh - Tioram air Tìr** - a look at the west coast of Scotland's sea ports (rpt)
23.00 **Craic** - Women's panel discussion (rpt)
23.30 **Alleluia!** (rpt)

DICIADAIN 16 LUNASTAL
WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
19.00 **Turas a' Bhradain** (rpt)
19.30 **Greim Bidh** (rpt)
19.55 **Earrann Eachdraidh** (rpt)
20.00 **An Là** - News
20.30 **Dualchas a' Chaisteil** - The story of renovation of Lews Castle in Stornoway (rpt)
21.00 **Diary of Britain: Shinty Town** (rpt)
21.45 **Sgeul Seirbheis** (rpt)
22.00 **Buskers** - featuring Michelle Michelle McManus (rpt)
22.30 **Bannan** (rpt)
23.00 **Hòrò Gheallaidh** (rpt)
23.30 **Togaidh Sinn Fonn** - a selection of Scotland's best musicians and singers (rpt)

DIARDAIN 17 LUNASTAL
THURSDAY 17 AUGUST
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
19.00 **Gach Creutair Beò: Vets** (rpt)
19.30 **Greim Bidh** (rpt)
20.00 **An Là** - News
20.30 **Eileanan Fraoich** - Heather Dewar visits Eriskey (rpt)
21.00 **Brian Wilson** - a profile of Brian Wilson (rpt)
22.00 **Belladrum 2016: Cridhe Tartan** - music from Gavin James (rpt)
22.30 **UR | NEW: Aghaidh ri Aghaidh** - the rivalry between Karl Lagerfeld and Yves Saint-Laurent
23.25 **Cuide ri Cathy** - Russell Watson

Killin Highland Games Results 2017

Dancing
Perthshire Confined
Seann Truibhas U13
1st Ellie Closs
2nd Erin Slane
3rd Lauren Johnston
Hullachan U13
1st Ellie Closs
2nd Erine Slane
3rd Lauren Johnston
Overall U13 Ellie Closs
Seann Truibhas U16
1st Lauren Dingwall
2nd Shannah Davidson
3rd Mackenzie Low
Hullachan U16
1st Lauren Dingwall
2nd Shannah Davidson
3rd Mackenzie Low
Overall U16 Winner:
Lauren Dingwall
Seann Truibhas Adult
1st Lindsey Douglas
2nd Jillian Kennedy
Hullachan Adult
1st Jillian Kennedy
2nd Lindsey Douglas
Overall Adult Winner
shared between
Jillian Kennedy &
Lindsey Douglas
Open Dancing
Fling U12
1st Isabella Williams
(USA)
2nd Eva MacColl
(Appin)
3rd Amy Anderson
(Kintore)
4th Elizabeth Eberz
(USA)
5th Evie Meldrum
(Glenrothes)
6th Harriet Waddell
(Forfar)
Seann Truibhas U12
1st Brooke Macalonie
(Glenrothes)
2nd Isabella Williams
3rd Amy Anderson
4th Harriet Waddell
5th Evie Meldrum
6th Eva MacColl
Flora U12
1st Brooke Macalonie
2nd Isabella Williams
3rd Harriet Waddell

4th Evie Meldrum
5th Amy Anderson
6th Niamh Stainthorpe (Ruthwell)
Lilt U12
1st Isabella Williams
2nd Amy Anderson
3rd Harriet Waddell
4th Evie Meldrum
5th Brooke Macalonie
6th Elizabeth Eberz
Overall U12 winner
Isabella Williams
Fling U14
1st Chelsea Bermingham (Glenrothes)
2nd Callie Wilson (Penicuik)
3rd Abby Louise Livingstone (Glenrothes)
4th Megan Punton (Paisley)
5th Ellie Closs (Methven)
6th Erin Slane (Pitcairngreen)
Hullachan U14
1st Abby Louise Livingstone
2nd Callie Wilson
3rd Erin Slane
4th Chelsea Bermingham
5th Megan Punton
6th Shannah Davidson (Pitlochry)
Barracks Johnnie U14
1st Abby Louise Livingstone
2nd Erin Slane
3rd Megan Punton
4th Chelsea Bermingham
5th Shannah Davidson
6th = Ellie Closs
6th = Callie Wilson
Jig U14
1st Abby Louise Livingstone
2nd Megan Punton
3rd Erin Slane
4th Ellie Closs
5th Chelsea Bermingham
6th Shannah Davidson
Overall U14
Winner Abby Louise

Livingstone
Fling U17
1st Kirstin Mitchelson (Monifeth)
2nd Ellie Wood (Falkirk)
3rd Alyana Rubach (Maryland)
4th Lauren Dingwall (Perth)
5th Michelle Tan (Texas)
6th Katie Mills (Monifeth)
7th Callie Bowers (Texas)
Seann Truibhas U17
1st Kirstin Mitchelson
2nd Alyana Rubach
3rd Lauren Dingwall
4th Ellie Wood
5th Katie Mills
6th Michelle Tan
7th Callie Bowers
Highland Laddie U17
1st Kirstin Mitchelson
Hullachan U17
3rd Ellie Wood
4th Katie Mills
5th Alyana Rubach
6th Lauren Dingwall
7th Isobel Lyttle (Texas)
Hornpipe U17
1st Kirstin Mitchelson
2nd Stephanie Moon (Livingston)
3rd Callie Bowers
4th Katie Mills
5th Lauren Dingwall
6th Ellie Wood
7th Michelle Tan
Overall U17 Winner
Kirstin Mitchelson
Fling - Adults
1st Carla Gardner (Texas)
2nd Erin MacGuire (Glasgow)
3rd Lindsey Douglas (Birnham)
4th Emma Lawson (Aberdeen)
5th Olivia Blennie (Stirling)
6th Jillian Kennedy (Aberfeldy)
7th Danielle Green (USA)

Seann Truibhas - Adults
1st Carla Gardner
2nd Jillian Kennedy
3rd Erin MacGuire
4th Lyndsey Douglas
5th Oliva Blennie
6th Emma Lawson
7th Danielle Green
Hornpipe - Adults
1st Jillian Kennedy
2nd Carla Gardner
3rd Erin MacGuire
4th Lyndsey Douglas
5th Emma Lawson
6th Oliva Blennie
7th Danielle Green
Jig - Adults
1st Emma Lawson
2nd Olivia Blennie
3rd Jillian Kennedy
4th Carla Gardner
5th Lyndsey Douglas
6th Danielle Green
Overall Adult Winner
Carla Gardner
Hill Race
Male
Stephen Rawlinson
Lochtsayside
00:21.56
Colin Donnelly Hawick
00:24.18
Tomas Videman
Czech Republic
00:25.29
Female
Diana MacDonald
Inverness
00:27.24
Flora Whar-ton
Kendal
00:30.43
Jen Gane
Lochtsayside
00:32.21
Juniors
Bryn Yapp
Essex
00:17.47
Loic Berald
Belgium
00:19.06
Eva Hurrel
Perth
00:21.50
Martin Lili
france
00:32.07
Lex Huther
Netherlands
00:36.03
Field Events

16lb Stone
1st Lucasz Wenta,
East Kilbride 55'
11.5"
2nd Scott Rider,
Kent 52' 0"
3rd Lorne Colthart,
Blair Atholl 51' 1.5"
22lb Stone
1st Lucasz Wenta,
East Kilbride 44' 9.5"
2nd Scott Rider,
Kent 44' 2"
3rd Lorne Colthart,
Blair Atholl 42' 5"
16lb Hammer
1st Lorne Colthart,
Blair Atholl 137' 8"
2nd Scott Rider,
Kent 129' 3"
3rd Sebastien
Wenta, Poland
110' 8"
28lb Distance
1st Scott Rider, Kent
83' 10.5"
2nd Lorne Colthart,
Blair Atholl 79' 10"
3rd Lucasz Wenta,
East Kilbride 78' 6"
56lb Distance
1st Scott Rider, Kent
40' 8.5"
2nd Lucasz Wenta,
East Kilbride 37' 3"
3rd Sebastien
Wenta, Poland 36'
10.5"
56lb over Bar
1st Lucasz Wenta,
East Kilbride 15' 6"
2nd = Lorne Colthart,
Blair Atholl 15' 0"
2nd = Scott Rider,
Kent 15' 0"
Caber
1st Lucasz Wenta,
East Kilbride
2nd = Scott Rider,
Kent
2nd = Sebastien
Wenta, Poland



Och go on, get over the bar.



Dancing winners show off their trophies.



Doune Pipe Band perform for a large crowd on both the march and throughout the day on the games field.



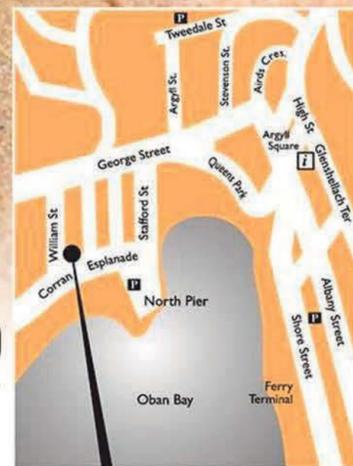
A large crowd gathered to see the tossing of the caber.

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FARMING NEWS

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Norman MacPhail of Woodside Croft, Salen, won supreme blackface champion and then and champion of champions, pictured with his wife Caroline and son Seonaidh. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_11



Blackface sheep, judged by Donald MacCorquodale of North Connell. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_17

'Massive crowds' flock to the



Ellen MacRae of Salen won the £10 top prize coming first in the under-11s race. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_15

SANDY NEIL AND SIGI KOERNER
editor@obantimes.co.uk

The Bunessan Show drew 'massive crowds' on Mull on Friday thanks to a bigger showground. Blackface judge Donald MacCorquodale faced a hard task this year choosing between the 'good numbers' and 'magnificent' stock. The Texel and Cheviot judge, George Ross, of Heatherlea Croft, Sutherland, also praised their 'good quality', as well as the friendly yet competitive show.

The supreme blackface champion, and champion of champions, went to Norman MacPhail of Salen's tup. 'It does not get better than today. This is the ultimate,' he said. Norman's 'delighted' nephew had his first win with his tup lamb in the open, and twins Laura and Emma MacDougall, 15, of Tobermory also made the championship.

Their father Robbie, who was 'proud to bits', said he knew Laura's home-bred Texel ewe was 'a good lamb straight away. When

it was born it had character. She was a right cocky lamb. She has tremendous skin and carcass.'

Emma, whose 'bright' ewe won supreme Cheviot champion, was presented with the Theresa Wade Memorial Trophy, dedicated to the popular island vet who tragically died in a car crash in 2015, for most points in sections 1-8 achieved by those aged 20 or under.

'Theresa was a local girl done good, and came back to meet such a tragic end,' said the Bunessan Show's president, Gordon Rutherford.

This year, Mr Rutherford added, the committee also opened up the football pitch so the showground was not 'squashed up', saying: 'We have got a good crowd. We opened it up to the whole island to swell the numbers, and it has done that. We have a few cattle, but not enough. The dog show is always cut-throat.'

Albi, a luxury-coated German shepherd, was named best dog in show.

Visitors driving along the

Ross of Mull may have noticed a Dalek-shaped scarecrow of vivid rags, created for the Mull and Iona scarecrow trail by Sue Murdoch, a mixed media artist, who won three first prizes in the home industry tent.

Katie Lang, 11, visiting her grandmother from Glasgow, was a novice to the Bunessan Show, but was delighted to win first prize for her inventive and brightly-coloured marzipan sweets.

Twins Ellen and Jemma MacRae used Friday's under-11s race as a warm-up for the Mull half-marathon that weekend, but received a stern pep talk from their younger cousin, who announced the pair 'could have run faster'.

'It is a massive crowd this year,' said vice-president Stephen MacCallum. 'Everybody is involved. It is all voluntary. Everybody mucks in.'

'It is fun,' summed up farmer Tom Nelson of Glengorm, Tobermory, in the sheep ring. 'It's about seeing everybody and supporting the show.'

For the second year, Pete Bowsher performed as Chainsaw Pete, deftly carving two otters out of logs, which he donated to the community.

Crowds cheered as Robert Lafferty back-flipped on his motorcycle. Robert's 17-year-old sister Hazel came with her boyfriend Rhys Yeadon, 19, to show Rhys' car - a salvaged Morris Minor, complete with an engine part painted like a Tunnock's Teacake.

Events took a dramatic turn for pony club member Grace Corbett from Lochbuie. The 10-year-old rider was all set to compete, but on the day she discovered her pony, Fly, had gone lame.

Luckily her Pony Club companion offered up her own pony, Shortie, at the last minute. Though Grace was not used to riding Shortie, she came second in the best novice rider category and won the pony club pony competition.

For full results and more pictures from the show, go to www.obantimes.co.uk



Max the German white spitz klein flies down the flyball track on a mission for the tennis ball. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_04



Stunt biker Robert Lafferty, from Killin, took time to read the show programme before amazing the crowd with a 360-degree flip. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_07



Emma MacDougall took supreme Cheviot champion, Theresa Wade Memorial Challenge Trophy and the Young Farmers' award. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_06



Orla MacLennan, 14, of Aros Mains, left, was overall showing champion on Myffy, while Vharie Laurie, 8, of Dervaig was reserve champion on Rosie. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_02

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Suckler Cow and Bull Management Workshop

SR DP Farm Advisory Service

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Time: 11.00am - 3.00pm
Venue: Bruce Dixon, Killinochnoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary Lochgilphead PA31 8QF

Practical and Informative Day on Suckler Cow and Bull Management, Health, Nutrition and Genetics. "Concentrating on the issues facing us as we move towards the Autumn and Winter"

Discussions led by:
Gavin Hill SAC Consulting Beef Specialist
Karen Stewart SAC Consulting Feeding Consultant
Kenny Johnstone Johnstone & Farrell Vets
Also in attendance Dalriada Vets, Lochgilphead

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Mull and Iona Pipe Band played at the show. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_01

Bunessan Show



Left to right, Greta van Alderwegen from Manchester came third in the under-eights race, Rowan White of North Yorkshire came first, and Zoe Rossi of Carlisle second. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_13



Pam and David Cummings led their 'wee pal' Basil the Shetland pony, raising money for the charity Riding for the Disabled. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_08



The crowds pay close attention to all that is going on. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_20



Grace Hallam's Lee Rocket won second prize in the go-kart design, as did spaniel Meg in dog agility. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_14



Charlie Hogg of Tobermory, a crookmaker for 40 years, displays his 'intarsia' wooden pictures. 16_T32_Bunessan Show_03

Around the markets

STIRLING – Caledonian Marts on Thursday, August 3 sold 193 cattle.
Prime bullocks averaged – 228ppkg
Prime heifers averaged – 229ppkg
Young bulls averaged – 210ppkg
Beef cows averaged – 138ppkg
Dairy cows averaged – 107ppkg
Cast bulls averaged – 121ppkg
The sale comprised of 95 bullocks, heifers, 10 young bulls, 98 cast cows and bulls. More prime cattle forward and a better show for quality would again be dearer on the week. Cast cows an excellent show for numbers for the time of year, all classes met the dearest trade to date.
Prime bullocks sold to 250ppkg for a Limousin from Brockwoodlees, Canonbie, to J Gilvear & Sons and to £1598 from the same farm.
Prime heifers sold to 250ppkg for a Limousin from Moorfield, Kilmarnock, to D Campbell & Son, Butchers, Callander, and to £1635 from Brockwoodlees. Young bulls to 218ppkg (twice) for Limousins from Bolfournought, Stirling, and to £1696 from Bolfournought.
Leading prices
Bullocks p/kg:
248p Bankhead (Kerr) 245p Blairsgreen, Bankhead & Brockwoodlees 242p Balquharrage, Mawcarse, Moorfield & Brockwoodlees 240p Brockwoodlees, Blairsgreen, Moorfield & Easterton (Owen)
238p & 235p Easterton, Faskine, Classlochie & Mawcarse
232p Mains of Cullmalundie, Mawcarse & Moorfield
Heifers p/kg:
248p (twice) Moorfield, Classlochie 245p Carriston, Faskine, Classlochie & Spittal (Gardner)
242p Carriston & Brockwoodlees
240p Pinnhall & Classlochie 238p & 235p Annfield (Johnston), Balquharrage, Turniemoon & Blairsgreen
232p (twice) Meikle Seggie, Pinnhall & Blackhill
230p Turniemoon & Craighquarter
Young bulls p/kg
215p Easterton (Graham)

& Mains of Throsk 210p Bankhead (Kerr) 202p Glassingall
Also forward were 98 cast cows and bulls.
Beef cows averaged 138ppkg selling to 196.6ppkg for an outstanding Limousin from M Jack Carriston, Star of Markineh, Fife and to £1590 for an Aberdeen Angus from A & J M Taylor, Mossball, Blackburn. Dairy cows averaged 107ppkg selling to 132.8ppkg from W Waugh, North Bankhead, Avonbridge and to £1100 from A J Mackie, High Belltrees, Lochwinnoch.
Beef cows per head £1440 Wester Thomason £1290 (twice) Dalchirla £1270 Mossball & Carriston £1260 Prathouse £1200 Drumelzier £1160 Gibsley & Walton.
Dairy cows per head £1020 Muircot £980 North Bankhead £850, £790 & £780 Meldrum £780 Barbeth. Bulls per head £1380 Old Leckie £1360 Kirkton £1340 Ardnave (Islay) Beef cows per kilo 181.3p Walton 179.6p Wester Thomason 178.6p Easterton (Owen) 175.3p Dalchirla 172.1p Prathouse 163.9p Ardnave (Islay) 161.1p Ballabeg Dairy cows per kilo 125.4p Meldrum 124.4p High Belltrees 123p Knockraich 121.2p Meldrum 117.8p Knockraich, Barbeth & Muircot
Lams per kilo 134.5p Old Leckie 131.9p Ardnave 124.1p Kirkton.

(Char) 197p; Asloss (Mule) 182p.
Ewes (1558) – Cairn (Tex) £147; Humeston (Char) £127; Broomknowes (Suff) £125; Easter Mye (Mule) £98; Shanry (Chev/Mule) £94.00; Elmscleugh (BF) £73;
Tups – Denside (Suff) £104; Dalmahoy (BF) £75; Clatto (Char) £74.
STIRLING – United Auctions on Wednesday August 2 sold 589 store cattle, native bred cattle and young bulls also forward 137 cast cows. Bullocks (342) – averaged 236.89p to 310.90ppk for a 238kg LimX from Drumoider and to £1470 for a 636kg CHX from Ashfield.
Heifers (206) averaged 227.58p to 267.70ppk for a 325kg SimX from Drumoider and £1230 for a 239.8kg LimX from Cowans. B&W Bullocks (39) averaged 156.80p to 192.60ppkg for a 488kg HFX from Tanhill and £980 for a 587kg BFX from Lindsayton.
Cast cows (137) averaged 133.82p to 197.20ppk for a AAX from Symington Mains and £1350 for a LimX from Loanhead Of Duchally.
Dairy cows (12) averaged 108.79p to 161.90ppk for a HFX from Overton and £885 for a HFX from Meikle Camoquhill.
Bullocks: Up to 250kgs – Drumoider £740, 310.90p; 251-300kgs – Drumoider £800, Drumoider 294.10p; 301-350kgs – Drumoider £870, Gateside 278.10p; 351-400kgs – Crofthead £1070, 268.80; 401-450kgs – Graystale £1095, Crofthead 261.20p;

451-500kgs – Midlock £1210, Hillview 249.50p; 501-550kgs – Cowans £1310, 238.80p; 551-600kgs – Cowans £1440, 237.60p; 601-650kgs – Ashfield £1470, 231.10p.
Heifers: Up to 250kgs – Drumoider £630, 252.00p; 251-300kgs – Burnfoot £740, 245.80p; 301-350kg – Chapel £835, Drumoider 264.70p; 351-400kgs – Mahaar £980, Crofthead 252.10p; 401-450kgs – Mahaar £1070, 252.40p; 451-500kgs – Cowans £1175, 241.80p; 501-550kgs – Burnbrae £1230, 223.60p; 551-600kgs – Cowans £1230, 222.80p.
OTM cows: £ per head – Loanhead Of Duchally (Lim) £1370; Innerwick (Sim) £1250; Symington Mains (AA) £1190; Pitkey (CH) £1150; Laighpark (BRB) £1070; Parbroath (Sal) £1055; Laighpark (Cont) £1030; Meikle Camoquhill (MO) £1030.
PPK – Symington Mains (AA) 197.70p; Loanhead Of Duchally (Lim) 196.80p; Symington Mains (Sim) 188.20p; Pitkey (CH) 176.50p; West Park (BRB) 170.40p; Laighpark (Cont) 157.70p; Parbroath (Sal) 152.50p; Meikle Camoquhill (MO) 136.60p.
OTM bulls: £ per head – Ballikrain (Lim) £1510; Loanhead Of Duchally (BS) £1390; Parbroath (AA) £1350; Wester Colechat (CH) £1290.
PPK – Kinell Mill (Lim) 160.30p; Newport (AA) 152.00p; Loanhead Of Duchally (BS) 129.70p; Wester Colechat (CH) 120.60p.

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Dad and daughter kayak historic route for charity

SIGI KOERNER
editor@obantimes.co.uk

LUING residents Douglas Hardie and his daughter Ione Russell paddled nearly non-stop for 24 hours in aid of a Ugandan charity DEWODE, set up by Douglas's wife Pauline 20 years ago.

The kayaking duo followed the route of The Comet, the first paddle steamer to carry passengers to the West Coast of Scotland at the beginning of the 19th-century, from Port Glasgow to Luining.

Ione told *The Oban Times*: 'We have been paddling around Luining for years and had the idea to try an overnight non-stop paddle to support the charity. This route seemed fitting.'

Pauline manned pit-stops along the way, aided by Ione's husband, Gavin, and children Alex, nine, and five-year-old Isabella.

Douglas and Ione set off from Royal West of Scotland Amateur Boat Club and paddled down the Clyde and across Loch Fyne to Ardrishaig. From



Douglas Hardie and Ione Russell paddled non-stop for nearly 24 hours from Port Glasgow to Luining.

there, they threaded their way through the Crinan Canal, and continued by sea to Luining.

The next morning the whole family hosted an event in Tobernochy to give people a chance to try kayaking, and some traditional cookies from Africa.

The highlight of their journey was passing out of the Kyles of Bute, where, on beautifully calm waters, they startled a sleeping porpoise.

But the trip also offered challenges. Douglas and Ione were forced to camp in the small hours of the night due to bad

weather, and, in the final stretch through Dorus Mor, they struggled against a strong headwind and a turning tide.

The pair arrived home exhausted but filled with a great sense of achievement.

Douglas said: 'The kayaking was physically challenging, but

our friends in Uganda face hardship every day. We came home to hot showers, hot food and comfortable beds, things that are not available in Kobulubulu [the village in which DEWODE operates].'

DEWODE, which stands for Dedicated Women in Development, was started by the women of Kobulubulu in north eastern Uganda as a way to empower themselves after years of political turmoil.

In 1997, Pauline established contact with the project's co-ordinator and together they built a health centre, which was completed in 2007.

Pauline explained: 'Previously, they had to walk or cycle 18 miles to the nearest centre for aid. The running of the health centre is entirely dependent on the charity's fundraising, so we are proud of Ione and Doug's achievement and the support of family, friends and the community of Luining.'

To support this project, visit www.mydonate.bt.com/fund-raisers/ionerussell1

Uncovering Scotland's 'second Iona' on Lismore



Archaeologist Dr Clare Ellis, right, examines an artefact from the nave tower as volunteers dig.

MICHELLE MCANALLY
mmcanally@obantimes.co.uk

ONCE home to a magnificent medieval cathedral and the bishopric of Argyll, it has been called Scotland's 'second Iona'.

Archaeologists working at the parish church on Lismore hope that information gathered from this year's and last year's digs will help them better understand what role it played in medieval culture.

During the week of July 15 to 22, Dr Clare Ellis, of Argyll Archaeology, led up to 15 volunteers each day in excavating the ruined walls of the nave and tower, with the long-term objective of developing the area for public access and interpretation.

'Lismore was chosen as the seat of the diocese, and that seems a bit strange to modern people,' said Dr Robert Hay, author and archivist for the Lismore Gaelic Heritage Centre. 'But if we remember that people travelled by sea more than they did by land in those times, we'll see that this site was very strategic.'

The current church was developed from the choir of the grand cathedral that once stood there and, while today it hosts a small Church of Scotland congregation, at one time it would have been the site of one of the most impressive buildings on the West Coast.

It is known as the Cathedral of St Moluag, who, according to tradition, founded a religious community on



Volunteers helped archaeologists learn more about the cathedral on Lismore.

the island in the sixth century. While archaeologists have found no remains that can be definitively dated to that time, they think that the cathedral may have been built on the site of an earlier church dedicated to the saint.

'In the 12th and 13th centuries, the MacDougalls were the dominant family in this area,' Dr Hay explained. 'They built half a dozen or more stone castles up and down the coast, including two on Lismore. The cathedral here was a big part of this prestige project.'

Records show that in 1190 a diocese

was formed at Lismore, but it is not known if there was a church on the site at that time.

'We do know the chancel was built in the 13th century because of the medieval features covered with mason marks,' Dr Hay shared. 'It tells you there was a lot going on here.'

All week, volunteers of all ages and backgrounds from all around the world pitched in with trowels, shovels and buckets, unearthing fewer bones than last year, but including livestock bones with tell-tale butcher marks, along with

samples of mortar, nails, a single coin and pieces of carved sandstone.

Fine art technician Douglas Breingan has been coming to Lismore for 20 years and volunteers at the museum. 'When the cathedral was built, the moulding stones were built of sandstones that we believe were brought in from Morvern, and they were used for the fine carvings,' Mr Breingan said, tagging and examining each piece of stone as it was brought out of the trenches.

'So any time we find a bit, we look at it closely to see if there is anything done on it, and we can then tell what shapes the windows or doors were in the cathedral.'

During the week, all parts of the base of the nave wall and the tower were evaluated, the south entrance was located and experts confirmed that part of the north wall was robbed of its stone.

However, more than 20 substantial pieces of carved stone were recovered, including features likely from the door decoration.

Dr Mark Thacker, from the University of Stirling, took samples of the mortar for carbon dating of the building of the nave.

'This was probably one of the most important ecclesiastical sites in Scotland,' Dr Hay said. 'We want to be able to provide interpretation here on site.'

The dig was funded by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the Hunter Trust and the MacDougall McCallum Foundation, USA.

THIS WEEK'S WALKS

LOCHABER AND LORN RAMBLERS

The walk leader is to be contacted beforehand for meet up and start times. Car sharing usually possible and you can try before you buy.

You can walk three times with the club before joining. Further information at www.lochaber-and-lorn-ramblers.org.uk. Lochaber and Lorn Ramblers Group can be contacted by email on info@lochaberandlorn-ramblers.org.uk.

Today (Thursday August 10) An Caisteal and Beinn a' Chroin Crianlarich.

Start at the long lay-by on the A82 2Km SW of Crianlarich, NN369238. Follow the track SE, under the railway, across the River Falloch and continue for about 1 Km to a junction.

Leave the track and head S up to Sron Garbh, 709m.

Continue S along the bumps and turns of Twistin Hill and climb the N ridge of An Caisteal to its summit, 995m.

Descend S, curving SSE to the col, Bealach Buidhe at 805mEX. Climb steeply on a zig-zag path through crags to the summit plateau of of Beinn a' Chroin.

The Munro summit is at NN387185 – the central summit, 942m. It can be difficult to identify.

There is a small lochan 28m to the east of it. Continue to the East Top, 940m, then descend its N ridge into Coire Earb. Follow the River Falloch down the glen until the track appears leading back to the start.

Distance: 12km. Height to climb 1,000m.

Meet at Longsdale car park, Oban, at 8.55am or Glencoe village car park at 9.05am.

Walk leader Toril Frantzen, 07788 264007.

Sunday August 13 Creag Dhubh, Newtonmore.

Creag Dhubh lies in the foothills of the Monadhliath mountains near Newtonmore, overlooking the upper Spey Valley.

Although of modest height, it is rugged with impressive crags, and dominates the area. The views from the summit are extensive and include both the Cairngorms and the western hills.

Distance: 11km. Height to climb, 900m.

Suggested by Gavin Theobald and co-ordinated by Suzanne Theobald.

Start on the A86 opposite Auchmore farm, where limited parking is available, NN6656794690. Pass through the gate 200m to the W and head N up the track to NN662952. Leave the track and head E across the hillside for 600m to the Monument at the top of some crags. Without losing much height, cross the small valley to the N to reach a faint path that leads up to the top of the crags opposite.

Follow the path NE above the cliffs, towards the SW ridge of Creag Dubh. Climb the ridge to its summit, 756m. Continue NE on the ridge to a col and climb to the small summit of An Torr, 614m. From the E end of its summit plateau, find a path leading down NE, steeply at first through birch scrub and bracken, to reach the track at NN7017098973. Turn right and follow farm tracks to reach the A86 just before the bridge over the River Calder.

Distance: 10km. Height to climb 490m.

Meet at Fort William Woollen Mill at 9.20am.

NEVIS HILLWALKING CLUB

Please see full walk details at www.nevishillwalking.club.

If you would like to go out on the walk please contact club secretary Suzanne Theobald on 01397 701783 or email enquiries@nevishillwalking.club.

Saturday August 12 Creise (1,100m, Munro)

Beinn Mhic Chasgaig (864m, Corbett)

Park at the Ski Centre NN266525. Head WNW across the moor below Creag Dhubh for 2km to the Allt Cam Ghlinne.

Cross the burn and head SW to reach the N ridge of Sròn na Creise. Climb the ridge and continue to the summit of Stob a'Ghlais Choire, 996m. Continue S to Creise, then a further 500m S before heading SSW down ridge to col. Head NW then N to summit of Beinn Mhic Chasgaig. Descend by NNE ridge. Ford river Etive to road and 2nd car.

Distance: 11km. Height to climb, 900m.

Suggested by Gavin Theobald and co-ordinated by Suzanne Theobald.

Hillwalkers urged to factor in deer stalking

AS SCOTLAND'S deer stalking season gets into full swing, a web-based service to avoid conflict between walkers and stalkers has been relaunched.

Scottish Natural Heritage's Heading for the Scottish Hills website allows walkers to check ahead for details of possible deer stalking taking place on estates where they plan to go hiking.

As in previous years, it is hoped this will reduce the chance of disturbing stag stalking during the peak season from late summer to October 20.

This year Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has worked with partners, including Mountaineering Scotland and the Association of Deer Management Groups, to create a more user-friendly service, which has expanded again this year, particularly in the north-west Highlands, and is accessible from mobiles and tablets.

The website (www.outdoor-access-scotland.com/hftsh) includes general information about stalking on all participating estates and contact details for further information.

There is also information about responsible behaviour for both land managers and walkers.

The site provides information on specific Munros, Corbetts and other popular hills. It also includes routes that are 'always okay' and general information such as when the estate will start stag stalking and the days of the week when stalking doesn't take place.

Fiona Cuninghame, SNH recreation and access officer, said: 'The web service is a quick way to check that you won't disturb

deer stalking when heading to participating hills between July and October.

'We hope that you find the service easy to use and would welcome feedback by email to HFTSH@snh.gov.uk. We expect the service to continue to grow, so if the hills you want to climb aren't included on the site, it's worth taking another look before you head out.'

James Orpwood, Mountaineering Scotland's access officer, said: 'Mountaineering Scotland has been closely involved with the Heading for the Scottish Hills website and is delighted to see it has expanded again this year. We encourage all hill-goers to check the website during the stalking season and contact the relevant estate if necessary.'

The website helps walkers follow the advice in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code to try to find out where stag stalking is taking place and who to contact if more information is required.

The code also encourages walkers to take account of reasonable advice on alternative routes and to avoid crossing land where stalking is taking place.

Richard Cooke, chairman of the Association of Deer Management Groups, said: 'Our association has been involved with Heading for the Scottish Hills for more than 20 years, both in its initial book form and now in the online version.'

'We would like to see this resource as the go to source of information for people taking recreational access in the Highlands of Scotland and are pleased that an increasing number of deer management groups are signing up.'

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THE SEASONS OF SELLING PROPERTY



for actual offers on properties; high fall-through rates and long conveyancing time for property sales south of the border (I have been told the average time has hit four months now), buyers are delaying offering on their new home until their own property sale is progressing well. Additionally, potential buyers are looking to move in before Christmas (dare I mention the word in August!), so in some respects this is the best time to get your property on the market.

Once late November hits, the market drastically slows down. Winter is usually the slowest season for homebuyers and the most awkward for sellers, due to the holidays in December. However, for winter sellers, January is a better time to put your home on the market, when people are back in the office, back from vacations, and with winter being a time to curl up on long winter nights, there's plenty of time for buyers to peruse the listings in preparation for a spring move.

Many factors other than the season can affect the sale of your home- the economy, the political climate and mortgage and interest rates can all have an impact. But, with the right team behind you, any time of year can be a good time to sell, so why not give myself or Lucy a call to discuss the best time to list your property.

Summer can be a bit trickier, because, for one, people are away on holiday. However, as this is at the end of the spring rush, so you might catch some people who didn't find exactly what they wanted during the spring before they go away on holiday.

Contrary to popular belief, we have noticed autumn is a busy time of year

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PROPERTIES FOR SALE & TO LET

KELLAN, GLENMORE ROAD, OBAN

- Detached House
 - 2 Bedrooms/1 Bathroom
 - In need of Modernisation
 - Large garden with polytunnel
 - In popular residential location
 - EPC Rating - G
- £155,000**

Kellan, offers an amazing opportunity to purchase a detached cottage with large garden in the popular Pulpit Hill area of Oban. The property comprises a central hallway leading to two double bedrooms, bathroom, lounge with solid fuel stove and kitchen. The loft is boarded and accessed via a loft hatch in the hallway. The property features double glazing throughout with heating provided by a solid fuel stove. Kellan requires some modernisation throughout but offers an amazing opportunity to make a delightful family home.

GRIANAN, DUNOLLIE ROAD, OBAN

- Delightful detached bungalow
 - 3 bedrooms/ 1 bathroom
 - Convenient location
 - Garden to front and rear
 - Excellent Family Home
 - EPC Rating - D (61)
- OIEO £185,000**

A unique opportunity to purchase a sizable family home within in easy walking distance of Oban's local amenities. The property comprises a cosy lounge with wood burning stove and patio doors out onto a large covered to the front of the house, ideal for sitting and enjoying the view or even drying washing on those showery days! Adjacent to the lounge is a bright and generous dining room, perfect for family meals and entertaining guests.

PENLARACH LERAGS, OBAN

- Spacious detached bungalow
 - 3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms
 - Stunning Loch Views
 - Large 1.1 acre garden
 - Detached garage with workshop/office
 - EPC Rating - E51
- OIRO £280,000**

A spacious three bedroom detached bungalow located in the beautiful Lerags Glen only a 10-minute drive south of Oban. Enjoying stunning loch views and an elevated secluded position, the bungalow would make an ideal family home or holiday let investment. The bright and spacious lounge - complete with wood burning stove - and adjacent sun room both enjoy fine views across fields and woodland towards Loch Feochan.

THE KNOLL, OBAN

- Detached Victorian Villa
 - 3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms
 - Elevated situation above Oban Bay
 - Large decking with views across Oban Bay
 - Extensively renovated throughout
 - EPC Rating - D
- OIEO £340,000**

A beautiful detached Victorian villa with stunning views across Oban Bay. The property retains many of its original features and has been renovated to a high standard by the current owner. On the ground floor, the generous reception rooms to the front are bright spaces, bathed in natural light owing to the large sash windows and high ceilings. The bay window in the lounge is a delightful place to sit and enjoy the views towards Oban Bay and the islands of Kerrera and Mull.

GLENSPEAN PARK, ROY BRIDGE

- Detached Bungalow
 - 3 En-suite Bedrooms
 - Furnished
 - Available for Long Let
 - EPC Rating - D-62
 - LL REG 531702/270/17051
- PCM £1100**

Detached, fully furnished, three bedroom bungalow, in Roy Bridge, outside Fort William. Newly renovated to a very high standard with modern décor throughout. This beautiful detached house is located in Roy Bridge, just outside of Fort William. The accommodation comprises 3 en-suite bedrooms, lounge, dining area and fully fitted kitchen with utility room. Deposit and full references required. Available now.

BELLVUE APARTMENTS, OBAN

- Top Floor Flat
 - 2 Bedrooms
 - Unfurnished
 - Long Term Let
 - EPC Rating - G(8)
 - Landlord reg: 14397/130/10230
- PCM £580**

2 Bedroom, unfurnished top floor flat located in Oban Town Centre. The property comprises 2 spacious double bedrooms, kitchen, living room with views across Oban bay and modern bathroom with shower. One car parking space available with the property. Deposit and full references required. Available September.

BELLVUE APARTMENTS, OBAN

- Ground Floor Flat
 - 1 Bedroom / 1 Bathroom
 - Unfurnished
 - Long Term Let
 - EPC Rating - E(54)
 - Landlord reg: 43971/130/10230 / 14397/130/10390
- PCM £350**

One bedroom unfurnished flat with modern decor, located in Oban town centre. The accommodation comprises of 1 double bedroom, separate WC and shower rooms, open plan lounge & kitchen. The kitchen includes a built in hob & oven microwave, washing machine & fridge. Electric heating throughout. References and Deposit required. AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER

MCCALLS TERRACE, OBAN

- Semi Detached House
 - 2bed/2 bath
 - Long Term Let
 - Furnished
 - EPC Rating - 66
 - Landlord Registration Pending
- PCM £350**

Beautiful 2 bedroom, semi-detached house, located in a quiet cul-de-sac just a few minutes' walk from nearby supermarkets, train station and town centre. This main door house benefits from on-street car parking and a large garden to the rear of the property. Deposit and full references required. Viewings available w/c 14th August 2017.

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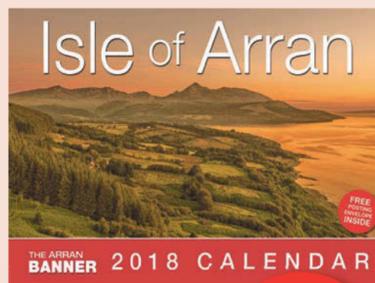


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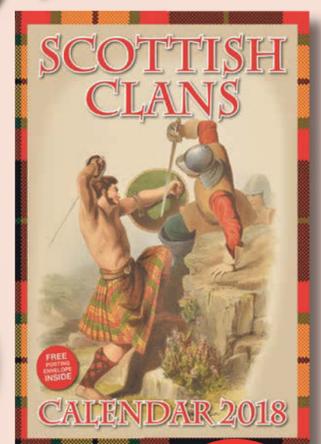
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If you would like to apply for this position please contact Jacqueline MacLeod, Head of Human Resources:

Integrated Freight Facility, Annat, Corpach, PH33 7NN T: 01397 773840 E: hr@fergusontransport.co.uk

RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT HIJOBS HIJOBS

North Argyll Eventide Home
Bealach an Rìgh, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG
We have a vacancy for **Senior Care Officer**, part-time permanent night duty post. Minimum qualifications SVQ level 3 in Health & Social Care. Ideally candidates should have experience in Care of the Elderly, £12.61 per hour.
For an application form contact manager Morag A Telfer. 01631 562168
Email info@northargyllhouse.org

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Application/CV by e-mail to lil@mkmacleod.co.uk



ARDFERN YACHT CENTRE LTD

We have some vacancies in our workshop team we are looking to fill. If you have an interest or knowledge of boats with skills that may be transferrable please ask for an application pack.

Boat Repair Technician - 2 Positions Available

With full order books we currently have two positions available within our Workshop Team for Boat Repair Technicians. Working as part of the team successful applicants would be undertaking a wide variety of repairs, including major structural repairs and cosmetic repairs of repair aboard yachts and motorboats. Applicants should ideally have experience of undertaking FRP & GRP structural and cosmetic repairs along with a basic knowledge of timber repairs. All relevant skills and experience from would be considered.

Riggers Mate

We have a position available within our on-site rigging team here at Ardfern. With two riggers on-site our rigging team undertake all types of rigging work as well as working closely with other parts of the team. Working alongside our existing rigging team the successful applicant would be provided with extensive 'on the job' training. Successful applicants should ideally have an interest in or previous experience of sailing in some capacity.

For further details on either position or to obtain an application pack please contact Mark Cameron on 01852 500 247 or email mark@ardfernyacht.co.uk

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Applications subject to PVG Scheme vetting.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013

Notice under Regulation 7(2)

Pre-application consultation by the prospective applicant

Formation and operation of a new silt storage and fresh water lagoon site and ancillary operations at Glensanda Quarry, Morvern, Oban, PA34 5QB

Yeoman Glensanda intends to apply to The Highland Council for planning permission for the creation and operation of a new silt storage site and fresh water lagoon including creation of up to 4 no. finger lagoons by the phased extraction of rock, the subsequent infilling with silt and ancillary operations, including creation of a new on-site access track, water pipes and electricity generation plant on land at Glensanda Quarry.

Yeoman Glensanda is committed to ensuring local stakeholders are kept fully informed of our plans with opportunities to learn more and comment on the proposals. Staff from Yeoman Glensanda will be available to provide further information at:

Community Consultation Drop-In Event
17th August 2017
4:00pm – 8:00pm
Lismore Public Hall, Lismore

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal or obtain further information should do so by Friday 25th August 2017 via attending the community consultation event, by emailing gareth.mills@aggregate.com or by writing to Gareth Mills, Yeoman Glensanda, Aggregate Industries UK Ltd, Trilogy 3, 21 Woodhall, Eurocentral, Holytown, Motherwell, ML1 4YT.

This notice does not relate to a planning application. Any comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the planning authority. If a planning application is subsequently submitted to The Highland Council, normal neighbour notification and publicity will be undertaken at that time and you will have the opportunity to make formal representations regarding the proposal at that time.

NOTICE OF DECISION

DP Marine Energy Limited

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 (AS AMENDED)

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED)

THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED)

Further to the notice that DP Marine Energy Limited, registered under company registration 456838 at Mill House, Buttevant, Co. Cork, Ireland, applied to the Scottish Ministers to construct and operate the West Islay Tidal Energy Park at 6Km off the south west coast of Islay, bounded by the points:

Project area

55° 39.61' N	006° 35.79' W	55° 38.89' N	006° 35.42' W
55° 39.21' N	006° 35.84' W	55° 38.85' N	006° 35.61' W
55° 39.15' N	006° 35.40' W	55° 38.82' N	006° 35.88' W
55° 39.47' N	006° 35.35' W	55° 39.47' N	006° 37.23' W
55° 39.45' N	006° 35.08' W	55° 39.72' N	006° 37.52' W
55° 39.45' N	006° 35.05' W	55° 40.02' N	006° 36.96' W
55° 38.94' N	006° 35.20' W	55° 39.63' N	006° 36.67' W

Cable route

55° 39.35' N	006° 35.26' W	55° 39.59' N	006° 22.68' W
55° 39.56' N	006° 35.08' W	55° 39.54' N	006° 19.40' W
55° 39.55' N	006° 33.20' W	55° 39.48' N	006° 16.78' W
55° 39.30' N	006° 31.11' W	55° 39.37' N	006° 15.71' W

The maximum capacity of the generating station will be 30 MW consisting of up to 30 tidal energy converters.

Notice is hereby given that DP Marine Energy Limited has been granted:

- consent under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989;
- a marine licence/s under section 20 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010

Copies of the decision notice together within the documents referred to above can be viewed online at any time at <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/scoping/DPMarineEnergy> or obtained by emailing: ms.marinerenewables@gov.scot or by writing to: The Scottish Government, Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB.

Copies have been forwarded to Argyll and Bute Council to be made available for public inspection on the planning register.



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

THE ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984
THE ACQUISITION OF LAND (AUTHORISATION PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1947
THE A82 TRUNK ROAD (CLIFTON CULVERT REPLACEMENT) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2017

Notice is hereby given that the Scottish Ministers, (hereinafter referred to as "the acquiring authority") in exercise of the powers conferred by the sections 103 to 108 inclusive of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 as read with section 110(2) of that Act, on the Second day of August Two Thousand and Seventeen, have made a Compulsory Purchase Order entitled "The A82 Trunk Road (Clifton Culvert Replacement) Compulsory Purchase Order 2017".

The Order as made provides for the purchase of the land described in the Schedule hereto, for the purpose of improving the A82 Dalnottar to Inverness Trunk Road, lying between Tyndrum and Bridge of Orchy in the vicinity of Clifton, Stirlingshire.

Copies of the Order and of the map referred have been deposited at the following offices and may be seen there without payment of fee from 9th August 2017 to 20th September 2017:-

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF, Stirling Council, Viewforth, Stirling, FK8 2ET, and The Village Store, George A Brodie and Co, Tyndrum, Criannarich, Stirlingshire, FK20 8RY during normal business hours.

The Order as made becomes operative on the Ninth day of August Two Thousand and Seventeen being the date on which this notice is first published; but a person aggrieved by the Order may, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 15 of the First Schedule to the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947, as extended by section 60 of the Lands Compensation (Scotland) Act 1973, by application to the Court of Session within 6 weeks from that date, question its validity on the grounds (i) that the authorisation granted by the Order is not empowered to be granted or (ii) that the applicant's interests have been substantially prejudiced by failure to comply with any statutory requirements relating to the Order.

The acquiring authority may acquire the land to which this notice relates by making a general vesting declaration under section 195 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. Such a declaration shall not be executed before the end of the period of two months beginning with the date of the first publication of this notice except with the consent of every occupier of the land affected. The effect of the making of such a declaration is to vest the land in the acquiring authority at the end of the appropriate period and is more fully explained in Form 8 (Statement to be included in Form 4 where a general vesting declaration is to be made) contained in the Schedule to the Compulsory Purchase of Land (Scotland) Regulations 2003. A copy of the said Regulations has also been deposited and may be seen as aforesaid.

Persons entitled to claim compensation in respect of any interest in the land are invited to give information with respect to their name and address and the land and their interest therein on the prescribed form, a copy of which will be sent by the acquiring authority on application to The Director, Trunk Road and Bus Operations, c/o Mark Paterson, Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF.

H D GILLIES
A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers
Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road,
GLASGOW G4 0HF
2nd August 2017

This is the Schedule referred to in the foregoing Notice relating to the A82 Trunk Road (Clifton Culvert Replacement) Compulsory Purchase Order 2017.

SCHEDULE

In this Schedule the plot references and areas referred to below correspond to those given in the Schedule and the map annexed to the A82 Trunk Road (Clifton Culvert Replacement) Compulsory Purchase Order 2017

Plot Nos	Land in the County of Stirling
1	890 square metres or thereby consisting of the solum and verge of the A82 Glasgow to Inverness, by way of Fort William, Trunk Road including the existing Clifton Culvert
2	84 square metres or thereby consisting of the verge, up to the masonry wall, lying to the north of the A82 Glasgow to Inverness, by way of Fort William, Trunk Road at Clifton Culvert and the bank and bed of the burn to the midway point to the west of the A82
3	195 square metres or thereby consisting of private garden, scrub/long grass/rough ground to the south of the A82 Glasgow to Inverness, by way of Fort William, Trunk Road at Clifton Culvert and the bank and bed of the burn to the midway point to the west of the A82
4	Not used
5	4 square metres or thereby consisting of private garden, scrub/long grass/rough ground to the south of the A82 Glasgow to Inverness, by way of Fort William, Trunk Road at Clifton Culvert

www.highland.gov.uk



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk> or electronically at your nearest Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a_to_z

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
17/03081/FUL	Land 500M SE of Otter Lodge, Acharacle	Erection of house, installation of septic tank and soakway, erection of garage with accommodation
17/03118/FUL	Land 100M West of Oakwood, Resipole, Strontian	Erection of 12m high telegraph pole; 2no antennas; 1no transmission dish; 2no ancillary equipment cabinets; fenced compound and associated ancillary equipment
17/03176/FUL	Land 1580M NW of Inversanda, Ardgour	Installation of 15m telecom tower, fenced compound and associated works
17/03393/FUL	Bothy, Kingie, Invergarry	Upgrade walkers' bothy
17/03475/FUL	Black Corries Estate, Glencoe, Ballachulish	Full planning application for EE telecommunications apparatus including a 10m high replica telegraph pole; 2no antennas; 1no transmission dishes; 2no equipment cabinets together with ancillary equipment; fenced compound.
17/03531/FUL	Achnacon, Glencoe, Ballachulish	Erection of 10m telegraph pole; 3no antennas; 1no transmission dish; 2no ancillary equipment cabinets; 5no bollards
17/03532/FUL	Nevis Range Ski Resort, Torlundy, Fort William	Installation of electricity cable from ski centre building to mobile phone mast equipment building
17/03547/FUL	Land 390M NW of Drimnin House, Drimnin	Erection of a 2m high telecommunications pole and an associated telecoms cabinet
17/03557/FUL	Land 150M South of Dal-Ghom, Ardtoe, Acharacle	Construction of a new house, access and outbuilding

Time period for comments is 14 days
 ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
 Email: epanning@highland.gov.uk

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 -13:30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
17/01944/PPP	Variation of Condition 3 (ii) relative to planning permission in principle reference 16/01712/PPP (Site for the erection of 4 dwellings) to omit the requirement for a footway and the retention of a 2 metre wide strip along the frontage of the site instead	Land South Of Woodend Glenclruitten Road Oban Argyll And Bute	Oban Area Office
17/01964/PP	Erection of log cabin for business purposes	Eas A Mhuilinn Kilmelford Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4XA	Sub Post Office Kilmelford
17/01976/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse with attached holiday letting annex	Land South East Of Fonn Aline Aros Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
17/01945/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and garage (retrospective) amended scheme to planning permission 16/01224/PP	Land East Of Gortanachuirn Farm (Plot 2) Bruichladdich Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA49 7UN	Sub Post Office Port Charlotte
17/02006/PPP	Renewal of planning permission 14/01462/PPP (Site for the erection of 3 dwellings)	Land North East Of Dunmhairi Kilchrenan Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Tainuitt
17/01965/PP	Change of use from dwelling to fitness and beauty studio (retrospective).	Iona View Scanish Isle Of Tiree Argyll And Bute PA77 6UH	Tiree Area Office
17/02048/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and installation of sewage treatment plant	Plot 1 Land West Of Cuin Beag Dervaig Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Dervaig
17/02054/PP	Erection of holiday unit, installation of private drainage system and formation of vehicular access	Land West Of Barranrioch Mews Glenclruitten Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4QB	Oban Area Office
17/01216/PP	Change of use of land to form additional car parking area for existing garage business and relocation of existing fence	Land At Unit 1 Crannog Lane Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4HB	Oban Area Office

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/fin-d-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

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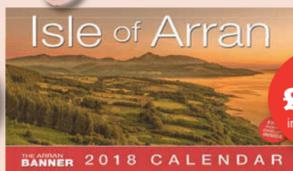


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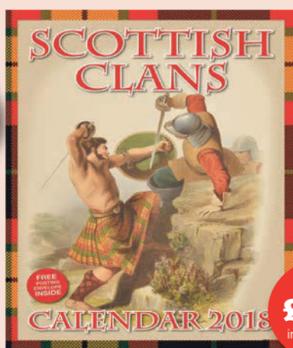
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Argyll and Bute Council
DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (THE ARGYLLSHIRE GATHERING, OBAN) (TEMPORARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) ORDER 2017

On Monday 7th August 2017, Argyll and Bute Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 62 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, made the above named Order the effect of which will be that for a temporary period, for the purpose of facilitating a free flow of traffic for the duration of the Argyllshire Gathering, Oban Games, no person shall cause or permit a vehicle to wait on any of the lengths of road indicated in the schedule below.

The restrictions imposed by this Order, which are desirable because of considerations of public safety and convenience during the event, will be in operation between 0800 and 1800 hours on the 24th August 2017.

SCHEDULE - NO WAITING AT ANY TIME/NO LOADING AT ANY TIME

Name of Road in Oban	Extent of Restriction
Glenclruitten Road	On both sides between Soroba Road and the access road to the Golf Club
Mossfield Avenue	On both sides between Glenclruitten Road and Glenclruitten Drive
Quarry Road	On both sides from Glenclruitten Road for a distance of 30 metres or thereby.
Mossfield Drive	On both sides from Glenclruitten Road for a distance of 30 metres or thereby.

Contravention of the Order, which may be inspected at the Argyll & Bute Council Offices, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, could result in a penalty of up to £500.

Jim Smith, Head of Roads & Amenity Services, 1A Manse Brae, LOCHGILPHEAD, PA31 8RD.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
 Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



Proposed Assignment of a Grazings Share

Duncan Black is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to assign the grazings shares pertaining to the croft at No. 7 Port Ramsay, Isle of Lismore PA34 5UN to David Lamont Elder Wilson, of 2 Port Ramsay, Isle of Lismore PA34 5UN.

If you have an interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW (e-mail info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk) within 28 days from the date of publication of this advert.

Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry.

DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

S Teo
 132 Kilmory,
 Ardnamurchan &
 Sunart
 81574
 0.107 ha
 Reason - Existing
 croft house site &
 garden ground
 Condition - With
 fencing

Full details at www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk



THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL (B849 LOCHALINE - DRIMNIN) (30MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Highland Council proposes to make an Order in terms of Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 entitled as above, to improve the general safety of all road users.

When the Order comes into effect a 30 mph speed limit will apply on the B849 Lochaline-Drimnin road commencing at a point 16 metres south of a property called 'Fasgadh', extending in a northerly direction to the end of the public road, a distance of 1070 metres or thereby.

Copies of the proposed Order, as drafted, together with a copy of the relevant plan, and a copy of the Authority's Statement of Reasons for proposing to make the Order, can be inspected at Community Services (Roads Department), Carr's Corner Industrial Estate, Fort William and the Service Point, High Street, Fort William during normal opening hours.

Any person wishing to object to the proposed Order should write to the undersigned specifying the Order to which objection is being made, and the grounds of the objection. All letters of objection must be received by the undersigned not later than Monday 4th September 2017

10th August 2017
 Richard Porteous, Roads Operations Manager,
 Carr's Corner Industrial Estate, FORT WILLIAM
 PH33 6TL

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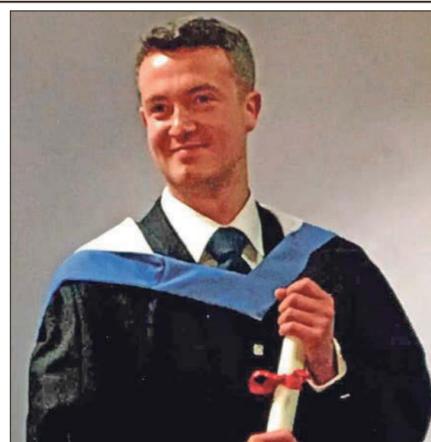
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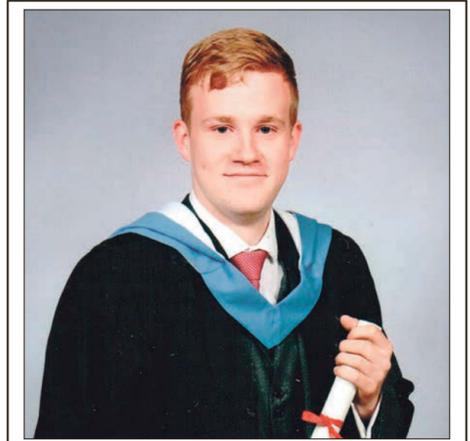
THOMAS BARBOUR
graduated from University of Strathclyde with BA (Hons) 2:1 degree in Marketing. Thomas, younger son of Brian and Lorna Barbour, Fort William and grandson of Richard and Joan Baldwin, Oban and the late Billy and Betty Barbour, Caol. He is a former pupil of Inverlochty and Lochaber High Schools.



AMELIA INGLIS
Graduated from the University of York and the University of Illinois with BA first class honours in Sociology with Criminology. Daughter of James and Sally Inglis, Amelia is a former pupil of Kilniver Primary School, Strathallan School and Tring Park School for performing arts.



JOHN MURCHIE
Congratulations to John Murchie, Isle of Arran graduating from Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh with a master in Civil engineering. Great grandson of Tommy Ferguson.



JAMES BUCHANAN
Graduated from Strathclyde University with a BA (Hons) 2:1 in Marketing and Business Law. James is the eldest son of Hamish and Carolyn Buchanan, Benderloch, grandson of Norrie and Carol MacMillan, North Connel and the late Duncan and Jean Buchanan, Shenavallie.

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GOLDEN WEDDING

YOUNG – MORRISON – Wallace and Eilidh were married on August 8, 1967 in Dervaig Parish Church by the late Rev A D MacRae and Rev Bremner.

DEATHS

CLEAVE - At Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on August 8, 2017, aged 85 years, Colin C. Cleave, beloved husband to Anne, a dear father and grandfather. Forever loved, forever remembered.

FARMER - Suddenly but peacefully, at home 8b Longdale Terrace, Oban, in his 51st year, Andrew James, (Bear), son of the late Anne McQuade and step son of John McQuade and brother of Tony. Will be sadly missed.

JACKSON - Peacefully, surrounded by the loving staff at Lynn of Lorne Nursing Home on Tuesday August 1, 2017, Christina Jackson (née Rankin). Widow of Jack Jackson.

MACCOLL - Peacefully and surrounded by family at Bowman Court, Craignure on August 1, 2017, Donnie MacColl, formerly of Grouse Cottage, Fanmore in his 96th year, dearly beloved husband of Jeannie, loving father of Heather, Angus, Dondie, Sheena and Rona, adored Seanair of his 13 grandchildren and precious Sinn Seanair of his 10 great-grandchildren. Sorely missed by many. Service of Celebration of Donnie's life took place in Salen and Ulva Parish Church followed by interment in Pennygown Cemetery on August 8, 2017.

MACDONALD - Suddenly, at home on Saturday August 5, 2017 Johnnie Ruadh, Achaphuil. Much loved and will be sadly missed by Teen, Gordon, Lauren and Beth. Funeral Service to be held on Tuesday August 15, 2017 at 12 noon in St. John's R.C Church Caol; thereafter to Kilmallie cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Invernevis House Care Home can be given at the church door or forwarded to John McLellan Funeral Directors, Dudley Road, Fort William.

MACINNES - Peacefully at home, with her two girls by her side on Tuesday August, 1, 2017, Mary (née Speirs), beloved wife of the late Hamish, dearly loved mum of Catherine and Rosemary and mother-in-law

to Tom and the late Andrew. The most loving LaLa to Mary, Iain Hamish, Fergus, Ruairidh, Katie and Charlotte and a dear and close friend to Vic. Mary will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. The funeral service was held on Tuesday August 8, 2017.

MACKINNON - Suddenly but peacefully at home on August 4, 2017, aged 69 years, Alastair MacKinnon, beloved husband of Janet, a dear brother to Maureen and 'Mac' and uncle to Coinneach and Cairiona. Sadly missed.

MACLEAN - Colin Hector, Colin, formerly from Meikle, Perthshire and the youngest son of the late Donald and Christine Maclean (Meikle and Isle of Eigg) died peacefully in his sleep at Okehampton Community Hospital on August 7, 2017 aged 57 years. Colin will be so very missed by all his family and friends. Service to take place at St Paul's Chapel, Exeter Crematorium on August 22 at 1pm with a wake to follow in Okehampton. Family flowers only please and any donations to go to Hospiscare via Funeral Directors. All enquiries and donations please enquire to: The Co-operative Funeralcare, 9 East Street, Okehampton, EX20 1AS Tel: 01837 52847.

STEVENSON - Margaret, aged 93, passed peacefully at the Lynn of Lorne Care Home on Thursday August 3, 2017.

VENNARD - Peacefully at home with her family, on August 2, 2017, aged 67 years, Stella, beloved wife of the late Frederick Vennard 'Freddie Fly', a much loved mum, granny and great-granny. Sadly missed.

WRIGHT - Peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family, on August 7, 2017, aged 68 years, Lexy (formerly McLaughlin), adored wife of George Wright, much loved mum to Bruce, Hazel, Paula, Steven and Melissa and beloved Nannie to Alana, Ryan, Dylan and Liam. Funeral will take place at Oban Parish Church, Glencruitten Road, Oban on Tuesday August 15 at 1.00pm, thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CAMPBELL - The family of the late Cathy Campbell would like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages at this very

sad time. A special thank you to the medical staff for all their help over the last few years. Thanks also to the Reverend Dugald Cameron, Catriona and everyone at Hoeyes and to all who attended the church service. The collection for Marie Curie Cancer Care raised £247.20.

MEMORIAMS

ALLAN - In loving memory of my mother Cathie, who passed away August 12, 1977, aged 54. Always in my thoughts. - John.

DEMPSTER - Margaret (née 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. - C.x P.S. Thank you for all the rainbows my friend.

DIGNAN - In loving memory of my mother Grace. Loving and kind in all her ways Upright and just till the end of her days Sincere and true in her heart and mind Beautiful memories she left behind Still loved and missed. - Andrew and family.

MACCALLUM - In loving memory of The Very Rev Norman Donald MacCallum who died on July 31, 2016. Sadly missed husband, dad, father-in-law, grandpa and brother.

MACEWAN - In loving memory of Charles who died suddenly on August 12, 1997, age 30. If memories bring us closer We are never far apart For you are always in our thoughts And forever in our hearts Missed every day - Mum and all the family

MACINNES - 1st anniversary. Precious memories of our beloved mum, granny and great-granny Peggy, who sadly died on August 13, 2016. Thank you for the years we shared The love you gave, the way you cared Deep in our hearts your memory is kept Too dearly loved to ever forget Love and miss you always - Your loving family Eriskay and Oban.

MACKECHNIE - In loving memory of my beloved husband Angus, who died August 11, 2005. Also remembering loved ones and friends no longer with us. Time passes memories stay Quietly remembered every day. - Grace.

MACKECHNIE - In loving memory of Angus a dear brother, brother-in-law and uncle, who passed away at Killin on August 11, 2005. Sadly missed. - MacKechnie Family, Balfour, Kilmalie, Oban and Fort William.

MACINNES – DOUGLAS - In memory of our beloved daughter Eilidh MacInnes, who passed away August 9, 2014, aged 44. Sad are the hearts that love you Silent the tears that fall Living our lives without you Is the saddest part of all From you loving Mum and Dad xx, brother Roddy xx and family xx

MACLACHLAN - Treasured memories of a loving mum and gran Fodie, who died August 11, 2016. If memories bring us closer We are never far apart You are always in our thoughts Forever in our hearts - Christine and Alasdair, Blairgowrie and Steven and Alison, Muir of Ord.

NICHOLSON - Treasured memories of dad Malcolm, died August 11, 2001. Forever in our thoughts Sadly missed. - The Nicholson family.

POTTER - Treasured memories of a dear husband, father and Danda, Thomas Potter, who died at An Airigh, Dalmailly on August 15, 1980. Loved and remembered always by his wife Catherine and family.

SCOTT - In loving memory of Donald, who passed away August 15, 2011. Time rolls on, but memories last, no longer in our lives but always in our hearts, loved and remembered every day. - Mum, Archie, Fiona, Calum and families.

STEELE - In loving memory of my precious son James, who was taken from me so tragically on August 8, 2011. In my heart you will always stay Loved and remembered every day - Mum xx

STEELE - To our beloved fiancé and daddy James, who was taken from us on August 8, 2011. In our thoughts every day In our hearts forever Love always - Michelle, Megan and Jamie. xxx

Oban Times
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Retired Bishop publishes fourth book at age of 91

THE FORMER Bishop of Galloway, Bishop Maurice Taylor, has published a book on the Sunday Gospels, written to provide information, explanation and reflection, and designed to be used by individuals or groups in scriptural discussion and analysis.



Bishop Taylor said: 'This book is an attempt on my part to respond to the call to share the gift of faith which God has given to me. It is a kind of companion to an earlier book of mine *What Are They Talking About?*. 'I hope it provides information, explanation, reflection, suggestion, resolution. It may be useful, therefore, for individual or communal lectio divina, for small groups' discussion, for homily preparation or for anyone interested in spending more time with the weekly gospel reading, either before or after hearing it read at Sunday mass.' Endorsing the book, the present Bishop

of Galloway, Bishop William Nolan, said: 'Once again Bishop Maurice Taylor blends his love of liturgy, his years of pastoral experience and his sharp mind in producing a book which will enhance the celebration of Sunday mass by making the gospel readings more understandable and relevant to many.'

Thought for the week

'To set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace' - Romans 8:6

Light on Korea

Many people are alarmed at North Korea's nuclear and missile programmes and the threats of its leader, Kim Jong-un. But are we aware of Korea's past? At the end of the 19th century, an isolated Korea became the centre of wars between its powerful neighbours, China, Russia and Japan. This resulted in Japanese occupation from 1910 until 1945. In the final days of the Second World War, Russian troops advanced from the north and the Americans from the south, dividing the nation. The Korean War, 1950-1953, between North and South, left many dead and Korea's infrastructure devastated. Despite the suffering, Christianity in Korea grew. 1903 marked the start of the Great Korean Revival. Two lady missionar-

ies began prayer meetings at the northern port of Wonsan.

At a Bible conference, a Scottish-Canadian doctor, Robert A Hardie, confessed, with surprising candour for that time, his pride, hardness of heart and lack of faith. Striking a chord with the suffering Koreans, this opened the floodgates.

The Holy Spirit came with great power and many Koreans repented before the Lord. Further revival occurred in the capital Pyongyang, and 14 million Koreans are now Christians.

Two ways are open for Korea's future – military might or the spirit of peace. Let us pray for the peaceful unification of Korea and for deliverance of Christians in North Korea.

David James, Glencruitten House.

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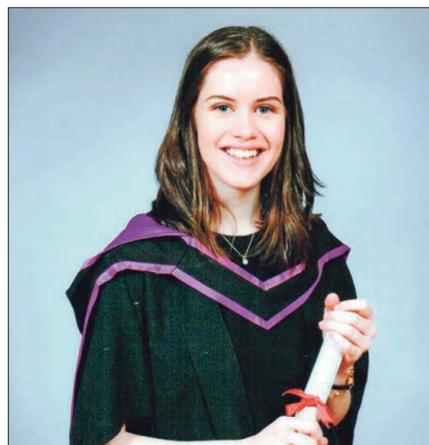
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GRADUATIONS



LEANNE HARRIS
Graduated with a PhD in Psychological Medicine. Leanne is a former pupil of Lochnell Primary School and Oban High School. Currently employed at the University of Glasgow Institute of Mental Health and Wellbeing.



MAIRI BEATON
Graduated from Glasgow University with MA Hons in Gaelic and History of Art. She is the youngest daughter of James and Jenny Beaton, Oban. Mairi is a former pupil of Rockfield Primary and Oban High School.



CATHERINE MACFARLANE
Graduated from Strathclyde University with a BSc (Hons) in Sport and Physical Activity. Daughter of John and Cathie MacFarlane, Oban and granddaughter of the late Donnie and Helen MacFarlane, Oban and the late Ruairidh MacLeod, Islay. Catherine is a former pupil of Rockfield Primary and Oban High School.



FIONA STEWART
Graduated from Dundee University with a MA in Primary Education. Fiona is the daughter of Murdo and Pamela Stewart, Linlithgow and granddaughter of Ina and the late Murdie Stewart, Oban.

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Saints are Argyll and Bute Cup winners

AFTER 200 minutes of football in wind, rain and scorching sunshine Oban Saints emerged victorious from this year's Argyll and Bute Cup in Lochgilphead.

The tournament was once again arranged by Lochgilphead Red Star who were excellent hosts for the popular eight-team event.

Taking part this year were cup holders Dunoon, last year's runners-up Oban Saints, tournament regulars Tarbert, hosts Lochgilphead Red Star, Glasgow Islay, who were returning for a second year, and debutants Neilston, Tannahill and South Lochaber Thistle.

The day began in rather inauspicious circumstances for Saints when manager Alex Craik lost the keys to the minibus sparking a frantic hunt for the spare set which thankfully were found in the nick of time.

The 14 available senior players were complemented in a sizable squad by youngsters Nathan Allan, Kenneth Black, Gavin Forgive, Ruairidh Horne and Cameron Kerr.

However a last minute call-off from Craig MacEwan and an early injury for Craig Campbell left the Gaffer to rely far more heavily on the five youth team players than he had planned.

As the day progressed any concerns that the management may have had regarding the youngsters' ability to cope in the company of considerably more experienced players were dispelled with all five excelling in a variety of roles.

Group sections

Saints were drawn in group two on the 3G at Lochgilphead Joint Campus and kicked off against Dunoon Amateurs to whom they had lost out in last year's final. The omens weren't good when Saints conceded a ninth-minute opener to a tidy finish from Dunoon's Connor McClymont, quickly followed by Craig Campbell's departure with a thigh strain.

However Saints rallied and leveled after 16 minutes, with Fraser MacFarlane finding the bottom corner from a Cameron Kerr cross after the young striker had been played in by Willie Gemmell.

More injury worries arrived on the stroke of half-time when Craig Campbell's replacement Daniel Croarkin also suffered a thigh strain while making a timely interception to deny Kevin MacKenzie a clear sight of goal.

Fortunately the half-time interval also coincided with the arrival of experienced reinforcements Donald Campbell, Marc Maccallum and Scott Maitland who helped Saints gain the upper hand in the second half.

Donald Campbell saw a lovely turn and shot from the 18-yard line which was saved by the keeper. With just two minutes remaining Gemmell threaded a killer pass through to Matthew Kelly who, before the keeper had time to set himself, fired a low shot into the bottom corner from 25 yards giving Saints a winning start to the group stage.

Over at Ropework Park group one opened with the local derby match between Lochgilphead Red Star and Tarbert. The Dookers suffered a torrid 2016-17 season losing all but one of their league matches, so full credit to all involved at the club for keeping things going in such

difficult circumstances.

The much deserved change in fortune for Tarbert will, however, have to wait a while longer as their Loch Fyne neighbours Red Star ran out comfortable 3-0 winners through goals from Martin Bonar, Ryan Caskie and Ciaran McPhie.

Following the Loch Fynesiders onto the well prepared if slightly heavy grass park were Glasgow Islay and South Lochaber Thistle where the exiled Ieach defeated the Kinlochleven men by the odd goal in three.

While Saints were taking a breather another local derby was played out on the 3G. Scottish Amateur Football League Premier Division One outfit Neilston saw off Tannahill of the Paisley and District Amateur Football Association Premier Division by three goals to nil. A first minute opener from David Brannigan was added to in the second half by two successfully



Matty Kelly celebrates scoring the winning goal in the final.

converted penalty kicks from Robbie Cameron.

The Tannahill men were pitched straight back into action on the 3G against a Saints side who quickly stamped their mark on the game, with Donald Campbell netting a first hat-trick. Two goals from young Cameron Kerr and another from Campbell in the second half sealed a comfortable 6-0 win.

With progress to the semi-finals now assured, Saints took advantage of a two-game break to re-fuel before their final group match.

Over at the Ropework Lochgilphead Red Star booked their place in the semis with a narrow win over Glasgow Islay courtesy of a lone Ciaran McPhie strike. Also on the grass, South Lochaber Thistle and Tarbert played out the highest scoring match of the day averaging a goal every four minutes as the Kinlochleven men notched seven goals to the Dookers' three.

Immediately following their thriller against South Lochaber Thistle, Tarbert were straight back into action against Glasgow Islay with the Ieachs running out comfortable 3-0 winners to clinch a place in the semi-finals as group one runners-up.

The final group one match at the Ropework was an entertaining 2-2 draw between already confirmed group winners Lochgilphead Red Star and third placed South Lochaber Thistle.

During Saints two match break Neilston confirmed their place in the semi's defeating Scottish Amateur Football League Premier Division One rivals Dunoon by three goals to nil. On target for Neilston were Robbie Cameron and David



Oban Saints pictured after defeating Lochgilphead Red Star in the final of the Argyll & Bute Cup.

Brannigan with two. With their hopes of a successful defence of the cup now over, Dunoon gained the minor consolation of finishing group two in third place with a 2-1 win over Tannahill thanks to goals from Kevin MacKenzie and Connor McClymont. Craig Jack netted for the Paisley side.

The final group two match would then be a decider between Saints and Neilston to decide who would go through as group winners. Saints were in pole position thanks to a slightly superior goal difference and therefore had only to avoid defeat to confirm top spot.

Saints made a shaky start to the group decider and had Graham Douglas to thank for a smart save from a second minute free-kick. The score remained 0-0 at the interval.

Neilston began the second half on top and once again Graham Douglas made a vital save after Saints had conceded possession cheaply in the middle of the park. Manager Alex Craik decided to push for the win and freshened things up by replacing Cameron Kerr and Matthew Kelly with Donald Campbell and 14-year-old Gavin Forgive.

The substitutes along with Fraser MacFarlane and Keith Millar were heavily involved in the breakthrough goal in the 33rd minute. A lovely flowing move through the midfield saw Donald Campbell pick out Keith Millar's run through the inside left channel into the box. Millar then delivered a perfect cut back for Campbell who passed the ball into the bottom corner beyond the despairing left hand of keeper Fulton.

Referee Peter Laing, who performed well as a late replacement for John Stobo who had to rush away to a Celine Dion concert, awarded Saints a free-kick on the edge of the D after a foul on Donald Campbell. Willie Gemmell's eye was now in and he curled a delightful finish round the five man Neilston wall and past the well beaten goalkeeper to seal Saints progress as group winners.

Semi-finals

In the first semi-final on the grass at the Ropework Group One winners Lochgilphead Red Star faced Group Two runners-up Neilston. The tournament hosts opened the scoring on the stroke of half-time with a Kieran Moore free-kick. Neilston hit back after the interval when Red Star keeper Ben Pollock could only parry a David Brannigan free-kick and Michael Green followed up to bundle the ball into the net.

With the prospect of penalty kicks looming Red Star struck a killer blow in the final minute. Ciaran McPhie had a good ef-

fort turned behind for a corner kick by Neilston keeper Fulton. However the Neilston defence was breached from the corner when Kevin Keen found space at the near post to volley home from close range and send the hosts through to the final.

Semi-final two was between group two winners Oban Saints and group one runners-up Glasgow Islay. Saints were quickly into their stride with Gemmell testing the keeper's handling with a dipping shot inside the first minute. The Glasgow Islay keeper passed that test with flying colours but spilled an identical effort from Gemell just 60 seconds later.

Cameron Kerr was quickly onto the loose ball and, despite the keeper making a good save from his initial effort, kept his cool to nod the ball over the line to establish an early lead for Saints.

Saints doubled their lead after 12 minutes. Gemmell picked out Scott Maitland on the left wing and continued his run into the box heading Scott's cross into the path of Cameron Kerr



Manager Alex Craik with the Argyll and Bute Cup.

who nodded the bouncing ball beyond the keeper and into the net.

Saints Gaffer Alex Craik made three changes at half-time withdrawing Jamie Graham, Matthew Kelly and Cameron Kerr in favour of David Smith, Gavin Forgive and Donald Campbell. Donald made an instant impact latching onto a measured pass from fellow substitute Gavin Forgive and beating the keeper at his near post from an acute angle to cement his position as the tournament's leading goalscorer.

Fraser MacFarlane opened up the Glasgow Islay defence in the 34th minute sending Donald Campbell through on goal. Donald was sent wide of goal but rounded the keeper and sent a cut-back across the face of goal where it was turned into the net by a retreating defender before it could reach Cameron Kerr coming in at the back post. Kerr did manage to seal his hat-trick in the final minute latching onto a Scott Maitland pass after more good work from



Saints goalkeeper Graham Douglas comes to collect a corner during the final against Red Star.

Gavin Forgive to lash the ball into the roof of the net sealing a convincing 5-0 win for Saints

Final

Only 20 minutes later than the scheduled 5pm kick-off time, Lochgilphead Red Star and Oban Saints lined up in still scorching hot sunshine for the final of the 2017 Argyll and Bute Cup.

Referee Pat O'Donnell was assisted by Jimmy Litster and Jim Pearson who, together with Peter Laing and John Stobo would later receive the grateful thanks of tournament organiser Douglas Moore at the presentation ceremony in the Stag Hotel. Saints captain Marc MacCallum had better luck at the coin toss and elected to shoot up the Ropework slope in the first half also harnessing the slight wind advantage.

Inside the opening minute Saints were denied what appeared to be a decent penalty shout when Fraser MacFarlane was upended in the Red Star Box. Mr O'Donnell however decided the tackle was fair and instead awarded a corner kick much to the chagrin of the Saints bench. The corner kick came to nothing as was the case two minutes later after Ben Pollock had turned a Matthew Kelly shot around his right hand post. Pollock again saved well after four minutes when Donald Campbell connected at the back post with a Kerr cross from the right.

Red Star made their first foray forward in the seventh minute winning a corner kick on the right which Saints keeper Graham Douglas held well under pressure.

After the bright start from Saints the hosts stepped things up a gear making good use of long throw-ins to heap pressure on the Saints defence which refused to buckle.

On the quarter hour mark Fraser MacFarlane skipped away from his marker on the Saints right and sent a tantalising low ball across the six-yard

box agonisingly out of reach for Scott Maitland racing in at the back post.

Red Star came close before the half-time interval twice sending shots wide of the post handing the initiative to Saints who would have the benefit of the slope in the second half.

Manager Alex Craik brought on Gavin Forgive to replace Fraser MacFarlane for the start of the second half with Cameron Kerr moving forward to join Donald Campbell in attack.

The two quickly combined from a Willie Gemmell pass with Kerr directing Campbell's cut-back on target only to see his effort well saved by Ben Pollock.

Opposite number Graham Douglas produced another fine save to deny Kieran Moore before Saints dealt Red Star a killer blow in the 25th minute.

Donald Campbell threaded a pass through the inside right channel for Matthew Kelly who rifled a shot into the bottom corner past Ben Pollock's left hand.

With 15 minutes remaining there was still plenty of time remaining for Red Star to conjure an equaliser but try as they might they couldn't find a way through a resolute Saints defence.



Four of the Saints teenagers who impressed during the tournament - Kenny Black, Nathan Allan, Cammy Kerr and Ruairidh Horne.

Football

Twice Red Star sent free-kicks from dangerous positions crashing into the Saints wall with their principal set piece menace coming from long throws which Willie Gemmell and Jamie Graham in particular did well to repel.

In the dying seconds Red Star were almost rewarded for their perseverance, however Graham Douglas was in no mood to see his solitary goal against tally added to and pulled off a stunning point blank save to deny Keiran Moore with virtually the last kick of the regulation 40 minutes.

Mr O'Donnell allowed a generous amount of added time which Saints saw out comfortably to win the Argyll and Bute Cup for the 12th time.

Despite the tournament being principally about preparation for the season ahead, Saints manager Alex Craik will be delighted to have secured the silverware and in particular the performance of the youngsters in the squad.

Saints begin their Scottish Amateur Football League Premier Division campaign away at Hillington this Saturday followed by a home fixture against Motherwell Thistle.



It was a long and tiring day for the players as Jamie Graham, Scott Maitland and Matty Kelly have a wee snooze between games.

Hard-fought win for Saints in pre-season friendly

Oban Saints	4
Lochgilphead Red Star	2
Pre-season friendly	

OBAN Saints and close neighbours Lochgilphead Red Star warmed up for the Argyll and Bute Cup tournament with a keenly contested friendly at Glen-cruitten last Wednesday evening.

Despite not firing on all cylinders, Saints raced into an early lead notching three goals inside the opening 30 minutes.

A lofted 10th minute Willie Gemmell free-kick from the Saints picked out the back post run of Paul Carmichael who from four yards headed back across Ben Pollock in the Red Star goal and into the bottom corner of the net.

Two minutes later a smart turn in the box gave last season's top scorer Craig MacEwan the space to crash a left foot shot into the roof of the net and double the home side's advantage.

Saints also came close through Paul Carmichael, Gemmell, Fraser MacFarlane and Dean Smith before MacEwan doubled his tally for the evening.

A Matthew Kelly free-kick from the Saints right on the half hour mark was flicked on by Carmichael to MacEwan on the left of the box who rifled a similar finish to his earlier strike past keeper Pollock to make the half time score 3-0.

Red Star started the second half the more positive of the two and within five minutes of the re-start hauled themselves back into contention with a smart

Ciaran McPhie finish after good work on the right by Rab Docherty.

The revitalised visitors appeared a far better proposition now, with Saints struggling to shake off the lethargy which had set in towards the end of the first half.

In the 55th minute Marc Maccallum and Carmichael made way for Craig Campbell, who was making a welcome return after a lengthy spell on the sidelines, and young Keir MacLean making his debut for the senior Saints team.

Saints Gaffer Alex Craik handed debuts to Cameron Kerr, another of Saints promising youngsters, and former Saints youth player David Smith who returns to club to make a long overdue senior debut. Making way for the new arrivals were Willie Gemmell and Dean Smith.

The hosts were still adjusting to the changes when Red Star carved out another opportunity on the left which this time they converted, with McPhie sliding in at the near post to knock the ball past Graham Douglas.

The prospect of losing a three-goal lead to their closest neighbours finally generated a positive response from Saints who struck again in the 75th minute.

Scott Maitland's tenacity won back possession deep inside the Red Star half and wide on the right. Maitland linked up well with MacEwan and Keir MacLean, and swung in a cross towards the back post. The unmarked Fraser MacFarlane headed back across the face of goal for MacLean to nod home a debut goal from one yard out to make the final score 4-2 for the Oban side.

Accies win Oban Saints youth tournament

OBAN Saints youths held their annual tournament sponsored by Oban Joinery Services at Glencruitten Parks last Sunday. Like their senior counterparts, the youths were hit by late call-offs from Dumbarton, Ross County and Queens Park, but thanks go to Lochgilphead Red Star for taking part at short notice.

Youth football

Tournament winners were Hamilton Accies, who have won the competition eight years in a row. Oban Saints finished in a creditable second place.

A special mention should go to a very young Morton team who were excellent all day.

Results: Oban Saints 1, Fort William 0; Hamilton Accies 4, Lochgilphead Red Star 0; Morton 3, Fort William 3; Oban Saints 0, Hamilton Accies 3; Lochgilphead Red Star 1, Morton 6; Fort William 1, Hamilton Accies 6; Oban Saints 8, Lochgilphead Red Star 0, Hamilton Accies 2, Morton 0; Oban Saints 0, Morton 0; Fort William 3, Lochgilphead Red Star 1.

Thanks go to Oban Electrical Services for supplying the footballs for the tournament and to the referees John Scott, Martin Rae and Jimmy Litster.

The various trophies were handed over the Oban Saints youth committee men Mark Anderson and John Scott.



The Oban Saints player of the tournament was Garry McIvor.



The victorious Hamilton Accies squad. Photos: Kevin McGlynn

Right: Oban Saints defender Ellis Hunter gets a sliding tackle in on Lochgilphead Red Star's Ciaran Gibson while Keiron Lopez gets back to cover.



Oban Saints pictured with their coaches finished in second place. Photo: Yvonne MacKechnie



John McMaster, left, the former Aberdeen player was at the tournament to watch his grandson Liam playing for Morton and the former Hearts, Celtic and Scotland midfielder Paul Hartley was also in Oban to watch his son Regan play for Hamilton Accies.



Killin

GENTS Open: held on Saturday August 5. Scratch: The Davies Trophy 1 Aiden McCuish (Glencruitten) 69; 2 Kenny Campbell (Prestonfield) 71 BIH; 3 Graham MacColl (Glencruitten) 71.

Handicap: The Melia Quach - 1 David MacVicar (Glencruitten) 59; 2 Lee Douglas (Killin) 61; 3 Tony Johnstone (Killin) 63 BIH;

Longest drive: category one (9th) - Gavin Dott (Kenmore); category two (7th) - Graham Herd (Killin)

Nearest the pin: category one (8th and 17th) - Bruce Ford (Crieff); category two (5th and 14th) - D MacVicar (Glencruitten). All in 2 (6th) - A McCuish (Glencruitten)

The Wee Claret Jug: (best local overall) - Lee Douglas 61.

Magic 2s: John Plunkett (Glencruitten) x2; Graham MacColl (Glencruitten) x2; Martin Tait (Glencruitten); D MacVicar (Glencruitten); Andy Burns (Leven Thistle); Kerr Butterworth (Killin); John R Cowan (Taymouth Castle); J Livingstone (Dalmally); Kenny Campbell (Prestonfield); R D Lewis (Killin) x2; Ross Ronald (Killin); Paul Melia (Killin); Bruce Ford (Crieff); Graham Herd (Killin). CSS - home 65; visitors 67.

Taynuilt

LADIES' club championship third round and medal: scratch - 1 Mairead Sim. 82; 2 Fiona McGlynn 89; 3 Carol MacLarty 93;

Medal - 1 Susan Cameron. 101-36-65; 2 Mairead Sim 82-16-66; 3 Fiona McGlynn 89-17-72.

Gents' medal played at Taynuilt on July 19 - 1 Mark Grant 79-13=66; 2 Rob Graham 83-14=69; 3 Mark Henriksen 79-07=72.

British Heart mixed competition - 1 Jim Carmichael and Anne MacCalman 36 points; 2 Robert and Carol MacLarty 32 points; 3 David and Hilary Currie 28 points.

Club championship fourth

round and medal played on Sunday August 6 - 1 James McLean 78-20=58; 2 Mark Cringean 80-19=61; 3 Calum Munro 72-8=64.

Congratulations to David Howie on winning the club championship scratch and handicap competitions. Congratulations also to James McLean on winning the gents' 55 and championship.

Tarbert

THE WOMEN of Tarbert Golf Club braved high winds and heavy rain over the weekend of July 29 and 30 to participate in their club championship.

The winner of the 36-hole club championship, played over two days, was Seona Martin with a gross 174 over the 36 holes. Seona's gross score of 88 on the Saturday was particularly impressive, given the wild and wet conditions.

Helen Samborek won the Handicap Cup, playing steadily over the 36 holes, with a spectacular pitch on the Sunday onto the 16th green, hitting the flag pole and landing in the hole for a par.

Sheena Ferguson came second in the championship, with Angela Vernel second in the handicap competition.

Tobermory

SCORES from the 36-hole Tobermory Open. Scratch scores for the MacBrayne Cup 1 William MacCrone 143; 2 Fraser MacKinnon 146; 3 Lewis Brown 149; Handicap for the Willie MacAllister Cup - 1 Graham Davidson 132; 2 Donald (Dods) MacLean 134; 3 Lewis Wilshire 135.



L to R: William MacCrone with The MacBrayne Cup and Graham Davidson with the Willie MacAllister Cup.

Athletics success for Oban High School pupils



Finbar Dunne representing Scotland in the discus.

THIS summer two Oban High School pupils have produced outstanding performances in track and field athletics.

Finbar Dunne and Grace Thompson, both S5 pupils, represented Scotland and Oban High School at the schools' international in Dublin in July. Both pupils were taking part in discus and achieved personal best throws.

Shortly after returning from Dublin, Finbar was selected to represent Scotland at the Celtic games, again in Dublin, and returned this week with a bronze medal.

Due to his highly successful athletics season, he has

Athletics

now qualified for the UK School Games in Loughborough at the end of the month.

The School Games national finals is a four-day multi-sport event for the UK's elite young athletes of school age.

The event seeks to create an inspirational and motivational setting that not only provides our elite young sports people with the opportunity to thrive and perform at the highest levels, but encourages more young people to take part and succeed in sport.



Competitors and prizewinners at the recent Tobermory Open.

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Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. 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



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Marine Harvest Media Award winners 2016

First Camanachd Cup semi-final on Saturday

THE FIRST Camanachd Cup semi-final takes place on Saturday when Oban Camanachd take on Lovat at An Aird with a 4pm throw-up. Referee in charge is Deek Cameron. The match is being televised live by BBC Alba.

Bullough Cup Final Strachur 0 Inveraray 3

The Inveraray second team won the Bullough Cup, beating Strachur 3-0 in the final at Strachurmore.

The sides occupy the top two positions in Marine Harvest South Division 2 and both beat good teams on the way to the final.

Des McNulty was the match referee for this 3pm throw-up.

Strachur won the toss of the coin to host the final and the wet weather which hit most of the area stayed away for the duration of the game.

The first half ended scoreless but the second half was just five minutes old when David Robertson put Inveraray ahead.

Euan McMurdo made it 2-0 on 68 minutes and when Russell McKinlay added a third a couple of minutes later, the trophy was on its way to The Winterton.

The sides return to Strachurmore this Saturday for a crucial league clash.

Marine Harvest Premiership

Kingussie 1 Newtonmore 1

Newtonmore's title chances suffered a blow when a late Ryan Borthwick goal earned Kingussie a 1-1 draw in their derby meeting at The Dell on Friday August 4.

The 6pm throw-up was broadcast live on BBC Alba and, as well as there being two league points up for grabs, the teams also contested the annual Sir Tommy MacPherson Memorial Cup.

Robert Mabon assumed his usual defensive role for Kingussie as his one-match suspension for passing through the disciplinary points threshold didn't begin until the following day. Captain Ryan Borthwick started on the bench.

Evan Menzies returned to the Newtonmore squad after serving a two-match suspension and also started on the bench alongside Andy MacKintosh. Injury continued to rule out Drew MacDonald and Chris Sellar. David MacLean came back into the Newtonmore starting line-up and Iain Richardson continued in midfield.

A good crowd gathered for this encounter despite the wet

weather with rain continuing throughout the match.

Newtonmore won the first corner of the match which led to Kingussie keeper Craig Dawson making a smart stop from Jamie Robinson's 20-yard shot.

Glen MacKintosh then hit the post, to the keeper's right, following a scramble inside the 'D' after Jamie Robinson's initial shot was blocked.

Play switched to the other end and Ackie MacRae did well to block Savio Genini's attempted strike from the edge of the 'D'.

A huge Norman Campbell goal-hit sent Michael Russell on a goalwards run down the left channel but the home defence covered well to thwart the danger.

When Iain Robinson found Fraser MacKintosh midway through the first half, Craig Dawson saved MacKintosh's shot, low to his right with his camanachd, at the expense of a corner.

Play quickly switched to the other end and the Newtonmore goal survived a scramble with the ball cleared out for a corner.

Kingussie's James Hutchison was booked for kicking the ball away after dropping his camanachd in a challenge with Glen MacKintosh.

Kingussie's Robert Mabon made a determined run forward, cutting inside, and his shot went just wide.

Kingussie were having a good spell and Savio Genini took a Roddy Young pass and turned Ackie MacRae but shot wide, not realising he had more time as MacRae had dropped his camanachd.

David MacLean was booked for a late challenge on Rory MacGregor who was too quick for his opponent.

Kingussie forced a couple of free-hits at the angle of the 'D' but were unable to get a strike at goal and Savio Genini tugged a shot wide a couple of minutes later.

Newtonmore responded and Glen MacKintosh's shot from the right flashed across goal with four first-half minutes remaining.

Newtonmore continued to press and the closest they came to a first-half goal was when Glen MacKintosh won the ball around 30 yards out. He found David MacLean who flicked a looping ball to Iain Robinson who lifted the ball goalwards from the left of the 'D' but it came back off the crossbar and Kingussie cleared the danger.

Craig Dawson got his body behind an Iain Robinson drive as Newtonmore finished the first half strongly but the opening period ended goalless.

Kingussie introduced Ryan Borthwick in place of Alexander Michie from the re-start.

Newtonmore's Steven MacDonald needed treatment after a solid midfield challenge from Roddy Young but he carried on. Newtonmore carved out another opportunity when Iain Robinson took a great first touch. But he missed his hit after Glen MacKintosh had played him in.

A good Ryan Borthwick run, cutting in from the left, created a home chance but Lee Bain was unable to get a shot in from the right.

The breakthrough came on 58 minutes. Fraser MacKintosh took a quick free-hit, wide on the Newtonmore right after he had been impeded. MacKintosh played the ball into the middle where Michael Russell had burst forward. Russell took a touch to his right before giving the keeper no chance, sending the ball soaring high into the net from just outside the 'D'.

Kingussie made a switch in midfield with Rory MacGregor coming off to be replaced by Alexander Michie.

Craig Dawson stuck out a camanachd to his left to turn away a Fraser MacKintosh drive which came after a good passing move, although the final shot did look to be going wide.

Newtonmore introduced Conor Jones in favour of Jamie Robinson, whilst Kingussie put Chris Holleysong on in attack.

Fraser MacKintosh took a touch inside before shooting across goal with eight minutes remaining.

Kingussie levelled a minute later. Alexander Michie's free-hit from the right of midfield was aimed at the heart of the Newtonmore defence and Lee Bain knocked the ball back to Roddy Young who lofted the ball to his left where Ryan Borthwick took a touch before blasting high into the net.

Newtonmore's Fraser MacKintosh was replaced by Andy MacKintosh.

Kingussie created a late chance when Ruairidh Anderson played a ball into the danger area but keeper Norman Campbell came off his line to block Lee Bain's attempt with a minute remaining.

Fraser MacKintosh replaced Iain Richardson for the latter stages but there was no further scoring.

A penalty shoot-out followed to decide the winner of the Sir Tommy MacPherson Memorial Cup. Kingussie won the toss and went first but Savio Genini sent his attempt high and wide of the target.

Newtonmore's Steven MacDonald found the net, in off the keeper, to put Newtonmore ahead.

Chris Holleysong's spot-hit went in off the keeper's foot,



A bit of a boorach during last Saturday's premiership match between Kinlochshiel and Kilmallie. Left to right: Oliver Macrae, Kinlochshiel, Alan Macdonald, Kilmallie, John Macrae, Kinlochshiel, and Peter Carmichael, Kilmallie, battle for the ball.

whilst Glen MacKintosh's waist-height strike made it 2-1.

Roddy Young steered the ball wide of the keeper's right post and Conor Jones saw his attempt saved with his feet by Craig Dawson so Newtonmore retained their 2-1 advantage.

Lee Bain beat the keeper at his left side and Fraser MacKintosh did likewise to make it 3-2.

Kingussie keeper Craig Dawson stepped up next and had to score Kingussie's final penalty. However he didn't connect as he would have liked and the ball skewed wide of goal.

The shoot-out win was almost secondary though. Newtonmore had dropped a crucial league point, leaving them six points behind Kinlochshiel with a game in hand.

Lady Jean MacPherson presented the impressive Sir Tommy MacPherson Memorial Trophy to Newtonmore captain Rory Kennedy.

Michael Russell's strong second half performance earned him the man of the match award, selected by BBC Alba match summariser Drew McNeil.

Russell's disappointment at the dropped point was evident as he spoke after the game. 'We struggled to get going in the game but we put in a great shift in the second half and a draw was probably fair. Although it's a draw, it feels more like a defeat and it makes the league all the more difficult for us. People are quick to write us off but there's still a long way to go this season and we've plenty to play for so we'll pick ourselves up and get going again.'

hard mid-height strike into the net. With five first half minutes remaining, Jordan Fraser gathered the ball around 22 yards out on the Kinlochshiel right. Fraser played the ball back to Finlay MacRae and his powerful, low, first-time shot sent the ball into the bottom left corner of the net.

Keith MacRae completed his hat-trick a couple of minutes into the second half when he collected John MacRae's lay-off from just past the penalty spot before carrying the ball past a full back into space on the right where he hit a low shot past keeper Shane Gillies to make it 5-0. Kinlochshiel remain two points ahead of Kyles Athletic, whilst Kinlochshiel are scheduled to finish the season against Oban Camanachd at Mossfield on Saturday October 7.

Kinlochshiel 5 Kilmallie 0

Kinlochshiel kept their title push on track by beating Kilmallie 5-0 at Kirkton.

Kinlochshiel's Colin MacDiarmid was free of suspension.

Kilmallie travelled without Stephen McAlister, Craig MacIsaac, Innes Blackhall, Aaron Sandison, Mark Graham, Martin Stewart, Ryan Stewart and Calum MacDougall, whilst Steven Stewart didn't start as he was struggling with a knee injury.

Kilmallie went in to the match knowing they had already beaten Kinlochshiel at the same venue in the MacTavish Cup semi-finals.

However Kinlochshiel had only dropped four points in their previous 12 fixtures so this was always going to be an uphill battle for Mark MacPherson's depleted side.

John MacRae opened the scor-

ing on 26 minutes with a well-hit shot from just left of the penalty spot. Keith MacRae made it 2-0 on the half hour mark when he got on the end of a free-hit and knocked the ball past the keeper before tapping it into the net.

Keith MacRae got his second and Kinlochshiel's third five minutes later. Oliver MacRae played a ball across from the right. MacRae faked a shot on his left before cutting back on his right side and hitting a



Johnston Gill, Kinlochshiel manager, perched high to watch his team stay top of the Premiership. Photograph: Neil Paterson.

Kyles Athletic 5 Lochaber 0

Kyles Athletic show no signs of faltering in their title bid as they beat Lochaber 5-0 at Tighnabraich.

Kyles were still without the injured Innes MacDonald but Lochaber's Stuart Callison was free of his one game suspension.

Gordon Whyte settled Kyles into the game with a goal after six minutes.

Colin MacDonald on 34 minutes and Roddy MacDonald on 38 minutes made it 3-0 at the break.

Two late strikes put gloss on the win with Grant Irvine on 83 minutes and Scott MacDonald on 88 minutes rounding off the 5-0 victory.

Kyles Athletic have six league matches remaining starting with a home clash with Glenurquhart this Saturday. They face Kingussie at The Dell at the end of the month before an away meeting with Lovat on Saturday September 9. The following two Saturdays could be crucial - at home to Newtonmore and away to Kinlochshiel before they also finish off the season on Saturday October 7 when Glasgow Mid Argyll visit Tighnabraich.

Oban Camanachd pulled away from the teams battling relegation when they beat Glasgow Mid Argyll 5-0 at Yoker.

GMA's Mark Bain served a one-match ban for passing through the disciplinary points threshold.

Oban Camanachd's Garry Lord served the final game of his two-match suspension which makes him available for this coming weekend's crucial Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup semi-final against Lovat at An Aird. Injury ruled out Matt Rippon and Daniel MacVicar.

Oban Camanachd manager Iain Hay was on holiday so Christopher Eccleston looked after the side.

Andrew MacCuish opened the scoring after six minutes when he ran into the 'D', holding off a couple of players before slipping the ball past former Lochside Rovers keeper Robert Dunning in the GMA goal.

Oban Camanachd doubled their lead on 21 minutes when they broke up the left side of the pitch. Andrew MacCuish switched play to the right of the 'D' and Malcolm Clark smashed the ball home.

The visitor's third goal came immediately after half-time. Lewis Buchanan's shot was

saved with his feet by keeper Dunning but the ball spun up in the air to the right of 'D' and Malcolm Clark ran in to knock the ball above his head, high into the left side-netting.

Daniel Cameron made it 4-0 on the hour. The ball came out of the GMA 'D' where Cameron's strike on the bounce flew into the bottom left corner of the net.

Daniel Cameron got his second with six minutes remaining. Malcolm Clark beat his man on the left before running to the by-line where he crossed into the middle of the 'D' for Daniel Cameron, who collected the ball and sent a strike high into the net.

Next up for Oban Camanachd is this weekend's Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup semi-final tie against Lovat. Manager Iain Hay will be pleased to have Garry Lord free of suspension but Matt Rippon and Daniel MacVicar are major injury doubts. Lovat will be without the injured Scott MacKenzie and the suspended Lorne MacKay for the tie which will be broadcast live on BBC Alba from 4pm.

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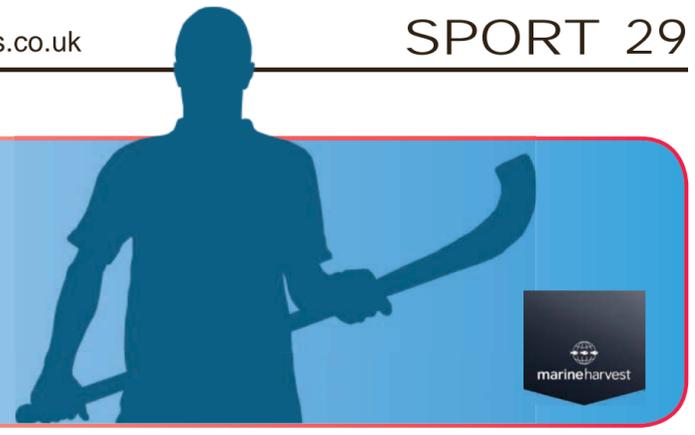
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Newtonmore keeper Norman Campbell prevents Kingussie's Lee Bain from getting a shot on target.

Photograph: Neil Paterson.



Camanachd Cup Macaulay Cup MacTavish Cup Celtic Society Cup

Sutherland Cup Balliemore Cup Strathdearn Cup Bullough Cup

sary. Jim and June's family had arranged a stay on Skye which allowed the couple to follow their team at the weekend.

Skye started well but both teams had goals disallowed for offside before the islanders took the lead. A foul on James Pringle gave Skye a free-hit on the right. Oban Celtic struggled to get the ball away and when Jordan Murchison scooped it goalwards, keeper Iain MacFarlane blocked the ball but Stewart Grant made a great run into the 'D' from wing centre and knocked the rebound into the net.

Skye's second also came from a set-piece. Gibbs MacDonald played the free-hit from the middle of the Oban Celtic half, picking out Jordan Murchison who was unmarked on the Skye left and Murchison had time to pick his spot and he thundered a shot past a helpless keeper to make it 2-0 with 34 minutes on the clock.

Skye added a third on 49 minutes. James Pringle played the ball to Jordan Murchison who held off a challenge from Ross MacMillan before sending a return pass to James Pringle on the left who sent a low, rasping shot into the net.

Will Cowie made it 4-0 with a special goal on 58 minutes. Stewart Grant's shy from the left was knocked down by Danny Morrison and Cowie blasted an unstoppable shot across the keeper from a tight angle of the left with the ball rising into the top corner of the net.

Skye were now turning on the style and their one-touch shinty was a joy to watch. The hosts had another goal disallowed for offside before Danny Morrison made it 5-0 on 62 minutes. Gibbs MacDonald lofted a cross from the right into the goal area and the ball was deflected out as far as Danny Morrison who struck a glorious 30-yard drive which beat the keeper at his left post.

Substitute Iain MacLellan, who had replaced Danny Morrison a couple of minutes earlier, rounded off the scoring with three minutes remaining when he collected a poor goal-hit and his firm strike beat the keeper on his left side.

Skye's Stewart Grant put in a man of the match performance in midfield whilst Gibbs MacDonald was also excellent.

Andy MacDonald in defence was best for Oban Celtic. Stand-in keeper Iain MacFarlane didn't let them down either, making several fine saves including a brilliant point-black stop from Will Cowie.

Skye are now a point ahead of second-placed Caberfeidh. Both teams have five matches remaining.

Skye manager Willie Cowie was happy with how his team played, particularly in the second half. 'I thought we were a bit off it in the first half today but we played really good one-touch shinty in the second half and scored some cracking goals. So I was really pleased with how we did today. It's a case of one game at a time from now on and Inverness for us is a big away game but we take a lot of confidence from today's win.'

Oban Celtic boss Kenny Waterspoon was proud of his player's efforts. 'It was relentless Skye pressure and I'm proud of our boys today, especially those at the back.'

Iain MacFarlane had been out injured for 18 months but with Jack Hill and Stephen Davidson missing, he came into the goal and made some great saves. Our aim is to stay in this league and we've picked up three wins already. It doesn't look as if we have a game for four weeks now so that will give some of our injured players recovery time and that's helpful.'

**Inveraray 4
Fort William 1**
A powerful first half performance saw Inveraray beat Fort William 4-1 in their noon throw up at The Winterton.

Inveraray's Allan MacDonald served the second game of his two-match suspension.

Fort William travelled light as they were without the suspended Mark Grant and Graham



Jim and June Pearson celebrated their Golden Wedding watching their beloved Oban Celtic take on Skye in a National Division match at Pairn nan Laach.

Campbell. They were also minus the injured Bryan Simpson and Seamus Gall as well as Alexander MacMillan and James Tangney, whilst Calum Shepherd was only fit enough to take up a place on the bench and he played in the second half.

The early start allowed the Inveraray players to cheer on their reserve side in the Bullough Cup Final later in the day.

All the goals came in the first half with Fraser Watt on 31 minutes and Lewis MacNicol on 35 minutes making it 2-0.

Fort William's Scotland U17 player Lewis Clark pulled a goal back a couple of minutes later.

A quick-fire double from Garry MacPherson on 42 minutes and Lewis Montgomery 60 seconds later made it 4-1 at the break.

Any chances of a Fort William come-back were dented when Lewis Clark was sent off by referee Graham Cameron.

The win means Inveraray leapfrog Fort William into third place in the league with both sides half-way through their league programme.

Marine Harvest North Division 1

**Aberdeen University 9
Fort William 1**
Aberdeen University defeated the Fort William second team 9-1 at Balgowrie.

David Fraser was free of suspension for the students and Rowan Myers gave them the lead in five minutes.

Ewan Fraser scored twice on 38 and 42 minutes to make it 3-0 before Jay MacLeod pulled a goal back a minute later.

Ewan Fraser took his tally to four goals with quick strikes on 49 and 50 minutes, whilst Stuart Cameron made it 7-1 with goals on 55 and 56 minutes.

Gregor Cushnie also grabbed a brace, scoring on 60 and 88 minutes to make the final score 9-1. Aberdeen University are just a point behind league leaders Newtonmore seconds. Both teams have four league fixtures to go including a meeting at The Eilan next month.

Marine Harvest South Division 1

**Ballachulish 1
Lochside Rovers 5**
The match between Ballachulish and Lochside Rovers at Jubilee Park was brought forward to Wednesday August 2 with a 7pm throw-up.

The midweek fixture was at Ballachulish's request to allow some of their players to attend the Belladrum Music Festival. It also suited Lochside Rovers as their cup exploits have left them behind with fixtures. Indeed, Lochside host Kilmory at Ganavan on Wednesday 9 August 9 and play Kilmory at MacRae Park the following Wednesday as they catch up their matches.

Lochside, who missed Iain MacMillan and Keith Burnett through injury, the latter suffering a knock in training, fielded

the versatile Daniel Sloss in attack despite the fact he'd played most of the season in defence.

And it was Daniel Sloss who put the Oban side ahead after 13 minutes. Sloss got on the end of a corner floated into the danger-area. He took a touch to the side before his half-swing sent the ball into the opposite corner of the net to make it 1-0.

Former Lochside Rovers youth player Pat MacLean drew the sides level with 10 first-half minutes remaining. MacLean's strike took a deflection and the ball looped high before dropping just under the bar and into the net to make it 1-1.

Lochside were below par in the first half and boss Gareth Evans delivered a few choice words at the interval. The team responded, making a strong start to the second period.

Gareth Evans made a change on 52 minutes with centre Michael MacQueen and forward Craig MacDougall swapping places. It proved to be an inspired change with the switch paying dividends a minute later when 14-year-old Lennon Campbell, who started the game, placed a neat pass to Michael MacQueen who had lost his marker and hit a 20-yard shot on the turn into the top corner of the net.

Michael MacQueen got another three minutes later with what was a good team move as passes from Steven Sloss to Lennon Campbell and then to Lewis Buchanan culminated in another good MacQueen finish.

Lochside made it 4-1 on 69 minutes when a Daniel Sloss shot was saved by Ballachulish keeper Donald Pearce but Lewis Buchanan followed in to force the rebound home.

Lewis Buchanan got his second with a well-worked goal on 75 minutes. Nice one-touch shinty from Steven Sloss and Michael MacQueen created the opening and as keeper Pearce came out to clear the danger, Buchanan nipped in to score.

Lochside's Evan MacLellan on the wing deserves mention for his performance.

With the Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup final now unlikely to take place until mid-September, Lochside will concentrate on their league campaign during the weeks ahead.

Aberdour 2 Kilmory 2

A late Roddy MacColl goal earned Aberdour a 2-2 draw with Kilmory at Silversands.

This was Aberdour's first match since the first day of July and they were missing Alec Mitchell, Cammy MacCue and Craig Grant.

Kilmory went into the game on a good run and were keen to follow up successive wins over Taynuilt, Tayforth and Glenorchy.

Alistair MacArthur put Kilmory ahead on 11 minutes with a clinical finish.

David MacKenzie drew Aberdour level on 25 minutes when Roddy MacColl played him in to score after good link-up play

from Angus Thorburn and John Martin Phillips.

Alex Cunningham restored Kilmory's lead with another good finish on 40 minutes and there were chances at both ends before Roddy MacColl made it 2-2 with seven minutes remaining. Angus Thorburn's pass picked out Aberdour's top scorer and MacColl took a touch round defender Bruce Johnston and his shot found the net off the keeper.

Aberdour went for a late winner but Kilmory worked hard and deserved the point which stretches their unbeaten run to four matches.

Aberdour are now a point ahead of second-placed Lochside Rovers but they have played three games more.

Bute 5 Kyles Athletic 1

Bute beat the Kyles Athletic second team 5-1 at The Meadows to close the gap on third-placed Tayforth to a single point.

Franco Devlin scored on seven and 15 minutes for the home side with Ian McDonald adding a third on 35 minutes.

Robert Walker on 70 minutes and James Craig three minutes later also counted for the hosts.

The Kyles goal was a well-struck penalty scored by George Thomson. Bute are now a point behind third-placed Tayforth.

Glenorchy P Taynuilt P

The match between Glenorchy and Taynuilt was postponed as Mark Park was unplayable.

Marine Harvest North Division 2

**Glengarry 4
Lochcarron 0**

Glengarry extended their lead at the top of Marine Harvest North Division 2 with a 4-0 win over Lochcarron at Craigard.

Nick Dalgety made the difference against his former club as his goals on 12 and 19 minutes made it 2-0 at the break.

Nick Dalgety completed his hat-trick with a strike on 64 minutes and Raymond Robertson made it 4-0 with a strike six minutes from time.

Glengarry are eight points ahead of the Lochaber seconds who have three games in hand.

The Caberfeidh seconds are also eight points behind but they have four games in hand.

Kilmallie v Strathspey W/O

The Kilmallie second team were unable to raise a team for their match against Strathspey Camanachd at the Canal Parks so the visitors were awarded the points.

Marine Harvest South Division 2

**Dunoon Camanachd P
Oban Lorn P**

The match between Dunoon Camanachd and Oban Lorn at The Dunoon Stadium was postponed as the field was unplayable.

WCA round-up

There were some Women's Camanachd Association fixtures last weekend.

Marine Harvest National Division 1

**Aberdour 0
Badenoch & Strathspey 6**

Badenoch & Strathspey go two points clear at the top of the table after they beat bottom side Aberdour 6-0 in their 1.30pm throw-up at Silversands.

Zoe Reid grabbed a hat-trick whilst Eilidh Ross, Jeanette McGregor and Rona Stewart also scored.

Badenoch & Strathspey are two points ahead of second placed Lochaber who have two games in hand and four points ahead of third-placed Skye Camanachd who have three games in hand.

Marine Harvest South Division 2

**Ardnamurchan 11
Oban Lorn 0**

Ardnamurchan won the Marine Harvest South Division 2 title, maintaining their 100 per cent record into the bargain, with an 11-0 victory over Oban Lorn in their 1pm throw-up at Strontian.

A great team performance saw Eilidh Ross score four times, Annie MacDonald netted twice whilst Rachel Ford, Carolanne Cameron, Lilijana Alexander, Kirsty Campbell and Gillian Gallacher got the others.

Ardnamurchan have one league match remaining, against second-placed Glasgow Mid Ar-

gyll in Glasgow, with the match scheduled for Sunday August 20.

Cowal & Bute W/O v Lorn Ladies

Cowal & Bute were given a walk-over when Lorn Ladies were unable to raise a team for their match.

Views on Macaulay Cup eligibility

The Camanachd Association has asked the Macaulay Association to review its eligibility criteria for the Artemis Macaulay Cup competition.

The Macaulay Association run tournament is unique in senior shinty in that the north and south teams are drawn against each other on a regional basis; guaranteeing a north v south final which is held at Mossfield each year.

At present, the eligibility rules are straight forward in that the top eight teams from the north and south areas from the Premiership, National Division, and North and South Divisions 1 at the end of the previous season take part in the following year's tournament.

However, if there are eight north teams in the Premiership, they take up the full north allocation. This happened when Kilmallie were promoted from the National Division at the end of the 2016 shinty season. They were unable to enter the Macaulay Cup as the eight Premiership clubs, including relegated Skye and Fort William, took up all the north places.

Kilmallie were also unable to play in the Balliemore Cup as it is for clubs without shinty's top flight so their cup action was restricted to the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup and the MacTavish Cup.

The same situation could arise this season if north teams finish in the first two places in the National Division as there are currently seven north teams in the Premiership so only the National Division champions would qualify for the 2018 Artemis Macaulay Cup competition.

The Camanachd Association has asked the Macaulay Association to consider in some way incorporating the teams that are promoted to the Premiership each season.

This could mean the introduction of a Macaulay Cup play-off or a series of play-offs including the promoted and relegated teams which would take place ahead of the first round proper.

The Macaulay Association has yet to meet and discuss this matter but is in the process of canvassing views so they can assess the feelings of the clubs involved before making a final decision.

Fixtures

Wednesday August 9

**Marine Harvest
South Division 1**
Lochside Rovers v Kilmory
Willie MacDonald

Saturday August 12

**Tulloch Homes Camanachd
Cup Semi Final**
Oban Camanachd v Lovat
Deek Cameron 4pm
(at An Aird)

Strathdearn Cup Final
Newtonmore v Kingussie
Scott McNeil - 3pm
(at The Eilan, Newtonmore)

Marine Harvest Premiership
Newtonmore v Glasgow MA

Andy MacLean - noon
Kilmallie v Lochaber
Archie Ritchie - 1pm
Kyles Athletic v Glenurquhart
Graham Cameron - 3pm

**Marine Harvest
National Division**

Inveraray v Caberfeidh
Robert Baxter
Inverness v Skye
Calum Girvan
Strathglass v Fort William
John Angus Gillies - 3pm

**Marine Harvest
North Division 1**

Glenurquhart v Fort William
Brian MacKay
Skye v Beaulie
John Matheson

**Marine Harvest
South Division 1**

Bute v Col Glen
Lachie Wood
Glenorchy v Aberdour
Ross Brown
Kyles Athletic v Ballachulish
Ewan MacDonald - noon
Taynuilt v Lochside Rovers
Iain Kennedy - noon

**Marine Harvest
North Division 2**

Inverness v Glengarry
Martin MacLean - noon
Kilmallie v Lewis
Des McNulty - 3pm
Lochaber v Caberfeidh
Innes Wood
Lovat v Lochcarron
Steven MacLachlan
Strathglass v Boleskine
Ronnie Campbell - noon

**Marine Harvest
South Division 2**

Aberdour v Oban Lorn
Neil MacDonald
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Dunoon
Euan Pearson
Strachur v Inveraray
Graham Fisher

Throw-ups 2pm, unless stated.

Results

Friday August 4

Marine Harvest Premiership
Kingussie 1 v 1 Newtonmore

Saturday August 5

Bullough Cup Final
Strachur 0 v 3 Inveraray

Marine Harvest Premiership
Kinlochshiel 5 v 0 Kilmallie

Glasgow MA 0 v 5 Oban Caman
Kyles Athletic 5 v 0 Lochaber

**Marine Harvest
National Division**

Skye 6 v 0 Oban Celtic
Inveraray 4 v 1 Fort William

**Marine Harvest
North Division 1**

Aberdeen Uni 9 v 1 Fort William

**Marine Harvest
South Division 1**

Aberdour 2 v 2 Kilmory
Ballachulish 1 v 5 Lochside
Glenorchy P v P Taynuilt
Unplayable field
Bute 5 v 1 Kyles Athletic

**Marine Harvest
North Division 2**

Glengarry 4 v 0 Lochcarron
Kilmallie P v P Strathspey
Kilmallie unable to field a team. Points to Strathspey

**Marine Harvest
South Division 2**

Dunoon P v P Oban Lorn
Unplayable field



Lochside's Evan McLennan and Duncan MacDonald of Ballachulish during last Wednesday night's South Division One game at the Jubilee which the Oban side won 5-1 to remain top of the league.

Tower 10s triumph for Oban Lorne

OBAN Lorne RFC hosted their inaugural 'Tower 10s' tournament at the weekend with six visiting teams and the home club putting out two sides for the competition.

This was the start of the 2017/18 season for Oban Lorne, who will host Hillhead/Jordanhill this weekend at Glencruitten.

Oban Lorne were drawn in a group with Lochaber, Inverness Craig Dunain and Queensferry with Helensburgh, Cowal, Isle of Mull and Oban BaBas making up the other group of four. 'The format of this competition allows all teams to play 80 minutes of rugby with all teams also taking part in a final of some sort,' explained organiser Murray Hamilton. 'We are delighted that these teams travelled through to Oban and hopefully they will have had a good week-end of rugby. It is a good format

for pre-season as teams will get to play a variety of other sides and still get tested physically with scrums and lineouts.'

The day kicked off on both pitches at Glencruitten after the showers had cleared and the weather stayed clear for most of the day. Helensburgh and Cowal both recorded wins in their first matches, as did Oban Lorne and Craig Dunain.

The home side dominated in the group matches with only Craig Dunain running them close. Good linking play between captain Craig Wright, Iwan Roberts and Finlay Carmichael was complemented by powerful work in the scrums and at the breakdown from seasoned forwards Corrie Louw, Tommy Sutherland and Daniel Kemp. The younger players in the loose were moving well around the park and the supporting play

Rugby

provided plenty of opportunities for the likes of Stephen Povey, Jack Baxter, Jack Strachan and Vladi Mihov.

The finals were played in the afternoon and the bucket final was first to be contested, Cowal played Queensferry in an entertaining match which had the Cowal team coming out on top. The bowl final was played between Lochaber and Mull and the Fort William team took the bowl back to Banavie after a great show of teamwork and commitment from both sides.

Inverness Craig Dunain secured a place in the shield final where they faced off against the Oban BaBas side which was made up from Oban Lorne 2nd XV players and friends of the club. It was a closely-fought affair but the Inverness team won out in the end and played some classy rugby. Former Oban Lorne player Struan Simpson led the side to victory and it was great to have Craig Dunain boys travel down for this competition.

The cup final was a clash between two West Regional Division 1 sides - Oban Lorne and Helensburgh - and brought possibly the most physical match of the day with both teams playing intense and fast flowing rugby. There was a stalemate in the game until late in the first half when Helensburgh took the lead. The visitors looked to have



Oban Lorne, winners of the inaugural Tower 10s tournament. Photos: Stephen Lawson

extended their lead shortly after this but Oban's blushes were spared thanks to some fantastic covering defence from David McLaughlin. Oban managed to even the try count through Tommy Sutherland and Carmichael added the extras just before the break.

The second half worked more in the favour of the home side. Oban kept possession of the ball and changed their tactics to apply more pressure on Helensburgh. Eventually Oban Lorne managed to cross the line again

to provide a more comfortable lead and again the extra two points added from the wing by Carmichael.

Cracks started to show and late on in the half, and after some changes to the Oban side, they managed to get two more tries which were both converted to secure a 28-5 win for Oban Lorne in the first Tower 10s cup final.

President Sandy Rokitta was on hand to present the winning teams with their trophies and say a few words of thanks to all those involved. The hope is for

this event to become a regular date on the calendar for Oban and organisers hope it will grow in years to come.

Oban Lorne v Hillhead/Jordanhill

Oban Lorne are in action this weekend against Hillhead/Jordanhill. It will be a 2pm kick off at Glencruitten. Hillhead

Jordanhill are in the National leagues so this should be a really steep test for Oban Lorne in the run up to their league starting. The Green Machine's first

competitive fixture of the 2017/18 season will be away to familiar opponents Garnock RFC in the preliminary round of the West Regional Shield on Saturday August 19. The winner of that tie will host a last 16 fixture against the winner of either Helensburgh or Cumbernauld RFC with that tie due to be played on Saturday August 26.

Garnock and Oban Lorne will meet again on Saturday September 2 in the first West Division 1 fixture of the season. Kick off 3pm at Glencruitten.



Oban Lorne RFC president Sandy Rokitta hands over the Tower 10s trophy to club captain Craig Wright.

Big breeze sailing makes for yachting week's 70th success

A WEEK of good breezes for the 91-strong West Highland Yachting Week (WHYW) was the icing on the cake for the regatta's 70th anniversary celebration.

And Irish visitor, the kenspeckle Nicholson 43 Magdaleyne, revelled in the conditions to lift the best performance of the fleet overall taking home the Peter Cocks Trophy. With a run of firsts and two seconds, Michael Petticrew's classic showed the rest of the highly competitive class five a clean pair of heels throughout the week.

It was fitting that the event's major sponsor, Boyd Tunnock,

with his Moody 38 Lemerac, pushed Magdaleyne into second place on the Tobermory to Oban race sponsored, appropriately, by Thomas Tunnock Ltd. Boyd's team pulled out all the stops to take an excellent win.

Scott and Nicola Chalmers on Sunrise pushed the envelope further in class two in the Argyll white sail fleet with a straight run of firsts and one second to discard in the Points Series with their Sigma 400 Sunrise. They won the class on four points, but were shy of the elusive overall trophy once again.

Close also were former overall event title winners Allan Jeffrey

and Paul Scutt with Carmen II in class zero. And finishing on eight points overall it was another class win for Malindi of Lorne in the Argyll fleet class nine, with Seonaid Reid and her all-girl team sailing the family wooden McGruer classic. The West Highland Week Family Trophy went to Grand Cru.

For the first time, WHYW 70 ran two races off Craobh for the Tunnock's-sponsored spinnaker fleet while the Argyll fleet sailed round Shuna and into Loch Melfort. And this year tides were favourable to run an excellent round Lismore race.

Principal race officer Malcolm

MacGregor said: 'The experimental Craobh races worked well and proved popular. The regatta was a great success. The winds were good which gave great racing for all.'

Local boats had a good showing at the regatta, with Lochaber yacht Popcorn taking another convincing win in class eight. Raced by Angus Fyfe and family, Popcorn won the Oban Bicentenary Trophy for the best corrected time for the Craobh to Oban race sponsored by Owen Sails. Beppo Buchanan-Smith recorded some excellent results in class one with two firsts, one on the Oban to Tobermory race sponsored by Gael Force Marine Equipment, over the week to finish second on points in class. Lucy Girling of Oban with her all-girl team on the GK 24 Zebedee finished second overall to Popcorn.

Tayvallich's Darren Taylor and Bluefin had some good performances, as did Marian Austin's team on Scintilla of the Sea from Lochaber and Hot Toddy from Oban, all racing in class eight. Michael Johnston with his Freedom 35 Arran Comrades, a regular sailor in Argyll, stormed through on Friday from Tobermory to Oban to win the British Waterways Trophy for the best in fleet.

Former class and overall title winner Oban's Steven Fordeith and team on Shadowfax had to



Popcorn raced by Lochaber's Angus Fyfe and family won class eight and the Bicentenary Trophy for the best corrected time for the Craobh to Oban race. Photos: www.yachtingimages.co.uk

be content with a fourth overall in a highly competitive class five. Lochgilphead's Brian Robertson with Celtic Spirit was seventh overall in this class, Oban sailor Graham Anderson and Lucky Ned Pepper eighth, Eric and Irena Chapman's Amber Haze finished ninth, while Adrian Laycock's Prime Cut finished 13th. David Cooper's Dehler 34

Suilven from Glencoe was sixth in white sail class six. Oban's Colin Crawford with Nimrod was eighth in class seven. Malindi of Lorne, the McGruer classic based at Tarbert, won class nine, with Judy Orr's Eureka from Campbeltown finishing fourth in this class.

The WHYW fleet's arrival in Oban on Monday coincided with the opening of Oban's long-awaited transit marina. The North Pier pontoons filled with yachts from the fleet that also berthed at Oban Marina on Kerrera and Dunstaffnage

Marina and used the moorings of Oban Community Berthing Association.

Elaine Robertson, who is chairwoman of Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee, said: 'The transit marina facilities will be a huge boost to the economy and development of Oban and the whole area.'

'I am delighted that the pontoons opened in time for the 70th anniversary of West Highland Yachting Week.'

From the launch party at the Lord of the Isles to the closing prize-giving barbecue and dance hosted by Ranulph McLauchlan and team at Dunstaffnage Marina, the WHYW 70 social programme was outstanding.

A special 70th anniversary reception and dance in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls in Oban was well attended with dancing to the 70s music of local Stillwater band.

Andy Knox, chairman of the

Sailing

Joint Regatta Committee, said: 'This has been an exceptional regatta celebrating 70 years of racing in Argyll between the venues of Craobh, Oban and Tobermory.'

'Not only does it provide great racing and entertainment for competitors but a significant boost to the economy of the area. We are grateful to all the teams that work behind the scenes to run the regatta, not least our sponsors, without whom the event would not be possible.'

WHYW is sponsored by Tunnock's, Argyll and Bute Council, Tobermory Harbour Association, Malin Waters, Owen Sails, Gael Force Marine Equipment and Dunstaffnage Marina with support from West Coast Motors, Webercraft UK Ltd and Scottish Canals.



Oban's Lucy Girling and her all-girl crew had a successful week.

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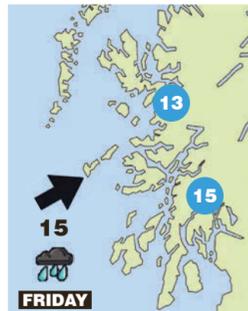
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WEATHER

Thursday	Cloudy with rain later in the afternoon Winds moderate south westerly Temperatures 13°C to 15°C.
Friday	Heavy rain Winds moderate west south westerly Temperatures 12°C to 15°C.
Weekend Outlook	Sunny intervals on Saturday Cloudy on Sunday Winds moderate westerly Temperatures 10°C to 15°C.



Stop Press: New pontoons at Ulva Ferry and visitor moorings installed at Lochaline by North West Marine Ltd

TIDAL INFORMATION
Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday August 10, 2017 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm							
Thur	01.18	0.9	07.08	3.7	13.26	0.8	19.31	3.9	Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Fri	01.52	0.9	07.37	3.7	13.58	0.9	20.03	3.9	Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Sat	02.26	1.0	08.11	3.6	14.34	0.9	20.40	3.7	Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Sun	03.04	1.1	08.50	3.5	15.16	1.1	21.22	3.6	Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Mon	03.52	1.2	09.36	3.3	16.08	1.3	22.15	3.3	Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Tues	04.53	1.4	10.34	3.1	17.16	1.4	23.28	3.1	Ferry Crossings/Sea States			
Wed	06.08	1.5	11.59	3.0	18.39	1.5	***	**	Oban to Barra/South Uist		Moderate	
									Oban to Coll/Tiree		Moderate	
									Kennacraig to Islay		Moderate	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

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Fort family fundraiser success for Gary PAGE FIVE



Massive crowds flock to Skye Show PAGES 16 & 17



Care in the Community FEATURE PAGE 11

Glencoe trademark warning 'too harsh'

THE NATIONAL Trust for Scotland (NTS) has admitted it may have been 'too harsh' with an Aboyne-based outdoor clothing company after becoming embroiled in a row over the use of the name 'Glencoe'.

Owners of Hilltrek Outdoor Clothing, who have been manufacturing and selling their 'Glencoe' jacket for almost 30 years, received a letter last week from the conservation organisation stating it was in breach of trademark.

The letter from NTS's lawyers warned Hilltrek it should 'immediately stop selling any goods which include the name Glencoe' and must 'refrain from using Glencoe in any future products or packaging'.

A picture of the letter was posted on Hilltrek's Facebook page, with owner Dave Shand calling on NTS to 'play fair', saying: 'Is this how small Scottish businesses should be treated? We have been making the Glencoe jacket for 30 years and how long has Glencoe existed without a trademark?'

NTS has since conceded the tone of the letter may have been misjudged. Mark Bishop, a director at NTS, said: 'I have now spoken with Hilltrek. Although it was a standard legal document with standard wording, it was in the circumstances of this particular company too harsh in tone.'

NTS controversially applied to trademark 'Glencoe' in 2015, along with other famous place-names. Mr Bishop continued: 'We have had to take defensive measures and begin registering trademarks for some of the properties we own.'

Union claims fewer quarry job cuts now being sought



Kinlochleven achievers, left to right, Hannah Newson, Alex Dent, Josh McFatridge and Lewis Heriot. Photograph: Abrightside Photography.

Lochaber pupils' exam success

AFTER weeks of waiting, Lochaber secondary pupils got their exam results on Tuesday.

At Ardnamurchan High School Kay Christian, S4, achieved six As at National 5; Kate Bradley, S5, got three Highers at A and one Advanced Higher at A; Mary Ellen MacIntyre, S6, achieved two Highers at A and B and two Advanced Highers at A; and Hannah Hunter, S6, achieved two Highers and one Advanced Higher at A, and a further Higher at B and an Advanced Higher at B.

Charlie Anne Fleming, S6, has been accepted to Oxford University after achieving two

As at Higher and two As at Advanced Higher, meaning she has now achieved an A in all her National 5s, Highers and Advanced Highers during her school career.

In Kinlochleven, Hannah Newson, S6, achieved five As at Higher, following her six As at National 5 last year. Four other Kinlochleven High School pupils - Freyja Ward, Alex Dent, Lewis Heriot and Josh McFatridge of S5 - got six straight As at National 5.

Head teacher Rebecca Machin said: 'I am so proud of all the Kinlochleven High School pupils who have taken National, Higher and Ad-

vanced Higher examinations this year. I know how hard they have worked and how ambitious they are to do their best.'

Lochaber High School head teacher Jim Sutherland said: 'Many of our pupils will be delighted with their results, as I am, although, as always, there are a few disappointments.'

'The most notable successes this year come at Higher where eight of our S5 pupils have achieved five A passes, with one of those achieving six A passes having studied an additional subject in her spare time. I congratulate our pupils who have done so well.'

MARK ENTWISTLE
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

THE TRADE union involved in the dispute over working terms and conditions and threatened redundancies at Glensanda Quarry on the Morvern peninsula claims company bosses have backtracked on the number of jobs it wants to cut.

And the GMB Scotland union has praised the *Lochaber Times* for its coverage of the issue, saying this has played a major role in supporting local employees.

The *Lochaber Times* recently reported that three-quarters of the workforce at the quarry had formally lodged grievances with new haulage operators Oban Earthworks over the threat of redundancy and changes to their terms and conditions.

Relations between the union and the company have been strained, with the former accusing Oban Earthworks of blatantly disregarding employee protections enshrined under TUPE regulations and of threatening to axe 25 workers.

The company hit back, accusing the union of 'ill-advising' workers to raise grievances.

Oban Earthworks, a new Spanish company, was recently awarded the primary load-and-haul contract at Glensanda by Aggregate Industries, which operates the quarry site.

This week GMB Scotland organiser Gary Cook claimed recent developments had seen Oban Earthworks reduce the number of redundancies it was seeking from 25 to 16.

'Nine workers have opted for voluntary redundancy, while former operator Hargreaves

Oban Earthworks just needs an additional person to go

Gary Cook
GMB Scotland organiser

has agreed to take six staff back onto its books. That means Oban Earthworks just needs an additional person to agree to go,' Mr Cook said, adding that there had also been movement on disagreements over new shift patterns.

'All this only happened after we went to yourselves, the local press, and it proved the press often has a very important role to play in such situations.'

'The guys working there have really appreciated the paper's support.'

However, Mr Cook also added that a formal request for GMB recognition lodged with the company was not going smoothly.

'Unfortunately, the company replied saying news reports it regarded as negative and derisive were not the way for us to seek union recognition. It seems like they'd prefer us, basically, to be licking up to them,' he said.

Asked to comment on the union's statements, Jon Simarro,

director of Oban Earthworks, said: 'As the consultation process is still ongoing, we are unable to confirm the exact number of voluntary redundancies at this stage.'

'However, we are continuing to have positive conversations with staff members and continue to support them during the process.'

The *Lochaber Times* has also seen an email exchange between employment consultants Solve HR, which acts on behalf of Oban Earthworks, and Mr Cook. In it, Solve HR suggest the GMB should postpone its request for union recognition for its Glensanda members for various administrative reasons.

Solve HR also say Mr Cook's refusal to give any future assurances on collaborative working and restraint in using the press meant the company was likely to see little value in recognising the GMB.

Mr Cook's response was withering, telling Solve HR that he would not 'cow down' to them or anyone else when it came to how people are treated in the workplace. And Mr Cook told Solve HR that the GMB was prepared to use legislation through the Central Arbitration Committee, the independent body responsible for resolving workplace disputes, as well as the courts, to pursue its quest for GMB recognition.



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Biggest earthquake in 30 years hits Moidart

AN EARTHQUAKE in Moidart, the biggest on Scotland's west coast for 30 years, was felt from Tiree up the Great Glen to Inverness, writes Neill Bo Finlayson.

The magnitude 3.8 tremor was recorded by the British Geological Survey (BGS) at its epicentre 5kms below the Moidart peninsula on Friday August 4 at 3.43pm.

The BGS said the earthquake was 'felt across the west'. A second tremor two minutes later measured 3.4 and an aftershock more than two hours later registered 2.2.

Noel Williams, director of Lochaber Geopark, commented: 'I have experienced a number of earthquakes in Fort William over the years, but the remarkable feature of the one last Friday was there were three separate tremors in Moidart that day. The first two occurred

in quick succession about two minutes apart at 3.43pm and 3.45pm. There was a third tremor just under three hours later in the same area. There had also been a separate tremor much earlier the same day near Kingussie.'

The epicentre of the tremors was by Eilean Shona, near Glenuig, on the coast, 30 miles west of Fort William. Although the disturbance in Fort William was not as loud as a tremor which occurred in 2005 near Loch Eil, the rumble seemed to go on for slightly longer.

Two 'loud rumbles' were also felt in Mallaig and further south in Fort William where 'it felt like a helicopter passing' as computer monitors shook, doors rattled and water bottles shooled on the table. One resident in Arisaig wrote: 'Floorboards were shaking and we

thought the washing machine must have got out of balance.'

Offering an explanation for the tremors, Noel added: 'Most of the earthquakes in the Highlands are thought to be related to the crust rebounding after the last major ice sheet melted.'

A mapping project recently said more than 4,000 quakes had hit Scotland over the past 50 years, including a 4.4 magnitude quake on Knoydart Peninsula in 1974. Scotland's areas of highest seismic activity are the West Coast from Ullapool to Arran, Clackmannanshire, Midlothian and Dumfries.

Although Friday's tremors reached a magnitude of 3.8ML, it pales in comparison to Scotland's largest earthquake, a magnitude 5.2 ML event which occurred in Argyll in 1880.

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FW

Sunshine pulls the crowds at 69th Dunvegan Show



Paddy Wildup gives a spinning demonstration. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Families enjoyed the unexpected good spell of weather. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Tiny Highland dancers wait for the music to start. Photograph: Sara Bain.



One boy and his dog. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Iain Beaton receives the Champion of Champions rosette from judge Margaret MacDonald. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Best puppy in the dog show went to Skye the Border Collie pup. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Wee Highland dancers watch the display. Photograph: Sara Bain.

SARA BAIN
fort@obantimes.co.uk

UNEXPECTED summer sunshine on Saturday had visitors flocking to the 69th Dunvegan Show.

The event was once again organised by members of Duirinish and Bracadale Agricultural Association who reported gate entries for 2017 were up on previous years and a record number of show entries, particularly in the sheep section.

In the livestock section, judge Margaret MacDonald had the unenviable task of choosing the Champion of Champions. The coveted title, the Margaret Mackinnon Memorial Cup, was won by Angus Beaton of Gesto with a two crop Cheviot ewe. Reserve overall was handed to Robert MacDonald, of Uiginish, for his Charolais cross stot calf.

Competitions in home produce, horticulture, handicrafts, fleeces and children's sections were judged throughout the event with trophies and prizes handed out at the end of the day in the show tent.

The popular dog show proved a hit with the crowds with top dog of the year Tan, a Kelpie cross, handled by Lewis MacLe-

od of Dunvegan. Among other attractions were the Drakes of Hazard, a formidable sheepdog and duck display team, and the wee Highland Dancers who charmed their audiences in the sunshine.

There was also a lively drumming display and a rousing skirl of the pipes with Isle of Skye Youth Pipe Band. Pony rides, a tug of war competition, refreshment and information stalls, ice-cream and popcorn all helped to make the day a huge success for organisers, visitors and exhibitors.

Show chairman Iain Beaton said: 'The Dunvegan show once again proved popular with locals and tourists.'

'Numbers through the gate were up on recent years as show-goers enjoyed unexpected fine weather. The quantity and quality of entries across all sections was outstanding, with the sheep section, in particular, enjoying a record number of entries.'

'Mark Wylie's Drakes of Hazard demonstration as well as many other attractions provided excellent entertainment throughout the day.'

For full results, please visit www.lochabertimes.co.uk



Judging in the Cheviot section. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Drummers enjoying the day. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Above: The show was a hit with families. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Right: Fleeces for sale in the Wool Tent. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Trish Brunton on holiday from Fife received a first rosette in the dog show for her toy poodles Scooter and Sproutie. Photograph: Sara Bain.



Skye Youth Pipe Band entertain the crowds. Photograph: Sara Bain.



A sheepshearer shows off his skills in the livestock pens. Photograph: Sara Bain.

Fort couple tie the knot at Belladrum

JUST hours after the bridegroom finished a set with his band on stage, a Lochaber couple tied the knot at Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival last weekend.

Jamie Coltart and Kirsty MacKenzie, both originally from Fort William, swapped vows four hours after Jamie opened up the Hothouse Stage with his band Bloodlines on Saturday afternoon.

Having met as pupils at Lochaber High School, the pair, now living in Glasgow, have been together for more than six years and got engaged over a year ago.

As a small number of close family and friends squeezed into the intimate chapel in the heart of the festival, it was clear Belladrum was a fitting venue for Jamie and Kirsty's marriage, reflecting the couple's love of music, people and partying.

Commenting on the day, Kirsty said: 'We both loved it and said we wouldn't have had it any other way.'

'It was chilled out, no fuss, just a big party. Everyone had a good time and was happy to have a relaxed day and do their own thing so neither me or Jamie had to worry about entertaining.'

Jamie, front man for the Highland

band Bloodlines, has played Belladrum for the past three years and has come to love the atmosphere of the festival.

'After finding out at last year's festival that Belladrum offers a wedding service, they decided to book their special day.'

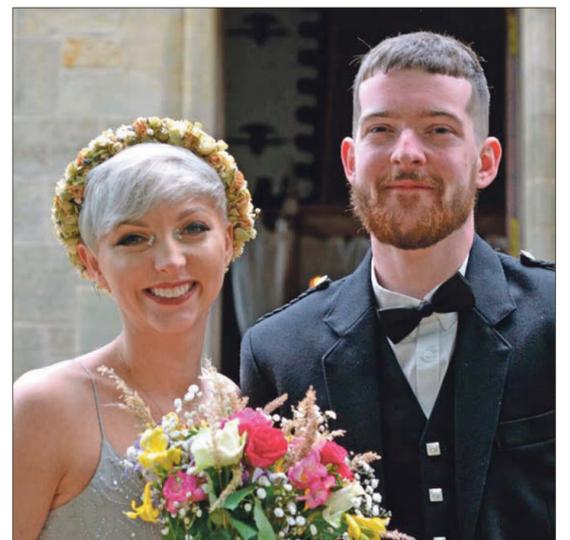
Kirsty continued: 'After ages trying to find a wedding that suited the both of us, when Bloodlines got asked to play Jamie turned to me and jokingly said 'so we getting married then?'

'And I said yes. We decided it would be a great idea.'

Although it may seem like an unenviable task to organise a wedding in the middle of a music festival, the pair said it was surprisingly easy. Friends, family and band members helped with a wedding cake, photography and, of course, music at the ceremony.

Jamie added: 'So many other people helped us throughout the day, far too many to mention. It really couldn't have gone as smoothly without all our friends.'

'Our friend Fraser, who we had only recently met once at the festival, saved the day by letting me wear his new dress kilt after a last minute wardrobe malfunction.'



Kirsty and Jamie after their wedding ceremony on Saturday. Photograph: Stephen Bull.

SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION
is holding an informal **MEET & GREET** event on:
Thursday 17 August 2017, from 7pm
at Coran Halls, Oban

Come and find out more about the new Scottish Land Commission, who we are, what we do and the roles of the Land Commissioners and Tenant Farming Commissioner.

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To find out more visit www.landcommission.gov.scot or call **0300 244 4452**

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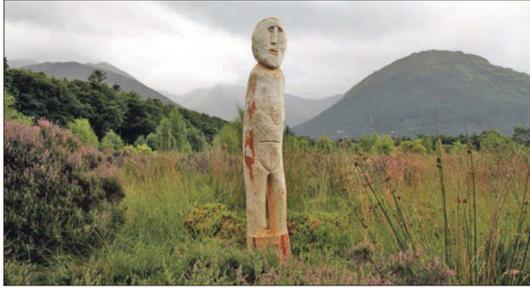
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Iron Age experts resurrect Ballachulish Goddess

THE MYSTERIOUS Iron Age carving known as the 'Ballachulish Goddess' has been recreated by a team of archaeologists, artists and carvers, not far from where the original effigy was found on the shores of Loch Leven in 1880, writes Mark Entwistle.

Known officially as the Ballachulish Figure by the National Museums of Scotland where the original mysterious carving resides, the new copy gives a better idea of what the 2,500-year-old original might have looked like



The finished replica of the Ballachulish Goddess. F32 Ballachulish Goddess

before its waterlogged wood dried out after being lifted from the shore of Loch Leven during building work.

The original is an approximately life-sized figure of a girl or goddess, carved from a single piece of alder, with pebbles for eyes. Her fame now stretches around the world after having been seen by millions of visitors.

Although the figure is unique in Scotland, other wooden figures dating to the Bronze and Iron Ages are known from Britain, Ireland and the continent.

And that is why a team of specialists, led by experts from the University of Cork, were in Ballachulish at the weekend.

Their work, known as The Pallasboy Project, explores the creative process involved in the crafting of prehistoric wooden artefacts beginning with the 'Pallasboy Vessel', an Iron Age wooden artefact discovered in 2000 in County Westmeath.

It is the second phase of the project which looks at the creativity and woodworking skills behind the anthropomorphic

wooden figurines recovered from wetlands across Europe.

Environmental archaeology lecturer Dr Benjamin Gearey lead the group which recreated the Ballachulish Goddess, using the village hall as a base.

He said: 'We've had an open day so local people could come and see what we are doing. At the end of it there was a ceremony to witness the figure being unveiled. It will be up to the community to decide what they want to do with her and where to put her on display.'

WHAT'S ON

GET OUT your dancing shoes on Saturday August 12 for Kilmallie Community Centre's Lochaber Old Time Dance night. Starting at 8pm and running until midnight, music will be provided by Bruce Lindsay and his Scottish Dance Band. Tickets are priced £7, which includes tea and a raffle.

STAFF and volunteer members of Caol-based Lochaber Sensory Care (LSC) for Sight and Hearing Support will be in Ardnamurchan on Monday August 14. The team will be at Acharacle Medical Practice from 10.30am until 11.30am and at Dail Mhor Care Home, Strontian, from 12.30pm until 1.30pm. At both venues, the LSC representatives will offer help and advice to those with a sight or hearing loss. They will also supply NHS hearing aid batteries and re-tubing for hearing aids. No appointment necessary.

THERE will be two blood donor sessions in the Nevis Centre, Fort William, on Wednesday August 16. The first session will run from 1.30-4pm, with the second from 5-7.15pm. The sessions are by appointment only. To book a place call 03459 090999 by the day before.

Charity collection tin snatched

SOMETIME between Friday July 21 and Sunday July 23, a Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team charity collection tin was stolen from the reception of Linnhe Lochside Holidays Caravan Park, Corpach.

Anyone with any information about the theft should contact Fort William Police Station on telephone number 101 quoting incident number NP/6421/17.

Row erupts as hotel fence blocks path

MARK ENTWISTLE
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ONE OF the Highlands' most prestigious hotels is at the centre of a row over public access to a footpath popular with hikers and Glencoe residents.

The target of walkers' ire is a new fence being built across a 121-year-old public footpath at the rear of the Glencoe House hotel.

They say it affects access to the trails at Glencoe Lochan and that the path is a popular route and a suitable track for mobility access for disabled people from Invercoe and for visitors.

There is still a gap in the fence but it is regularly blocked with men-at-work warning signs and traffic cones.

Glencoe House, built in 1896 by Lord Strathcona, is one of the most famous properties in the

Highlands. Used as a hospital during the Second World War, Glencoe House was eventually closed as a medical facility in 2009 and two years later was bought and restored by Robert Niemeyer and Judy Pate and turned into the luxury hotel.

The path runs between the rear of the hotel and what was previously former stables and an ambulance station, which the hotel's owners converted into additional luxury accommodation.

Local mountain and walking guide Simon Nadin told the *Lochaber Times* people were furious over the erection of the fence.

'I have no doubt this issue is not going to go away. Local people are being made aware of the action and are clearly angry at the high-handed manner with which it has been implemented,' he said.

'There's been no consultation with the local community about any of this and that has put quite a lot of people's backs up.

'This is not acceptable in this day and age.

'There can be no return to a Victorian attitude about public land access.'

Asked to comment, a Highland Council spokesperson said it was aware of the situation which is under investigation.

Helen Todd, Ramblers Scotland's campaigns and policy manager, said the national organisation shared the disappointment and frustration of locals and visiting outdoor enthusiasts over the blocking of the path.

'Highland Council has designated this route as a 'core path', meaning it is one of the most important in the area for walkers, cyclists, horse-riders and others who want to enjoy the

woodland around the Glencoe Lochan,' she told the *Lochaber Times*. Calling for the path to be re-opened, she added: 'We have contacted the council's access team to offer our support to their efforts to resolve the issue as soon as possible.'

Ramblers Scotland says the suggested alternative route is far less appealing and not suitable for all users.

The original path was a wide track that could be used by everyone to explore the woods, including those with buggies or the less able.

And the Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (ScotWays) says the path may also meet the criteria to be a right of way and called on people to share information regarding its use.

Despite several attempts, no response from Mr Niemeyer was forthcoming before we went to press.



The new fence at the rear of Glencoe House which has caused anger among local people.



Ross MacGregor feeds Angus the young bull and calf, Charlie. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

Community council objects to Achnabobane attraction

PLANS for a £2 million garden centre and visitor attraction at Achnabobane have been vetoed by Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council, writes Ellie Forbes.

The council objected to the plans for a petting zoo, garden centre and restaurant on land just off the A82 by Achnabobane resident Ross MacGregor when it met on Tuesday August 1.

Mr MacGregor had intended to attend the meeting with his planning team, who were travelling from Edinburgh, but called

off at the last minute after the death of a close friend who lived on his farm left him 'devastated and heartbroken'.

The community council unanimously objected to the plans for various reasons, including concerns about access to the site from the A82.

Community councillors said access to the single track road from the A82 would need a feeder lane, in and out, with community council chairman John Fotheringham saying Transport Scotland would not 'pay a penny' for these improvements.

In its objection the community council said: 'The applicant has failed to include any information to enable us to consider the likely on and off site transport implications.'

'Given the anticipated visitor numbers, the traffic generated was likely to involve an additional 15,000 to 30,000 movements in and out of the site along the A82 and onto a single track, unclassified road.

'The entrance to Achnabobane is at the top of a rise and the A82 speed limit at this point is 60mph.

'The volume of traffic turning into the unclassified road would constitute a significant risk to other road users.'

Speaking to the *Lochaber Times*, Mr MacGregor rebutted the claims, stating Achnabobane residents 'didn't need to have reservations' as traffic turning into the site from the A82 would only be going 10 yards up the single track road before turning off.

He said: 'The House of Bruar and The Green Welly Stop are hugely successful visitors attractions, both of which are situated

on extremely busy roads. Our adopted road at Achnabobane is of extremely high standard and cars would only be going 10 yards up that road before turning off into the visitor attraction - no where near the houses in Achnabobane.

'We welcome any comments from Transport Scotland and want to work with the community to address concerns.'

Mr MacGregor added this would be a good opportunity to install a bus stop to encourage people to take public transport to the site.

He said: 'I think the community council is being short sighted. We are not looking to create something new but expand what is already here, creating jobs and a place where family and visitors can go.'

The community council also noted the proposed site is not in the West Highland and Islands local development plan as a settlement or earmarked for growth.

Mr MacGregor confirmed they are in the process of trying to get the site on the development plan.

Passenger lambasts 'poor' rail service

A GLASGOW nun has lambasted rail bosses over what she claims is the unacceptable poor standard of rail services connecting the city with Fort William.

Sister Ishbel MacPherson, a native of Fort William who has lived in Glasgow for many years, told the *Lochaber Times* how the morning train she was travelling on from Glasgow's Queen Street Station to Fort William on Monday July 24, stopped at Crianlarich.

'All the passengers bound for Fort William and Mallaig were asked to disembark and to board a bus for the remainder of their journey. When I asked a member of staff what the reason was, I was told it was because there was not enough crew,' said Sister MacPherson. 'Being a pensioner, I could have travelled on the bus for free if I'd known about the train problems, instead of spending £53.40 only to be deposited in Crianlarich and told to get on a bus. There was no advance warning at Queen Street Station so I didn't get a choice. And in June, when I travelled on a 7.45am train from Roy Bridge, there was no trolley service all the way to Glasgow, or any wi-fi.'

'It's a bit much expecting people to make a four-hour train trip with nothing to eat or drink.'

Sister MacPherson says she has since written a letter of complaint to the chief executive of ScotRail Alliance.

'When you see adverts claiming 90 per cent of Scots are satisfied with rail services in this country, they obviously don't mean people in the Fort William area,' she said. 'It just seems to be the end of the line that no-one cares about, with Oban getting preferential treatment.'

ScotRail Alliance confirmed that between June 25 and July 23 there was a single cancellation of service because of a shortage of either a driver or conductor. There was a further cancellation on Thursday August 3 due to there being no driver.

A ScotRail Alliance spokesperson said: 'It is extremely frustrating for customers when we have to cancel a service at short notice and we always try to give as much notice as possible. In the rare occurrence of this happening, we'll provide replacement bus or taxi travel to get customers to their destinations.'

Sister MacPherson added: 'The bus doesn't take the same route as the train, so if you were hoping to see a certain part of the country from the train, you'd miss out on that as well.'

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FW

New Jersey piper takes the honours at Mallaig and Morar Games

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PIPERS from as far afield as the United States and Germany ensured fierce competition for the trophies at a rain-soaked Lovat Memorial Field for the Mallaig and Morar Highland Games on Sunday.

As well as the keenly contested piping events, the games also hosted the traditional range of heavy events and races.

The overall piping title went to New Jersey professional piper instructor Derek Midgely, who spoke of his delight at taking the top slot.

He said: 'Of course I'm delighted to have won the overall title, although disappointed I wasn't able to repeat my success of last year with the piobaireachd.' Derek also won the Dunvegan Medal at the Skye Gathering in 2016, among a host of other prizes and placings.

Derek, who has been piping for 20 years and coming to Scotland for a decade, added: 'This is my third games in a row this year and it's always great to be back.'

A former student of Glasgow University, he is a regular fixture on the Scottish summer piping contest circuit.

At Morar, Derek took top spot in the march section, to which he added two second places for

piobaireachd and Strathspey and Reel, plus a third in hornpipe and jig.

Another well-known piping competitor from overseas was Anna Kummerlow, of Germany, who is back in Scotland for four weeks competing on the Highland games circuit.

A professional piper who has been playing for the last 15 years, Anna grew up with the sound of the pipes as both her parents play.

'This is my third games this week, so pretty busy,' she told us during a break in competition. 'The weather's not great but that doesn't really bother me. I'm just delighted to be here and taking part and hoping to do well.'

She did do well, taking fourth spot in the piobaireachd and second place in the march section behind Derek.

Games secretary Anne-Marie Buchanan said the weather forecast was probably to blame for the slight drop in spectators, but a reasonable sized crowd had still braved the elements.

'There's a lot of visitors and tourists among the crowd and that's nice to see and when folk are on holiday they want to get out and see things, even if the weather isn't too great,' she said.

'The level of competition in all the events is pretty high, which is good.'

Chieftain for the first time was David Shaw Stewart of Traigh House at nearby Arisaig who, as well as officially declaring the games open, presented the trophies and prizes.

Opening the games, Mr Shaw Stewart told of the importance of the event to keeping alive tradition and culture.

'What we have here is the great celebration of Highland culture that our games represent,' he told those present.

'The disastrous end to Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobite rebellion resulted in a determined effort by the Hanoverian government to abolish Highland dress and customs.

'But the Highland spirit remained inextinguishable and that is what we celebrate with our games - with all the unique heavy events, but also the wonderful dancing and extraordinary footwork that so enchants us all.

'And you will have heard the stirring pipes accompanying us down to the games field and I would also draw your particular attention to the piping competitions.

'These are great classical pieces of Highland music and you will hear the pibroch played in all its glory. There are some of the very best pipers around playing here.'



Overall piping winner Derek Midgely, right, with Ceol Mor winner Dr Peter McCallister. Photograph: PipesDrums Magazine.



Games Chieftain David Shaw Stewart with announcer Ian MacLellan right. B32 Morar Games 4JP



Thor Gylfason from Iceland was a winner at this year's heavy competition. B32 Morar Games 10JP



Competitors go flat out in the men's 400m race. B32 Morar Games 7JP



Above: Spectators cheer on some young runners. B32 Morar Games 8JP



Right: Abigail Cloughton from Swindon takes part in one of the junior heavy events. B32 Morar Games 3JP



There was keen competition in the Highland dancing. B32 Morar Games 6JP



The first girls race gets under way. B32 Morar Games 9JP

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Results

Piping
Judges: Pipe Majors Ian McFadyen and Archie MacLean
Piobaireachd: 1 Peter McCallister, Dunblane; 2 Derek Midgely, New Jersey; 3 Ursa Beckford, Maine. John Gillies, Bourblach, Memorial Cup - Peter McCallister. March - 1 Derek Midgely, New Jersey; 2 Anna Kummerlow, Germany; 3 Ursa Beckford, Maine. Strathspey and Reel - 1 John Angus Smith, South Uist; 2 Derek Midgely, New Jersey; 3 Alan Clark, Aberdeen. Jigs and Hornpipe - 1 Ursa Beckford, Maine; 2 John Angus Smith, South Uist; 3 Derek Midgely, New Jersey. Top adult piper - bottle Ben Nevis Whisky - Derek Midgely. 18 and under Piper, March: 1 Finlay Cameron, Roy Bridge; 2 Ben Fulford, Fort William; 3 Donal Bremner, Inverary. MacBrayne Cup - Finlay Cameron. Strathspey and Reel - 1 Finlay Cameron, Roy Bridge; 2 Donal Bremner, Inverary. Simon MacKinnon Trophy - Finlay Cameron.

Open heavy events
Heavy events sponsors: Road to the Isles Marketing Group
Putting the 16lb ball - 1 Thor Gylfason, Iceland; 2 Peter Hart, Glenshee; 3 Andrew Johnson, Fort William. Putting the 22lb ball - 1 Thor Gylfason, Iceland; 2 Peter Hart, Glenshee; 3 Andrew Johnson, Fort William. 56lb weight over the bar - 1 Peter Hart, Glenshee; 2 Thor Gylfason, Iceland; 3 Andrew Johnson, Fort William. 56lb Weight for Distance - 1 Peter Hart, Glenshee; 2 Thor Gylfason, Iceland; 3 Andrew Johnson, Fort William. 22lb Hammer - 1 Thor Gylfason, Iceland; 2 Peter Hart, Glenshee; 3 Andrew Johnson, Fort William. Tossing the caber - 1 Peter Hart, Glenshee; 2 Thor Gylfason, Iceland; 3 Andrew Johnson, Fort William. Big Mac Cup in memory of Ian MacNaughton and bottle of Ben Nevis Whisky - Peter Hart.

Local heavy events
22lb Hammer - 1 Andrew Johnson, Fort William; 2 Francis Cousins, Morar. Putting the 16lb ball - 1 Andrew Johnson, Fort William; 2 Francis Cousins, Morar.

Open dancing
Adult Highland Fling - 1 Rebecca Sproat, Alexandria; 2 Molly Williams, Shetland. Adult Sword dance - 1 Rebecca Sproat, Alexandria; 2 Molly Williams, Shetland.

Adult Sean Truibhas - 1 Rebecca Sproat, Alexandria; 2 Molly Williams, Shetland. Adult Reel of Tulloch - 1 Rebecca Sproat, Alexandria; 2 Molly Williams, Shetland. Adult Hornpipe - 1 Rebecca Sproat, Alexandria; 2 Molly Williams, Shetland. Adult Irish Jig - 1 Rebecca Sproat, Alexandria, 2 Molly Williams, Shetland. John and Mae MacVarish Memorial Trophy - Rebecca Sproat. 13 and under 16 Highland Fling - 1 Isla MacKenzie, Fearn; 2 Anna MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir. Swords - 1 Isla MacKenzie, Fearn; 2 Anna MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir. Sean Truibhas - 1 Isla MacKenzie, Fearn; 2 Anna MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir. Reel of Tulloch - 1 Anna MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 2 Isla MacKenzie, Fearn. Hornpipe - 1 Isla MacKenzie, Fearn; 2 Anna MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir. Irish Jig - 1 Isla MacKenzie, Fearn; 2 Anna MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir. Bank of Scotland Quaich - Isla MacKenzie. 12 and under Highland Fling - 1 Innes Mackenzie, Fearn. Sword - 1 Innes Mackenzie, Fearn. Sean Truibhas - 1 Innes Mackenzie, Fearn. Reel of Tulloch - 1 Innes Mackenzie, Fearn. Hornpipe - 1 Innes Mackenzie, Fearn. Irish Jig - 1 Innes Mackenzie, Fearn. Bank of Scotland Quaich - 1 Innes Mackenzie.

Track
Men's 200m - 1 Fergus Newman, Huntly; 2 William Newman, Huntly; 3 Shaun Friel, Cambuslang. Mallaig and Morar Games Cup - Fraser Davis, Mallaig. Women's 200m - 1 Kathryn Arkles, Northumberland; 2 Kirsy Hunter, Glasgow; 3 Ciri Vail, Alaska. Men's 400m - 1 Leodhais MacPherson, Mallaig/Newcastle; 2 Fergus Newman, Huntly; 3 William Newman, Huntly. Women's 400m - 1 Ciri Vail, Alaska; 2 Grace Cloughton, Swindon. 1,500m - 1 Fergus Newman, Huntly; 2 Leodhais MacPherson, Mallaig/Newcastle; 3 Kenneth MacPherson, Mallaig/Newcastle. Women - 1 Ciri Vail, Alaska; 2 Zoe Diamond, Melbourne. Men's 100m - 1 Fergus Newman, Huntly; 2 Jimmy Blackwell, Burton-on-Trent; 3 Shaun Friel, Cambuslang. Morar Motors Cup - Fraser Davis. Women's 100m - 1 Oceane Berger, France; 2 Camarie Berger, France; 3 Clarisse Prouvost, Talin. Cross Country Race - 1 Kenny MacPherson, Mallaig; 2 Fergus Newman, Huntly; 3 William Newman, Huntly. Women - 1 Ciri Vail, Alaska. Jackie MacKellaig Memorial Trophy - Kenny MacPherson. 12 and under cross country race - Boys - 1 Andrew Bartley, Derbyshire; 2 Finn Geddes, Morar; 3 Katie Henderson, Edinburgh. Angus MacKellaig Memorial Trophy - Finn Geddes. 200m boys, 13 to 16 years, 1 Fraser Davis, Mallaig; 2 James Rayner, Winchester; 3 Dylan Conway, Changford. 200m Girls 13 - 16 - 1 Emma Hunter, Glasgow; 2 Bobbie Eccles, Ayr; 3 Charley Thomson, Newport; International Reel - 1 Team Willis; 2 Team Bog; 3 Team Taylor. Children's events, Boys 10 to 12 - 1 Andrew Bartley, Derbyshire; 2 Euan Gillies, Ascot; Morar; 3 Finn Geddes, Morar. Girls 10 - 12 - 1 Katie Henderson, Edinburgh; 2 Abigail Cloughton, Swindon; 3 Grace MacDonald, Morar. Boys 7 - 9 - 1 James Henderson, Edinburgh; 2 Henry Dunn, London; 3 Jake Watson, Glasgow. Girls 7 - 9 - 1 Rebecca McKinven, Glasgow; 2 Kathleen Cloughton, Swindon; 3 Emma McDonnell, Morar. Boys 5 - 6 - 1 Liam, Foulton, England; 2 Jacob Niven, England; 3 Robbie Gillies, Kinloch; Event 45 - Girls 5-6 - 1 Jessica McKinven, Glasgow; 2 Abigail Ross, Doncaster; 3 Phoebe Rubisch, England. Boys age 4 - 1 Mac Watson, Glasgow; 2 Fergus MacLennan, Mallaig; 3 Jack McKinven, Glasgow. 3 and under - 1 Brocke Margaret Robson, Fort William; 2 Jamie Basil, Aberdeen.

Junior Highland Games - Boys shot 8 - 11 years - 1 Jack, Appin; 2 Robert, Hampshire; 3 Callum, Staffs. Girls shot 8 - 11 years - 1 Abigail, Swindon; 2 Charley, Newport. Boys weight 8 - 11 years - 1 Jack, Appin; 2 Euan, Ascot; 3 Abby, Ascot. Girls weight 8-11 years - 1 Abigail, Swindon; 2 Charley, Newport. Boys cwen 8-11 years - 1 Jack, Appin; 2 Callum, Staffs; 3 Owen, Edinburgh. Girls Caber 8-11 years - 1 Abigail, Swindon; 2 Charley, Newport; 3 Catherine, Swindon. Boys shot 12 - 14 years - 1 Ben MacDonald; 2 Harry Johnston, 3 Fraser Davis. Boys weight 12 - 14 years - 1 Ben MacDonald; 2 Edward Rayner; 3 Harry Johnston. Girls shot 12 - 14 years - 1 Eve Cloughton. Girls weight 12 - 14 years - 1 James Rayner; 2 James Martin; 3 Andrew McRobbie. Boys weight 15 - 17 years - 1 James Martin; 2 James Rayner; 3 Andrew McRobbie. Girls shot 15 - 17 years - 1 Oceane Berger; 2 Eilidh McCroskie; 3 Camarine Berger. Girls weight 15 - 17 years - 1 Oceane Berger; 2 Camarine Berger; 3 Eilidh McCroskie.

Warning shot over hydro plan

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CONSERVATION experts have fired a warning shot over the potential effects a proposed hydro power scheme could have on the landscape of one of the most unspoilt areas of the Highlands. The cautionary note was sounded in Scottish National Heritage's response to a request from Highland Council for the national body's opinion on the planned project involving eight micro-hydro schemes on Glen Dessary Estate. SNH says the landscape impacts have the potential to raise issues of national significance. The 15,000-acre estate, which belongs to Sir Patrick Grant, lies 30 miles west of Fort William, at

the head of remote Loch Arkaig. Reached by a 17-mile single-track road along the side of Loch Arkaig, the estate is famous for its deer and boar stalking and fishing. The area around Loch Arkaig is home to black grouse, pine marten, red deer, sea eagles, golden eagles, ospreys, red squirrels and wildcat. A meeting is to be held in Achnacarry village hall next month to discuss the proposed scheme which, if approved by planners, would see up to eight run-of-river hydro schemes generating a maximum 6.5MW of capacity. Each scheme would comprise of at least one intake, a buried pipeline carrying water to a powerhouse and an open, or

buried, tailrace to return water to the watercourse. A new connection would export power to the National Grid, as well as provide power to the Glen Dessary Estate and end the estate's reliance on diesel generators. Swindon-based Innogy Renewables Lt UK has produced a report for Highland Council after a year of river gauging, environmental surveys and initial consultation. The report forms the developer's written request to Highland Council seeking the latter's opinion on what information needs to be provided in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report that Innogy intends preparing for council planners ahead of a planning application being submitted.

The application sites fall within the defined Kinlochhour-Knoydart-Morar Wild Land Area and the locally designated Strathconon, Monar and Mullardoch Special Landscape Area. SNH says a development of this nature in this area raises issues which will require careful assessment as part of the EIA process. SNH South Highland operations officer Corrina Mertens has told Highland Council that if it proved impossible to adequately address the impacts of the proposal on the Kinlochhour-Knoydart-Morar Wild Land Area through design and layout, it could lead to an objection from SNH. 'Given the information presented within the report,

we consider the impacts have the potential to raise issues of national significance, which may lead us to object,' said Ms Mertens. 'At this stage it is not possible for us to advise on whether the proposal is likely to result in significant adverse impacts on the wild land. 'However, we highlight this as a possibility given the sensitivities of the location.' The issue also surfaced at this month's meeting of Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council. Chairman John Fotheringham told fellow councillors it was an important issue. 'It is a very remote area, very wild country and some of the most beautiful and iconic coun-

tryside in Scotland,' he said. While the residents affected and the community council were broadly in favour of further investment in renewable electricity projects such as micro hydro schemes, councillors agreed they would want to seek guarantees about the sympathetic reinstatement of the landscape and how the impact on this pristine wild land would be minimised. The impact of increased traffic and its effect on residents and tourists would have to be evaluated, as would the various environmental issues. A meeting will be held with Energy Renewables UK LTD at Achnacarry Village hall on Monday September 13 at 7.30pm for residents and community councillors.

Frustration over bus shelter delay

FRUSTRATION is mounting in Fort William over a long delay in replacing the health centre bus shelter. A temporary shelter was erected at the site in February, after the original was knocked down by a bus last July. The *Lochaber Times* contacted Bidwells to get an update on the situation. A spokesperson for Bidwells property consultants, which is acting on behalf of the owner of the land on which the shelter is situated, said: 'We are acutely aware of the frustration this has caused amongst bus passengers. We have been battling to get this issue resolved for many months and have been faced with one obstacle after another. We had hoped the new, bespoke bus shelter would have been installed by now but it has been delayed by protracted negotiations with other parties involved. 'We are as keen as the passengers for a shelter to be erected as soon as possible and we are doing all we can to progress the matter.'

Amazing fundraiser boosts treatment fund

FRIENDS and family of a Fort William man with multiple sclerosis (MS) turned out in force last weekend, raising more than £5,000 towards ground-breaking treatment. As part of a push to raise £45,000 to send Gary Campbell to Mexico for stem cell treatment, a packed day of events was organised last Sunday. Gary, 29, was diagnosed with primary progressive MS three months ago and his friends and family have since launched a fundraising campaign so he can receive Hematopoietic Stem Cell Treatment (HSCT), which aims to combat MS. Sunday's fundraising culminated in a shinty match and stalls at An Aird. Two teams made up of former pupils of Caol and Banavie primary schools' shinty teams, some of whom haven't played since, took to the field in an exhibition match in aid of Gary. In a good spirited encounter, the Caol side won 4-1. Baking and face-painting stalls and a raffle also helped draw the crowds as plenty of families turned up to join in the fun and

to support Gary's cause. The day's events raised an incredible £5,460. An evening at Roobarb night club on Friday and a Teddy Toddle on Saturday raised even more. Leanne Crawford, Gary's partner, said: 'We're shocked by the turnout and support. We tried to count everyone on the field on Sunday but couldn't. There was well over 100.' 'A huge thank you to Ann and Peter MacIntyre who organised the events on Sunday. They've been great and it meant Gary and I had little to do on the day. We'd also like to thank the Black family who have donated money towards Gary's cause which was very generous. Thank you also to Stuart Whyte who kindly donated £500.' Leanne continued: 'We reckon we have now raised between £11,000 and £12,000 in only eight weeks, which is outstanding.' Although he wasn't able to attend, Gary said he was overwhelmed with the turnout on Sunday and thanked everyone for their continued support.



Teams made up of former pupils who played in Caol and Banavie primary schools' shinty teams played a fundraising match for Gary Campbell on Sunday. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, the Write Image.



Gary Campbell.

“We're shocked by the turnout.”

Leanne Crawford.



Gary's girlfriend Leanne Crawford with helpers Demi MacKenzie, left, Lauryn MacKenna, 9, and Kye Crawford, 12, at the home baking stall. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, the Write Image.

Joint effort to secure Skye tourism

PROGRESS is being made to ensure Skye remains 'the jewel in the Highland crown' following a second meeting to discuss tourism pressures on the island. Skye MSP Kate Forbes said she was encouraged by the progress of plans for tourism on Skye after a meeting with tourism group SkyeConnect and local councillors who are working together for the good of the island. She said: 'I share people's frustrations over the summer but the key is uniting as a group with a plan for the island. 'I was pleased to meet again with SkyeConnect and local councillors and hear about the progress we are making. I can assure everyone we are working extremely hard to deliver significant changes for next summer. 'This work is running parallel to other initiatives, particularly those led by local groups includ-

ing Staffin Community Trust, and I also have sought the help of Cabinet Secretary for Tourism Fiona Hyslop. 'If we can each do our bit and work together for a common purpose of relieving the pressures on Skye, we will be successful.' Councillor John Gordon said: 'We all acknowledge the need for capacity regarding infrastructure and making the island easily accessible to tourists and residents. 'The meeting with all Eilean A' Cheo councillors, Kate Forbes and SkyeConnect was a step forward in addressing the issues we all face. 'Skye is a success story and we need to build on that so that our economy continues to thrive, the infrastructure is in place and our beautiful scenery is protected.' In June, SkyeConnect chairwoman Shirley Spear was a

guest speaker at the first of a series of meetings organised by Ms Forbes to identify and find solutions to the pressures on the island caused by increases in tourism. After the meeting in Portree on Monday August 7, Ms Spear said: 'SkyeConnect is keen to work with local councillors and MSP Kate Forbes on behalf of the people of Skye. We want to see significant changes for next year and ensure that over the longer term Skye is as well prepared as possible to welcome visitors to the island. 'All of us see the need to ensure Skye gets the investment it needs and we are committed to working with elected representatives and other community leaders to make that happen. The group agreed to meet again in August so work can start in late autumn and over winter.

No pollution fears for glen, say experts

ENVIRONMENTAL protection officials have confirmed there are no pollution fears surrounding a lochan at one of Skye's most famous beauty spots. Last month, many of the hundreds who visit the Fairy Glen above Uig were left puzzled by the bright orange streaks in the waters of the lochan at the foot of the glen. Theories on what had caused the discolouration included the possible presence of iron ore or algal bloom. The mysterious streaks vanished when wind blew but were clearly visible when the surface of the loch was still.

The situation was reported by local residents to the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA). Asked to comment, a SEPA spokesperson said: 'SEPA and the Highland Council investigated a report of discolouration in the Fairy Glen earlier in July. We are content previous investigations have ruled out any local sources of pollution and are satisfied any changes in water quality are likely to be the result of naturally occurring processes. 'However, we would advise members of the public to contact us on 0800 807060 to report any potential pollution incidents.'

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Kinlochleven

PUPILS at Kinlochleven High School have been rewarded for their volunteering and community action.

More than 100 pupils recently received their SALTIRE certificates from Ian Blackford MP in a presentation marking the thousands of hours the pupils have dedicated to volunteering in the community.

Kinlochleven High School head teacher Rebecca Machin, said: 'Eighty seven Kinlochleven High School pupils contributed 3,000 hours of volunteering last year.

'I didn't think that could be improved upon, however, this year we had 113 volunteers contributing more than 5,000 hours.

'It is only right and proper our young people's hard work is recorded and recognised through this government supported award scheme.'

The pupils organised and took part in a wide range of activities, including the school's Christmas show, which raised more than £2,000 for their community, the Active Schools Sports Leader initiative and the Rock Challenge.

The 113-strong team of pupils also worked with the UNICEF Club, which helps raise money for charities such as Social Bite, Water Aid, Breast Cancer Awareness and Down Syndrome Scotland, as well as volunteering with Kinlochlovin' and presenting on the Drive Time Show for Nevis Radio.

Mrs Machin continued: 'For a school as small as ours to have so many taking part is a great testament to the fabulous community spirit and enterprise we have here.'

Ardnamurchan

A FATHER and son from Ipswich are taking on an emissions free coast-to-coast journey, with Ardnamurchan Lighthouse the westerly checkpoint.

Beginning on Friday October 6, Matt Porter, 48, and his father Ken, 75, will attempt to complete a 1,200 mile round-trip from Ness Point in East Anglia, the most easterly point in the UK, to Ardnamurchan Lighthouse, the most westerly point in mainland UK, using a Tesla Model S 100D electric car.

The challenge is expected to last four days with breaks for 'supercharging' at charge points along with overnight stays in Ullswater and Scotland.

Matt said: 'Tesla has kindly provided a Model S 100D for our challenge.'

'It has a range of more than 300 miles between charges and recharge times as fast as 30 minutes. We're super excited to be attempting this challenge together and looking forward to some father and son time and amazing scenery.'

The pair are also looking to have a number of exchanges of gifts, between the two lighthouses at either end of the route. Matt will be filming, blogging, vlogging and live streaming as much of the trip as possible.

Raasay

THE FIRST distillery on the isle of Raasay will open for business next month.

Whisky makers R and B Distillers will officially open the Isle of Raasay Distillery in September.

Bringing the whisky craft to this uncharted whisky region, R and B Distillers, co-founded by Alasdair Day and Bill Dobbie, will create the first Raasay Scotch, which will be ready to drink from 2020.

Alasdair said: 'It is the location, an island off an island with complex geology, water and island climate with probably the best views from any distillery in Scotland, that makes Raasay ideal for our innovative Scotch whisky distillery.'

The island's 120 residents have watched eagerly as the disused Gothic villa hotel, Borodale House, has been transformed into the new distillery, adjacent visitors' centre and Na Tùsairan Club members' accommodation which will open later.

In February 2016, R and B Distillers received permission from the Highland Council to bring the first distillery to Raasay and they subsequently secured grants from the Food Processing Marketing and Co-Operation Grants Scheme and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

R and B stands for Raasay and Borders, encompassing two sides of a family and a landscape. Alasdair Day's great grandfather, Allan MacDonald, hailed from the Hebrides while his other great grandfather, Richard Day, was a masterblender in the Borders.

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MSP Annabelle Ewing with the crew at Lochaline fire station.

Firefighters praised for vital work

LOCHABER firefighters have been hailed for their unwavering commitment in protecting rural communities.

Retained Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) crews at Lochaline and Fort William met with MSP Annabelle Ewing, deputy chief officer Iain Bushell and local senior officer John MacDonald on Tuesday August 1.

Speaking after the visit, Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs Annabelle Ewing, said: 'The work done by the retained duty system and

volunteer firefighters is excellent and vital in keeping our remote and rural communities safe. Retained fire crews are at the very heart of their communities, which is so clearly demonstrated here at Lochaline where the school and station share a campus.'

Lochaline Fire Station watch manager Lesley Jones leads a nine-strong crew, made up of five women and four men.

Lesley, a 62-year-old grandmother who has racked up more than 20 years with the SFRS, said: 'We are

firefighters who provide a service by the community, for the community and work as part of a team. We have drive and dedication.'

Fort William watch manager Chris Findlay has been a firefighter since 1988 and has played a leading role in helping tackle hundreds of incidents including major wildfires.

He added: 'For many it's not just a job but a calling. In a small community, the people you help can sometimes be people you know which makes it all the more worthwhile.'

Fort William

PROPOSALS to build a new cinema in Fort William will be showcased next week and Lochaber residents are being urged to give their views.

Lochaber Cinema Group (LCG) will be holding a drop-in event next Saturday where the plans can be viewed. The group will welcome any thoughts and opinions from those interested in having a cinema in Fort William again.

LCG aims to buy unit five and six at Airds Crossing in Fort William town centre – formerly Wynnes Butcher and Oceans takeaway – for a combined price of £180,000 and transform it into a two-screen, 160-seat cinema.

In compliance with its charitable status, LCG hope to help improve the arts, heritage and culture in the area as well as provide another recreational space for youngsters to enjoy.

The consultation meeting will take place at Duncansburgh MacIntosh Church on Saturday August 19 from 1.30pm until 5.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and for further enquiries call 01397701126.

Highland art graduate opens first exhibition in Stornoway

HAVING graduated from the Royal College of Art this year, Inverness-born artist Shaun Fraser has opened his first solo exhibition at An Lanntair, Stornoway.

Opened last Friday, August 4, the exhibition will run until September 16.

Primarily a glass artist, Shaun's work focuses on notions of connection, identity and belonging and references the raw, emotive, elemental landscape of his native Highlands and islands.

Among the most exciting exhibits are a series of glass and bronze casts of peats from Lewis moorland along with screen-prints.

The exhibition also features two components of his Atlantic Series: a set each of Canadian Moose and Scottish Red Deer antlers cast in glass.

Much of the work follows on from his period as Suileachan artist-in-residence in Uig on Lewis in 2016.

Head of Visual Art at An Lanntair, Roddy Murray, said: 'It's always exciting to be able to transition young artists that have excelled through the art school system to a wider audience and to help showcase and launch them in their practice.'

'Shaun's work combines a profound understanding of Highland history with innovative and elevated technical standards. It is both elemental and subtle.'

During his exhibition, Shaun will be hosting a basic introduction to the glass casting process.

Anyone wishing more information should go to lanntair.com.

Seafish survey returns to Lochaber

VESSEL owners and skippers in Lochaber and Mull are being invited to participate in the 12th annual economic survey of the UK fishing fleet.

Researchers will be in ports from Mallaig to Oban from August 14 to August 18 to gather data on fishing and vessel costs in order to provide a comprehensive overview of the financial and operational performance of the fishing industry.

The 2017 survey hopes to uncover a similar success story to last year, which saw the UK fishing sector experience its best economic performance since 2008.

The most recent results published found that the total UK fleet income increased by 19 per cent, while the operating profit increased year-on-year by an estimated 22 per cent. The researchers will also canvass fishermen's views on a range of current and future industry issues.

The next round of research, to be published in 2018, is crucial for uncovering the direction the industry is moving in. With the UK set to exit the EU in 2019, the survey will capture the mood on the ground and provide an insight into the expectations and concerns of the fishing industry.



Smiles all round from this happy trio of youngsters who attended last week's fèis.

Bumper year for Fèis Lochabair as youngsters hit the high notes

AROUND 150 youngsters got a taste of traditional music last week at Fèis Lochabair.

Whether they were honing their musical talent or picking up an instrument for the first time, the classes in Bun Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar were well-attended over five days.

From accordions and bagpipes to Gaelic song and step dancing, children of all ages, from nursery up to primary seven, were tutored by some of Lochaber's best working musicians.

Chairwoman of Fèis Lochabair Deirdre Beck said: 'This is the second year we've run in the summer as a trial. The numbers are

up this year so we are really pleased with how it has all gone.'

A concert on Friday afternoon saw the children perform their new musical skills.

The week was rounded off with a special 25th birthday ceilidh on Friday night with music from the Andrew MacDonald Band and the Ceilidh Trail.

Fèis Lochabair is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year and the team is looking to collect information and photos to help commemorate this milestone. If anyone has been involved with Fèis Lochabair over the years, then get in touch with the committee at feislochabair@gmail.com and send in any photos, stories or memories.

RETRO Roamer

More musings from Roamer

LETTER from Fran Hawkins, a travel agent from Indiana, who was one of the 18 visitors put up for the night in Fort William Tourist Office last weekend: 'Dear tourist officer, Your staff members, Moira and Colin, are two outstanding people of whom you should be very proud. They worked till 11pm that night, trying to find us hotel or B&B accommodation. Everywhere in and around town was full up. So they spent the night in the office with us all so we could stay on the premises and not be put out on the sidewalk. Moira and Colin did everything possible for us and I speak for everyone in sending them, and you, a huge thank you.'

MUM AND teenage daughter park their car at the back of Presto's. En route to the Post Office the lassie shrieks: 'Mum, you've still got your slippers on!' Mum is most embarrassed and makes a beeline for the car. They went to the Post Office in Caol, after a change of footwear at home.

THEN there was Harry who, these days, is into jogging. Last Sunday he ran up and down the Cow Hill. 'I deserve a pint for that,' Harry mused. So, back down in the High Street, he jumped into this car. 'Take me to the BA Club, please,' instructed our hero. No answer. So Harry repeated the request. To this, a somewhat bemused, albeit not amused gent responded, 'Sorry, mate, I'm not a taxi. I'm waiting for the wife to come out of the paper shop.' So a not very happy Harry the jogger, with red face and sore feet, made his own way out the road as far as the Railway Club. At least he wasn't wearing slippers.

DID YOU hear about the 'phantom bandit' in the Masonic Club? It appears Cameron the steward was sitting alone, reading his paper, when, suddenly, there was a loud clatter of coins and the fruit machine began paying out. But no-one was playing it. On investigation, Cameron noted a pile of money taking up a lot of floor. No sooner had he started reading again when 'bang' another payout. Again, no one about. It couldn't go on, however, and the bandit has now been 'cured'.

A SYNDICATE of Lochaber High School teachers had a shot up in the pools. A total of 16 of them shared the win and they were all convinced their lifestyles would change. How much did they get? Well, with all the current activity with the darts championships on the telly, the winnings can best be described as 180. Pence! Not each, either, but in total. So they'll each receive 11 pence. They're running a sweepstake for the other four pence.

LET US not forget the unhappy punters during the recent power cut. At 13.44 on Monday there was much weeping and gnashing of teeth as the electronics were down. Ladbroke's couldn't take bets; they couldn't pay out. No betting shows, no results. Worse still, perhaps, the counter staff couldn't even microwave their pieces.

A COUPLE of our Lochaber football experts/exports were in the news over the weekend. First it was Duncan Shearer who won the Littlewood's Strikers Award Scheme's £500 prize. Duncan had notched a hat trick for Huddersfield Town in a Littlewood's Cup match. He donated all the money to Caol primary – of which he is a former pupil – for the school to buy new strips. Next it was Donald Park, now of Meadowbank, who was featured. Donald had been red-carded near the end of a needle match and the photo caption read 'Park benched'.

IT WAS great fun to see our lance corporals of industry and local government all rigged out in their Marine Harvest gear on Friday. Their Ena Sharples hairnets were topped by Elvis Presley G1 type headgear, and the visitors were 'dressed overall' in white button-up coats. The feet got the treatment, too. So you had the edifying sight of around 100 local ladies and gents padding about the floor of the new plant on the Blar in their Wee Willie Winkie style white galoshes. The local press succeeded in looking quite dignified in their outfits, of course. But the main man representing the company steered a middle course. He elected to be hat-less and galoshes-less. Try saying that last bit after a couple of free Marine Harvest drams.

OVERPROVISION of licensed premises in Fort William High Street? Seventeen outlets are already situated there. But, as was stated at the Licensing Board meeting: 'There are fewer pubs in the High Street nowadays than there were 60 years ago – and it was only a wee place then.'

Certainly every statistical account from day one referred to the Fort as having 'ale houses and dram houses without number – some operating with a licence, most without'. So now the town is to have 18 bars. Will there be objections when an application is lodged for 'one over the 18'?

LOCHABER lassie competing in the ladies' tug of war at the Ben Race. Put her contact lenses in their wee box before taking the strain. After the contest she realised she'd lost the wee box. So she made her way over to the secretary's tent to report her difficulty. 'Give us a call later and we'll see if anyone has sighted them,' she was advised. She duly does so. Comes the reply. 'Sorry, the only thing that's been handed in is a hearing aid.'

Local lady persists: 'Is it in a wee box?' Answer in the affirmative. 'Is the box marked with the word 'lens'? Yes, again. 'Well,' says she, 'That hearing aid's my contact lenses.' And it was. Or, they were.



Post Office buildings, Onich.

Drivers vent anger over problem parking meters

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk



The notice on an Oban meter.

FRUSTRATED motorists in Oban are venting their anger on staff in some of the town's businesses when they cannot find change for the parking meters.

At the moment some parking meters only take old £1 coins, which are being withdrawn from circulation.

Argyll and Bute Council has said meters accepting the new £1 coins will be installed by the end of October.

In one Esplanade hotel, the manager said he had to call the

police after abusive behaviour from tourists to reception staff.

The manager, who cannot be named for legal reasons, said: 'A guy came into the hotel thinking that it was our machine and asked for change.'

'We simply do not have that much change and we are unable to provide it. We get people in all the time. We only get so much change.'

'The guy then started speaking to staff in a manner that was simply unacceptable.'

'I put them out of the hotel and informed the police, who I later saw speaking to the man and

giving him a caution. We are happy to help with change – but only if the council can give us some to exchange. There are hardly any old pound coins in circulation and this problem is only going to get worse.'

Another man, Jim Baillie, contacted *The Oban Times* to say he was concerned after receiving a parking ticket while he went to search for change.

Mr Baillie, from Greenock, said: 'I was away for less than five minutes and I managed to get a parking ticket on my car.'

'I didn't have the correct change.'

Another frustrated driver put a notice on a parking meter that stated: 'This parking meter only accepts the old £1 and 20 pence pieces, shillings and farthings.'

'It will accept 50 pence coins if they are not the shiny ones. If they are shiny, then forget it.'

'Also you can forget the new (but have been out for 10 years plus) 10 and five pence coins.'

'We totally expect you to have these of course, or magic them out of thin air.'

be replaced or upgraded in time for the old coins going out of circulation in October.'

Between April 1 and June 30, the council raised £113,598 from parking on- and off-street in Oban. Plans to extend the parking in Oban are currently under consultation until August 18.

A consultation on parking charges has been announced by the local authority and, while changes are causing concerns to workers on social media, only a small number have actually contacted the local authority to give their views.

For more on this visit www.obantimes.co.uk

Charges set to be extended in Oban

PEOPLE in Oban are being invited to give their views on parking charge proposals for the town.

While many people are complaining on social media about the changes, only a few have made their concerns known through the official consultation.

Residents, businesses and visitors have until September 1 to give feedback to the council.

Roads spokesman Councillor Roddy McCuish said: 'These proposals are intended to make it easier for people to find a parking space in our busy, popular town, reduce the number of people not parking properly and help people who have a blue badge to park where they need to.'

'We welcome people's views and I would encourage them to let us know what they think.'

The proposals in the draft new Traffic Regulation Order include:

- The first 30 minutes free to bays on George Street, Corran Esplanade, William Street, Queen's Park Place and Argyll Square.

- On-street parking charges on Gallanach Road and Ganavan Road.

- Year round parking charges in Longsdale (Atlantis), Lochavullin and all other car parks in the town.

- Tariff to be first two hours free and thereafter: 15 minutes, 30 pence; 30 minutes, 50 pence; 45 minutes, 80 pence; and one hour, £1.

Residents can read the full set of proposals for the Traffic Regulation Order and find out how to respond at: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/our-roads-regulations-and-limits>

Argyll's heroic Great War nurse is honoured

HIGHLY decorated with military honours, nurses Elsie Knocker and Mairi Chisholm were affectionately known as 'the Madonnas of Pervyse' by the press during the Great War.

The two women now grace the Royal Mail's commemorative stamps, which were released last week.

What is less known is that after the war, Mairi Chisholm moved to Barcaldine where she lived with her childhood friend May Davidson for decades.

Among the many medals Mrs Knocker and Miss Chisholm were awarded were the Order of Léopold II (1915), the Order of Queen Elisabeth of Belgium (1915), the Military Medal (1917), the 1914 Star (1917) and the Order of St John of Jerusalem (1918) for bravery in Belgium and for saving the lives of thousands of soldiers on the front line.

At the time, many women ripped up the rule book and nursed against official British regulations at the front.

Near Flanders, at first the women collected men midway onto the field

of battle before moving them to the hospital to wait for treatment, or to the mortuary.

Miss Chisholm wrote in her diary: 'No-one can understand ... unless one has seen the rows of dead men laid out. One sees men with their jaws blown off, arms and legs mutilated.'

The women came to the conclusion that they could save more lives by treating the wounded directly on the front line.

They set up a treatment area 100 yards from the front line. Acting as free agents and raising their own funds, they stayed on the front line for three and a half years, leaving, due to ill health, only months before the armistice.

Their bravery was legendary as they carried men on their backs from the front and survived gas attacks.

Following the war, the two nurses went their separate ways and, after an argument, barely spoke again.

The war had taken its toll on Miss Chisholm's health. She had been poisoned, contracted septicemia and had a

weak heart. Yet, after a brief stint in the women's RAF, she took up motor racing.

Partly on doctors' advice, Miss Chisholm returned home to Scotland where, it was hoped, she would lead a quieter life. She based herself in Barcaldine where she became a successful poultry breeder with May Davidson.

The women had a gardener, Miss Partridge, and a cook, Miss Johnson, who lived for more than 60 years in a house called Dock Cottage but later changed its name to Cnoc an Hurrian and is now Creran Cottage. People still remember Miss Chisholm shooting rabbits from her bedroom window.

In her later years, she spent much time corresponding with The Clan Chisholm Society. Mairi Chisholm died on August 22, 1981, aged 85, from lung cancer.

Thank you to reader Moira Haywood for highlighting the story to *The Oban Times*.

A book on the subject, *Elsie and Mairi Go to War*, by Diane Atkinson was published by Cornerstone in 2009.



Drop in for careers advice

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IF YOU'VE just received your exam results and are thinking about life after school, remember that we're here to help. Your local centre is open next week so come along to speak to us about what courses and options are available to you.

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With more than 80 full-time courses starting this September, principal Fraser Durie said now is the time to look into the opportunities provided

by the college. 'Last year more than 1,600 people chose to study with us, which shows not just the importance of Argyll College UHI to the local communities it serves but also the variety of subjects and courses on offer,' he said.

'We're constantly developing our curriculum to ensure it best reflects the demands of our local population, and have added several new courses this year which we believe will be popular additions to an already exciting range of options.'

'We now have a huge range of courses available covering an array of subjects.'

'I'd like to think there's something of interest for everyone, regardless of age or background.'

'National statistics published earlier this year show that more Argyll College UHI students than ever before are successfully completing their courses, and we're delighted that so many are able to move onwards and upwards, whether that be in terms of progressing to other qualifications or in terms of moving into employment.'

'We look forward to welcoming a new cohort of students in September. We're confident that choosing to study at Argyll College UHI is a decision they won't regret.'

Anyone interested in finding out what courses are available should either visit their local learning centre to chat to our staff and pick up a prospectus, or else look at the College's website at www.argyllcollege.ac.uk

Argyll College UHI is one of 13 academic partners of the University of the Highlands and Islands, and is the main provider of further and higher education in Argyll and Bute.



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Viewpoint



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The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

The problems at Glensanda quarry – or, more specifically, the company awarded the load and haul contract, Oban Earthworks – continue to drag on.

The GMB Scotland trade union now says that Oban Earthworks has backtracked on the number of redundancies it is seeking from its workforce.

A few weeks ago, it was reported that the company wanted to shed 25 jobs, more than half its staff. Oban Earthworks then responded by saying it was 'unlikely' there would be any compulsory redundancies.

GMB Scotland fired back by slamming the firm for what it claimed was the blatant disregard of employee

protections enshrined under TUPE regulations – rules that govern the transfer of staff between businesses.

Now, according to GMB Scotland, Oban Earthworks has had nine members of staff apply for voluntary redundancy and, with six staff rejoining the former contract-holder, Hargreaves, is seeking just one more worker to leave. This is a messy situation which does no credit to Oban Earthworks, which has treated its staff poorly from the start.

GMB Scotland has praised the *Lochaber Times* for fighting the workers' cause. The staff deserve better treatment and we will continue to support them.



Days gone by – 1995

This week we turn the clock back to the end of July 1995 and a great photograph of the staff at Argyll Square dental practice. However, our archive neglects to say what the occasion is. Can our readers help?

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL
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WE MUST be careful in our interpretation of media flurries and headlines but, from recent reports, it at least shows the possibility that the British fishing industry will, as predicted by many, once again be used as a valuable but dispensable bank of bargaining chips for the government in the Brexit negotiations.

It also brings to mind just how undervalued that industry has become over the past number of decades. Once a proud industry that was revered by the population of these shores as a provider of food, jobs, economic prosperity and food security, it is now a shadow of its former self. The industry has both shrunk greatly in size and been reduced still further in the esteem in which it is held by the general public.

There are varied, complex and numerous contributory factors that have led to this decline and the road to reversing it is not on the current horizon. The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the agreements relating to it reached by politicians and inflicted on the UK fleet have done probably more damage than any other single factor.

Before being accused of being anti-EU, I would state that I see this not as a problem with the European Union, but with the deal-making by politicians of all colours over many years who have treated the fishing industry as both secondary and as Prime Minister Ted

Heath reportedly said 'expendable' compared to other sectors while at the negotiating table.

I sympathise with those in the industry who campaigned to leave the EU in the hope of extracting the British fleet from the clutches of the CFP. This may well be fruitful, but the worry – as accentuated in the headlines of last week – is that history may repeat itself. The industry was sold down the river on the way into the EU and it may well be again on the way out.

As well as the European-related problems, there is domestic mismanagement, counter-productive regulation – including a monetised quota system that means you would need to be richer than Warren Buffett to be able to afford to enter into and operate in some sectors. Add to this the increasingly ridiculous portrayal of fishermen as planet-pillaging, eco-thieves greedily destroying the oceans for personal gain and you have a recipe for the current state of affairs. With a swarm of celebrity chefs convincing us that it would be more ethically acceptable to eat a puppy than a North Sea cod, it is no accident that the public are becoming less supportive of the industry.

There is no doubt that overfishing has played its part in some areas at certain times, but this could have been pre-empted and dealt with much more effectively by better management.

The fall of the humble herring in this part of the world is a multi-faceted tale of tragedy. When I was in Poland for a few days last weekend, I was struck by how prevalent it still is in the diet there. In restaurants, on trains, in supermarkets and in the hearts of the people, herring is held high as a staple of their healthy diet.

For a fish that was once such a major presence in the lives of those on the West Coast, it was striking to be reminded of the lack of it nowadays. Shoals of herring once sustained a people, served as sgdan ùr (fresh herring) in summer, on its own or coated in oatmeal and, through the rest of the year, pickled or, the most common of all, as salt herring with potatoes. Nowadays, landing a box of herring on the Railway Pier at Oban would be seen as less of a crime by the authorities than landing a box of herring without the correct quota.

I don't have the answers as to how to unravel the tangled mess that the industry is in but what will definitely make a difference is support from the rest of the population.

Around our shores is landed some of the healthiest, tastiest, most nutritious, eco-friendly and sustainable food on the planet. Just by eating these mouth-watering fruits of the sea and showing support for those who catch it, we can all help the continued survival of this great and noble enterprise.



Social media

A proposal to introduce some kind of 'tourist tax' to help fund public toilets and litter clearance drew a spirited response from readers.

Tom Hayward argued: 'An issue with taxing tourists is that as one of only 4 EU states that charge full VAT on tourism and hospitality, others charge from as low as 3%, effectively we already have that because of this. How would you prove what litter was from a tourist and which was from locals, especially near roadsides?'

Willie MacDonald said: 'Seems like a sensible idea so long as there is a mechanism which makes sure the monies raised are spent in the local area.'

Debra Brown Johnson lamented: 'The only problem with a "tourist tax" is it will be collected & sent to Westminster

never to be seen again. Unless they come up with a means of retaining it in the local council.'

Vicki Burnett posted: 'So dreadful that people think it's ok to litter up the beautiful countryside – we come to Scotland twice a year in our van and if we ever wild camp we always clear any litter we come across. I'd be happy to pay a 'tax' as a visitor – whatever helps the area and economy.'

Karen Anderson said: 'Yep, it should be the same as we're charged going to Europe in tourist tax! Although it's not just tourists that leave the mess behind!'

David Wheeler wrote: 'Sadly, it does seem to be getting worse and it's really broken my heart to visit lots of my special places around the country this year to find them strewn with litter

and rubbish. I'm really at a loss as to how people can do this in such beautiful places. it's a huge worry to me that we're messing our own nest and there's not a thing we can effectively do about it. Very sad.'

Robert McCall affirmed: 'Yes !! If you visit any of the Balearic Islands in Spain you are required to pay a "Tourist tax" for your accommodation at a rate of 2euros per night which then goes to the local government to protect the environment and assist with the upkeep of the islands..Seems only fair that we do the same here.'

Rebecca McKenzie posted: 'I just hate it when tourists and members of the public use bins that belong to businesses. The business does not pay for the public to use them, that's what public bins are for.'

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

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can

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

Diversification without damage

Sir, 'Leave only footprints, take only memories.' Our wilder places and remote communities are changing, maybe even under threat. There is a huge surge in people wanting to enjoy time out of the mainstream, second-home owners, holiday-let owners or the greater general public searching out escape, adrenaline sports in wilderness areas.

Tiree is a perfect example of the pressures such communities and locations are now facing. For example, a 160 per cent increase in visitors in just 10 years, and year on year this is accelerating.

Crofting was never meant to be a primary form of employment. It can only offer a finite number of jobs. Given Brexit and the probable reforms of CAP, the future is uncertain as to what percentage a crofter's income will come from the land, but that it will not increase is certain. Crofting has always meant diversification of income.

But it need not be a destructive process if a compromise can be made that is not detrimental to the resident local community, the culture or natural environment that we all wish to work with or holiday in.

We as a family decided to diversify our croft, to tap into the seasonal holiday trade. In general, visitors come and go from Easter to early October, peaking obviously in the summer months and school holidays. We live in Balevullin, bought our croft land a couple or so years ago, croft a little under seven acres – 20 chickens and a small flock of Hebridean sheep and the ubiquitous vegetable patch. I work an offshore rotation and for now have managed to ride out the oil downturn and associated redundancies. I've pumped my hard-earned coffers back into improving a run-down, poorly managed piece of heaven, the place is now looking good, ragwort has gone and all was well.

I am due to finish working overseas next spring, so we decided rather than place three large mobile homes (which we can legally do) or jump on the 28-day camping bandwagon, we would do something special. Special for the visitors, special for our little piece of heaven.

We applied for planning permission. Planning permission for a small seasonal campsite, simply an area set aside for campervans and tents, a maximum of 10 of each. We will still graze the land once the visitors have gone back to the mainland. We plan to construct a small toilet block in keeping with the existing barn (Scottish larch clad), two toilets, two showers, also ensuring provision for wheelchair users. We plan to install solar LED lighting, rainwater harvesting for utility water. We decided on a central area of the croft, an area unaffected by surface water.

I have restored the derelict barn, which will continue to be used as an agricultural shed, planted some goat willow and hawthorn for some wind protection and a little screening, installed nesting boxes, established a bee meadow etc. On top of this, we are already members of the Tiree Campervan initiative, Dark Skies Lobby, RSPB, Rare Breeds Trust and the green tourism org.

Once the planning application went

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
ailean@obantimes.co.uk



CHAN EIL TEAGAMH nach robh milleanan luchd-cleachdaidh British Gas air an t-amailteachadh nuair a nochd a' bhuidheann sin àrdachadh pris dealain de 12.5 sa cheud is ceannard na buidhne ag argamaid gum feumadh iad seo a dhèanamh gus cosgaisean malairt is rianachd a bharrachd a chòmhdach.

Ged a tha roghainnean againn uile a thaobh càite an ceannaich sinn connadh na dachaigh, agus feumte a' aideachadh gum bheil Riaghaltas is eile gar brosnachadh gu bhith a' rannsachadh nam prìsean as fhèarr, saoilidh mi gum bheil mòran nach eil a' faireachadh deònach neo air chomas cumail an sàs bitheanta san seorsa rianachd sin.

Tha sin a' fàgail iomadh neach a' pàigheadh barrachd air na dh'fhaodadh iad agus a' faireachadh caran mi-chomasach air cothachadh ris na companaidhean mòra aig am bheil greim cho daingeann, agus cho iomlan, air margaid dealain is gas. Ged a tha uallach air oifis margaid gas agus dealain (OFGEM) còraichean luchd-cleachdaidh nan connaidhean

online we were hit by some expected but a multitude of unexpected objections. In general, the vast majority of our community have remained neutral. I was expecting one or two 'usual suspect' local objectors and I accept that. But what was or is so shocking is the majority of complaints are from transient second-home owners and holiday-let landlords. These are not people who live on the island. Yes, they may have some family connections, but they do not live on Tiree.

It is hypocrisy in the extreme to holiday on Tiree, earn revenue from holiday rentals and then dictate to a local family whose children attend Tiree school, who were born in Blackhouse in Balevullin, and who croft in Balevullin that they cannot earn a living on Tiree. All the more hypocritical given these are the people who complain about human excrement in the dunes (the nearest public toilet is seven miles away), campers on the machair, barbecues on the beach, increasing vehicle numbers ... while other Tiree-based people are trying to make a seasonal living from our visitors and their enjoyment of our beautiful isle.

We have offered a small but viable way to earn a living within an area recognised for development by Argyll and Bute Council, while doing our small part to reduce the pressure on, specifically, Balevullin beach. Our seasonal visitors will park and walk or cycle to the beach, will go to the toilet in a toilet. There will be no additional noise, no additional light pollution, no additional erosion to the machair ... it's a win-win situation. Or is Balevullin now simply a development area from new-build holiday homes?

I have to say that, outside of the summer season and public holidays, when the sun sets early, and the wheelie bins blow across the machair, it's like nothing ever happened. But it is sad that my children have fewer visitor friends to play with. It is sad to see so many empty and dormant second homes and holiday lets. But to me and my family it is home and not a holiday destination.

If everything works out and sense prevails it will remain home to the end of our days. After all, why leave home when you live in such a beautiful place? And should any of these absentee holiday home-come-rental owners manage to get to Tiree in the darker, quiet months, please note my camping area will not be empty – it will contain my grazing sheep.

Karl Hughes,
Sunset Cottage, Balevullin.

Medical provision is hi-tech and excellent

Sir, As usual I purchased my *Oban Times* on Thursday July 27 and, with inimitable unbounded enthusiasm as usual, and cup of tea, proceeded to read the gems of top-notch reports therein, in preparation for our usual Thursday afternoon discussion group.

Of course I eventually came across the readers' letters page and was absorbing the contents of the first letter, from Mike Foster, and his derogatory remarks about NHS Highland bureaucrats and their inability to organise a skifuln in a brewery.

He also made attempts at scornful humour with reference to carrier pigeons and quills.

As I read on, an invisible bubble containing a large question-mark formed above me – lo and behold, a text message on my six-year-old mobile phone arrived, saying, 'Dear Kenneth, your prescription is now ready to collect. Boots Oban.'

There was not a carrier pigeon or quill in sight.

But it got me thinking. Last week when I made a same-day appointment to see one of Oban's GPs, I used a reasonably modern communication device referred to in his letter, the telephone.

Does Mr Foster realise that most of us, not all, have multi-frequency buttons on our telephones to help direct our calls at the speed of light and, despite the signal from my phone being directed possibly through Glasgow and back, as the last digit is signalled, the surgery phone rings (unless busy, appropriate tone returned at same speed, that of light).

How much faster does he want? On reflection, am I correct when I recall a letter of objection from this gentleman when the large trees were removed from opposite Alma Crescent, opening up stupendous views across our lovely wee town and the realms of objections to the construction of the lovely modern house in front of Ardtornish?

I, like most people, will welcome with open arms people who choose to retire to and enhance our wee town but in this case it begs the question: what was so bad about Worcester that made him choose Oban with all its bad points?

Kenny McLennan,
Oban.

Government figures are not to be trusted

Sir, The article about the amount of air weapons still not handed in here in Scotland comes as no surprise.

After all, the cycle track from Banderloch north was used by 345,000 people according to 'official' figures. I questioned it and was told it was an estimate.

Like a lot of things that issue from the Scottish Government, these figures are not to be believed.

Cyril Bonnet,
Ballachulish.

Residents are plagued by 'garden parties'

Sir, I write regarding your story about Pulpit Hill ('Viewpoint is littered with rubbish', *The Oban Times*, July 27).

A few weeks ago, I had broken bottles in my garden and my gutter was torn from the house. Obviously these bottles were thrown with some force.

I reported it to the police but they did not respond.

This is now the second time this has happened. Can the 'garden parties' not be moved or dispersed?

Aileen Miller,
Villa Road, Oban.

Aileen Caimbeul

sin a dhìon, tha cuid den bheachd nach eil rian gu leòr air na prìsean a tha tighinn air luchd-ceannaich agus gu dearbh, far am bheil an gnìomhachas fo smachd na roinne prìobhaidich, nach eil cus is urrainnear a dhèanamh gus cosgais connaidh a chumail sìos.

Ach tha e na amas aig an Riaghaltas gum bi cosgais connaidh ga chumail cho saor 's a ghabhas ann am Breatann agus tha an Ministearan a' cur romhpa obrachadh a dh'ionnsaigh an amais sin a ghlèidheadh fhad 's a bhios an dùthaich aig an aon àm a' coileanadh a cuid deastanais gus a bhith a' lùghdachadh truailleadh carbon na h-àrainneachd.

Chan eil leasachadh gun chosgais agus tha mòran ag argamaid gum bheil rannsachadh agus gluasadan a dh'ionnsaigh barrachd cumhachd thuathan-gaoithe agus faire air cur ris na sinn uile air a bhith a' pàigheadh fad bhliadhnaichean airson ar cuid cumhachd dachaigh.

Tha an Riaghaltas a-nise air rannsachadh a stèidheachadh gus grùdadh às ùr a dhèanamh air ciamar as fhèarr a thèid aig Breatann air a cuid amasan uaine a choileanadh agus aig

an aon àm prìsean luchd-cleachdaidh a chumail cho iseal 's a ghabhas. 'S e an t-Àrd-Ollamh Dieter Helm bho Oilthigh Oxford a tha gu bhith os cionn an rannsachaidh ghoirid ach chudromach seo, agus tha Helm air gealltainn gun soilleirich toradh na h-obrach seo an fhirinn a thaobh cosgaisean cumhachd agus gun toir an aithisg, ris am bheil dùil deireadh an Dàmhair, molaidhean air an t-slighe as èifeachdaiche air adhart. Bidh fiughair aig luchd-cleachdaidh gas is dealain uile ris an aithisg sin, air dhan mhòr-chuid 's e cosgaisean àrd gun lasachadh firinn na cùise an-dràsta!

GAS AND ELECTRICITY users will look forward to the outcome of the new independent review of UK energy costs and green target delivery.

Study chairman Professor Dieter Helm is promising that his group's report, due at the end of October, will separate facts from myths in relation to energy costs. At present increasingly high energy costs are a fact for the majority of householders!

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

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

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

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

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Your letters

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses

must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not

be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

FARMING NEWS

TO ADVERTISE IN OUR FARMING SECTION PLEASE CALL OUR SALES TEAM ON 01631 568000



Eilidh MacLeod with her In-hand champion Irish Cob Moneyglen Mr Killybegs.



Young Highland dancers take part in the keenly-contested competition.

Massive crowds flocks to



The Crofters Olympics winners.

SARA BAIN
editor@lochabertimes.co.uk

A LARGE number of firsts helped to make this year's Skye Agricultural Show an outstanding success.

This was the first time the show, which took place in Portree's King George V Park on Saturday, held the qualifiers for the Willberry North of Scotland Championship in the horse section; the first time cookery and crafts competitions were added to the classes; the day saw the launch of the Craft for a Cause section; and it was a first for family fun with an extended programme of children's entertainment, including a climbing wall, a super jumper and a race demonstration from the lightning-fast Ore County Terriers.

More than 1,700 locals and visitors enjoyed the attractions, stalls and competitions between spells of intermittent sunshine. There were displays in dancing with Highland dancers and talented youngsters from Skyedance.

The Skye and Lochalsh Pipe Band provided some stirring music, while families were en-

tertained with a full programme of activities, including shearing demonstrations, a mega game of pass the parcel, vintage tractors, refreshment and burger stalls, a dog show, Crofters Olympics and an obstacle race.

Stock entries were up on previous years, with full sheep and cattle pens, and a good quality of animals. Angus MacLeod of Glenhinnisdale took the Nicholson Memorial Cup for the supreme champion. Reserve champion was awarded to John MacKinnon of Struan.

In the horses, Eilidh MacLeod from Uig won the in-hand championship with Irish cob Monteyglen Mr Killybegs. Reserve champion was Janice MacDonald with Glanhaultin Ashling. Iona Augier, on Dexter, galloped away with the champion rider and ridden champion prizes, while reserve rider was Joline Kohne on Raya and ridden champion reserve went to William Gordon on Charlie.

The Skye Boarding Kennels Cup for best in the dog show went to Donald MacLaren, of Budhmoir. The cookery and craft section

was new to the show this year and a good selection of talented competitors entered their creations in the hope of winning a first prize.

Great British chef Marcello Tully judged the baking and chose a lemon drizzle cake made by Fay MacRae as best in show. Mhairi MacKechnie's beautiful hand-knitted twiddle muffs won her the top prize, Katie's Quach, in the new craft for a cause section. The muffs will be donated to the island's dementia sufferers.

The best in show in crafts went to Charlotte Johnson of Portree for her knitted hat, while young James Brown, aged 11, went home with a fistful of first prizes in the children's section.

Show chairman Seumas MacLean said: 'Saturday was very successful with a great turnout of livestock, people and visitors. We extended the family section and put a lot more attractions on for the children. Ore County Terriers was one of our main highlights.'

'Several people told us it was the best show they had been to in recent years and the weather managed to stay dry until the trophies were being presented.'

'We would like to thank everyone who made this year's show such a success: our exhibitors, our sponsors, judges, dancers, trade stands and the helpers for the day on the gates, manning activities and livestock stewards. We had a great turnout of livestock and dogs, with all sheep and cattle pens full, and our cookery and craft competition had a good turnout for the first year.'

'All this wouldn't have been possible without the hard work of the unsung heroes who help out setting up the field; the committee of volunteers that work throughout the year planning the show, giving up their time and resources to bring a good community event to the island; and also the public for turning out and supporting us.'

'We're always looking for fresh blood to join the committee so please do not hesitate to contact us. The 2018 Skye Agricultural Show is on Saturday August 4.'

For further information or to volunteer for next year's show, visit www.skyeshow.org.uk. For full results, go to www.lochabertimes.co.uk



Who decided which judge was nicer in the equestrian competition?



It was tense for these contenders waiting for their chance in the dog show.



Fay MacRae receives her prize from Marcello Tully after winning in the baking section.



Mhairi MacKechnie is given her quach by Mandy Boswell after success in the new craft for a cause section.

Morris Leslie Large Municipal & Utilities Auction
 10:30am Wednesday 30th August 2017
 Errol Airfield, Errol, Perth, PH2 7TB

Over 300 Entries Expected - All types of Plant, Machinery HGVs, Vans, Trailers, Specialist Utility Vehicles, Contractors Tools & Equipment etc.

Wednesday 30th August 2017

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Suckler Cow and Bull Management Workshop
 SR DP Farm Advisory Service
 National Advice Hub T: 0300 323 0161 E: advice@fas.scot W: www.fas.scot

Date: Thursday 17 August 2017
 Time: 11.00am - 3.00pm
 Venue: Bruce Dixon, Killinonoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary Lochgilphead PA31 8QF

Practical and Informative Day on Suckler Cow and Bull Management, Health, Nutrition and Genetics. "Concentrating on the issues facing us as we move towards the Autumn and Winter"

Discussions led by:
 Gavin Hill SAC Consulting Beef Specialist
 Karen Stewart SAC Consulting Feeding Consultant
 Kenny Johnstone Johnstone & Farrell Vets
 Also in attendance Dalriada Vets, Lochgilphead

Please telephone SAC Consulting Campbeltown on 01586 552502 or email fbcampbeltown@sac.co.uk or go online to the FAS website www.fas.scot to book your place

Booking is essential for catering purposes

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There were plenty of youngsters to enjoy the mega game of pass the parcel.

Skye Show



The quad bike push required brute strength.



The hay-bale race was a popular event.



Tension mounts during the serious business of judging the sheep by Ben Reeves of Dingwall.

Skye police and farmers join forces

A NEW scheme aimed at reducing crime in rural areas was launched at the weekend in Portree.
The Rural Watch service covering Skye, Lochalsh and Lochcarron is a joint project between Police Scotland and NFU Scotland and was set up to raise awareness of the risks of criminal activity in rural areas. The scheme was launched at the Skye Agricultural Show on Saturday.
Jake Sayles, NFU senior agent and group secretary, said: 'Unfortunately, rural crime is on the increase. Thefts from farms of quad bikes, tools and even heating oil have been reported recently and it could happen to anyone.
'The scheme encourages people to sign up to get text, phone or email alerts of suspicious activity in their area and they will also receive advice on how to keep their property safe.'
Inspector Lynda Allan of the Lochaber and Skye Police, said: 'By joining the Rural Watch scheme, participants will receive alerts and advice by phone, text



Inspector Lynda Allan and Jake Sayles from the NFUS.

or email keeping them informed about crime and other threats in their area.
'Instead of waiting for a crime to happen, it's better to make people aware of the possible risks in their area and educate them. Like the really successful Neighbourhood Watch scheme, we hope

this initiative will help to reduce crime and the fear of crime as well as encourage people to think about safety and security, both for themselves and for their community.'
To join Rural Watch or for information, visit www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk

Around the markets

STIRLING – Caledonian Marts on Thursday, August 3 sold 193 cattle.
Prime bullocks averaged – 228ppkg
Prime heifers averaged – 229ppkg
Young bulls averaged – 210ppkg
Beef cows averaged – 138ppkg
Dairy cows averaged – 107ppkg
Cast bulls averaged – 121ppkg
The sale comprised of 95 bullocks, heifers, 10 young bulls, 98 cast cows and bulls. More prime cattle forward and a better show for quality would again be dearer on the week.
Cast cows an excellent show for numbers for the time of year, all classes met the dearest trade date.
Prime bullocks sold to 250ppkg for a Limousin from Brockwoodles, Canobie, to J Gilvear & Sons and to £1598 from the same farm.
Prime heifers sold to 250ppkg for a Limousin from Moorfield, Kilmarnock, to D Campbell & Son, Butchers, Callander, and to £1635 from Brockwoodles.
Young bulls to 218ppkg (twice) for Limousins from Bolfornought, Stirling, and to £1696 from Bolfornought.
Leading prices:
Bullocks p/kg:
248p Bankhead (Kerr) 245p Blairsgreen, Bankhead & Belltrees 242p Balquharrage, Mawcarse, Moorfield & Brockwoodles 240p Brockwoodles, Blairsgreen, Moorfield & Easterton (Owen)
238p & 235p Easterton, Faskine, Classloch & Mawcarse
232p Mains of Cultmalundie, Mawcarse & Moorfield
Heifers p/kg:
248p (twice) Moorfield, Classloch 245p Carriston, Faskine, Classloch & Spittal
242p Carriston & Brockwoodles
240p Pirnhall & Classloch
238p & 235p Annfield Johnstone, Balquharrage, Turniemoon & Blairsgreen
232p (twice) Meikle Seggie, Pirnhall & Blackhill
230p Turniemoon & Craigquarter
Young bulls p/kg:
215p Easterton (Graham)

& Mains of Throsk 210p Bankhead (Kerr) 202p Glassingall
Also forward were 98 cast cows and bulls.
Beef cows averaged 138ppkg selling to 196.6ppkg for an outstanding Limousin from M Jack Carriston, Star of Markinch, Fife and to £1590 for an Aberdeen Angus from A & J M Taylor, Mosshall, Blackburn.
Dairy cows averaged 107ppkg selling to 132.8ppkg from W Waugh, North Bankhead, Avonbridge and to £1100 from A J Mackie, High Belltrees, Lochwinnoch.
Beef cows per head
£1440 Wester Thomaston £1290 (twice) Dalchirila £1270 Mosshall & Carriston £1260 Prathouse
£1200 Drumelzier £1160 Gibsley & Walton.
Dairy cows per head
£1020 Muircot £980 North Bankhead £850, £790 & £780 Meldrum £780 Barbeth.
Bulls per head
£1380 Old Leckie £1360 Kirkton
£1340 Ardnave (Islay)
Beef cows per kilo
181.3p Walton 179.6p Wester Thomaston 176.6p Easterton (Owen) 175.3p Dalchirila 172.1p Prathouse 163.9p Ardnave (Islay) 161.1p Ballabeg
Dairy cows per kilo
125.4p Meldrum 124.4p High Belltrees 123p Knockraich 121.2p Meldrum 117.8p Knockraich, Barbeth & Muircot
Bulls per kilo 134.5p Old Leckie
131.9p Ardnave 124.1p Kirkton.

(Char) 197p; Asloss (Mule) 182p.
Ewes (1558) – Cairn (Tex) £147; Humeston (Char) £127; Broomknowes (Suff) £125; Easter Mye (Mule) £98; Shanry (Chev/Mule) £94.00; Elmscleugh (BF) £73.
Tups – Denside (Suff) £104; Dalmahoy (BF) £75; Clatto (Char) £74.
STIRLING – United Auctions on Wednesday August 2 sold 589 store cattle, native bred cattle and young bulls also forward 137 cast cows.
Bullocks (342) – averaged 236.89p to 310.90ppkg for a 238kg Lim X from Drumoider and to £1470 for a 636kg CHX from Ashfield.
Heifers (206) averaged 227.58p to 267.70ppkg for a 325kg Sim X from Drumoider and £1230 for a 239.8kg Lim X from Cowans.
B&W Bullocks (39) averaged 156.80p to 192.60ppkg for a 488kg HFX from Tanhill and £980 for a 587kg BFX from Lindsayton.
Cast cows (137) averaged 133.82p to 197.20ppkg for a AAX from Symington Mains and £1350 for a Lim X from Loanhead Of Duchally.
Dairy cows (12) averaged 108.79p to 161.90ppkg for a HFX from Overton and £885 for a HFX from Meikle Camoquhill.
Bullocks: Up to 250kgs- Drumoider £740, 310.90p; 251-300kgs- Drumoider £800, Drumoider 294.10p; 301-350kgs- Drumoider £870, Gateside 278.10p; 351-400kgs- Crofthead £1070, 268.80; 401-450kgs- Graystale £1095, Crofthead 261.20p;

451-500kgs- Midlock £1210, Hillview 249.50p; 501-550kgs- Cowans £1310, 238.80p; 551-600kgs – Cowans £1440, 237.60p; 601-650kgs- Ashfield £1470, 231.10p.
Heifers: Up to 250kgs- Drumoider £630, 252.00p; 251-300kgs- Burnfoot £740, 245.80p; 301-350kg- Chapel £835, Drumoider 264.70p; 351-400kgs- Mahaar £980, Crofthead 252.10p; 401-450kgs- Mahaar £1070, 252.40p; 451-500kgs- Cowans £1175, 241.80p; 501-550kgs- Burnbrae £1230, 223.60p; 551-600kgs- Cowans £1230, 222.80p.
OTM cows:
£ per head- Loanhead Of Duchally (Lim) £1350; Innerwick (Sim) £1270; Symington Mains (AA) £1190; Pitkevy (CH) £1150; Laighpark (BRB) £1070; Parbroath (Sal) £1055; Laighpark (Cont) £1030; Meikle Camoquhill (MO) £1030.
PPK- Symington Mains (AA) 197.70p; Loanhead of Duchally (Lim) 196.80p; Symington Mains (Sim) 188.20p; Pitkevy (CH) 176.50p; West Park (BRB) 170.40p; Laighpark (Cont) 157.70p; Parbroath (Sal) 152.50p; Meikle Camoquhill (OTM) 136.60P.
£ per head- Ballikinrain (Lim) £1510; Loanhead of Duchally (BS) £1390; Parbroath (AA) £1350; Wester Coilechat (CH) £1290.
PPK- Kinneil Mill (Lim) 160.30p; Newpark (AA) 152.00p; Loanhead of Duchally (BS) 129.70p; Wester Coilechat (CH) 120.60p.

60th Annual Appin Agricultural Show
Saturday 19th August 2017
Tynribbie Croft, Appin
Judging Starts 10am
Sheep, Cattle, Highland Cattle, Dog show, Clydesdale Horse Display, Children's Games / Races, Handcrafts, Floral Art, Flowers and Veg, Highland Dancing, Vintage Engines, New hill race and poultry section this year. PLUS Lots More!
Entry: Adults £ 5.00, Children & Conc £3
Free Parking

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Acharacle shooter relishes fifth Scottish title

A CLAY target shooter from Acharacle has said that his fifth victory at the Scottish championship is probably his favourite so far. Despite having not trained for the competition, and suffering from a chronic arthritic condition, John MacDonald took top spot in the Olympic Trap



John with his trophy after winning the Olympic Trap Scottish Championship at the National Shooting Centre in Falkirk.

Scottish Championship with a score of 169 after two days of tight competition at the National Shooting Centre in Falkirk.

The former Commonwealth Games competitor has cut back on training and competition in the past three years, although this didn't stop the 38-year-old from reclaiming the Scottish title.

John said: 'I had done a lot of shooting and dedicated a lot of time and effort to get to the Commonwealth Games in 2014, so I've taken my foot off the gas a bit now. I'm not retired but I'm treating it as just a hobby again. I just turned up to the Scottish Championship with my gun case and won. I think some of the other shooters were a bit miffed.'

Emotional

He continued: 'This is probably my favourite win in the Scottish Championships. I was even quite emotional, which isn't like me.'

Among John's competitors were professional shooters who receive funding and coaching, training regularly through the week. Having spent nine years working to a similar regime, especially in the run up to the most recent Commonwealth Games, John says he prefers to take a more relaxed approach to his shooting.

'I've never needed vast amount of training,' John explained. 'I'm more of a natural shooter. I prefer just shooting and treating



John in action in the Olympic Trap competition.

it as a hobby. That's not to say it was easy - it was very tight. The new National Shooting Centre ground is punishable and the weather conditions were variable, which may have suited me in the end because I work in the hills.'

The victory further cements John's reputation as one of the best clay target shooters of his generation, especially considering the circumstances of the win. Not only had he come into the competition without training, John suffers from a form of arthritis that makes standing for long periods and shooting over a full day very uncomfortable.

He explained: 'This year, the circumstances have been that bit tougher as my condition has impeded my shooting. I've been struggling a lot with it and, although my performances have improved, I'm shooting with a lot of pain.'

After cutting back on his shooting, John has found a bit more time to help his wife Emma run the family business, Mingary Park Hotel and restaurant near Acharacle, and to prepare for the arrival of his second child, which is due later this year.

Although buoyed by the recent victory, when asked about a

Shooting

return to shooting on a more full-time basis, John said: 'Professional shooting is alluring because it's a great lifestyle but things have changed a lot. With another wee one on the way I'll be taking it easy and just treat it as a hobby. The past nine years I've been leaving a lot to my wife Emma in the hotel so I'm looking forward to focusing on that more. Being a professional shooter didn't really suit me and I don't want to train every day. If I do anymore shooting, it'll be on my own terms.'

Lochaber lift bowl trophy in Oban Rugby

LOCHABER RFC are now half way through their pre-season and had their first game time on Saturday at the inaugural Oban Lorne Tower 10s.

After a tough opener against Oban, Lochaber then had some close games against Queensferry and Craig Dunain.

The players managed to get some extra game time playing for Mull, who were short of players for the tournament.

Lochaber finished third on their side of the draw and Mull also finished third on their side.

As the two teams had been playing together throughout the tournament, both sides agreed on a game of sevens for the final game with Lochaber leading Mull a couple of players.

It was a close game with Lochaber edging it to win the bowl.

The tournament finished with a victory for the home team in the cup final against Helensburgh, with Oban running out winners 28-5.

Lochaber are away this weekend to the Blairgowrie 10s. Training is currently being held at the leisure centre but will be moving back to Banavie soon.

Fort golf results

Golf

FORT WILLIAM Golf Club hosted the August medal on Saturday, August 5, with both sections proving competitive. Jason Wallace finished on top in Section one, while Craig Jamieson beat Sam Lees to win section two. The results are as follows: gents - section one - 1 Jason Wallace, net 70 (84-14); 2 Gareth Lee, net 71 (83-12); 3 Eric Wallace, net 72 (78-6); section two - 1 Craig Jamieson, net 71 (97-26); 2 Sam Lees, net 72 (95-23).

The senior medal was played on Sunday August 6, with Ronald MacDonald narrowly winning. The results are as follows: 1 Ronald MacDonald, net 62 (74-12); 2 Brian Gillespie, net 63 (75-12); 3 Henry MacDonald, net 64 (75-11).

Ladies: Also taking place on Sunday August 6, the captain's prize competition got under way with Rosemary Macintyre finishing in the top spot.

The results are as follows: 1 Rosemary Macintyre, net 74 (86-12); 2 Iona Cameron, net 82 (102-20); 3 Helen Brian, net 85 (106-21).

Club lotto draws

Lottery numbers

THIS week's winning Fort William Golf Club lotto numbers were 1, 5 and 14. There were no winners so the jackpot is up to £1,300 for the draw today, Thursday August 10.

Winning numbers for the Caol Regeneration lotto were 1, 11 and 17. There were no winning tickets this week so the jackpot is £700 for today's draw.

The winning Ballachulish Shinty Club lotto numbers this week are 4, 9 and 14. There were no winners this week so next week's jackpot will be £600.

Improved Fort still without points after a tough week

Fort William	3
Roths	4
Highland League	

AFTER tough week of playing three games in seven days in the Highland League, Fort William are unfortunate to still be without points this season despite some encouraging performances. Last Wednesday

night, August 2, the Lochaber outfit faced a new look Rothside bolstered by a summer of big spending.

Roths took the lead early on, however, after a poor start from the Fort saw goals from Craig Cormack and Kris Duncan put the Speysiders 2-0 up after just 11 minutes. Just as Rothside began to take a hold on the match, Fort William's new signing John

Treasurer made the most of a mix-up in the Rothside defence to make it 2-1.

Roths reasserted their two-goal lead just three minutes later, however, with Steven Fraser getting on the scoresheet. With five minutes to go in the first half, Fort attacker Daniel Hight had to be substituted after suffering a hamstring injury, with Jack Lingard taking his place.

Just before the half-time whistle, Michael Ellis curled in an excellent shot on goal which nestled into the bottom corner, making it 3-2 and restoring some hope for the home side.

Spurred on by that strike, Fort William began to dominate play at the start of the second half. This pressure was eventually rewarded as John Treasurer, who would later limp off with an injury, got his second of the match on 61 minutes after a slick attacking move from the Fort William forward line. Kieran Lopez hitting the bar and Michael Ellis striking the post twice, Fort William were unlucky not to take the lead.

A killer blow was finally dealt, however, as Kris Duncan regained the lead for Rothside with a strike on 88 minutes. The Fort players continued to press but a fourth goal eluded them.



Fort William putting some pressure on the Cove Rangers defence with an in-swinging corner.

Photo: Brian Battensby Photography.

Cove Rangers	8
Fort William	0
Highland League	

gan to show and unfortunately a Fort William capitulation late in the first-half saw Cove go into the half-time break 5-0 up.

The Fort management switched formation to a 4-5-1 to try to ease the pressure on the defence but this meant chances were harder to come by for the Lochaber men. Andrew Martin was penalised for a mistimed tackle in the box giving Mitch Megginson the chance to score from the spot and secure his hat-trick. Ryan Strachan and Daniel Park rounded off the scoring for Cove as they strutted to an 8-0 victory.

Co-manager Ali Smith commented: 'It's very disappointing to lose eight goals to anyone but

Football

we have to admit that Cove are having a fantastic season. That's the best Cove team I have seen and must be title favourites after scoring 21 goals in their first three games.

'On a more positive note, I thought Martin MacKinnon put in a great performance in goals for us, despite the scoreline, and we're grateful to him for that.'

'The attitude of all the boys has been fantastic and it's been a big ask for the players to have three games in one week.'

Fort William's league campaign will face Brora Rangers at Claggan Park this Saturday in a 3pm kick-off.



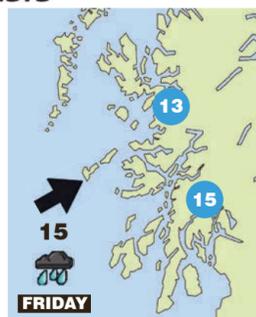
Andrew MacLean makes a break towards goal, charging past Rothside's Stephen Rennie, left, and Jack Maley.

Photo: Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

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WEATHER

Thursday	Cloudy with rain later in the afternoon Winds moderate south westerly Temperatures 13°C to 15°C.
Friday	Heavy rain Winds moderate west south westerly Temperatures 12°C to 15°C.
Weekend Outlook	Sunny intervals on Saturday Cloudy on Sunday Winds moderate westerly Temperatures 10°C to 15°C.



Stop Press: New pontoons at Ulva Ferry and visitor moorings installed at Lochaline by North West Marine Ltd

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday August 10, 2017 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm	Ardishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Thur	01.18 0.9 07.08 3.7 13.26 0.8 19.31 3.9		Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Fri	01.52 0.9 07.37 3.7 13.58 0.9 20.03 3.9		Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Sat	02.26 1.0 08.11 3.6 14.34 0.9 20.40 3.7		Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Sun	03.04 1.1 08.50 3.5 15.16 1.1 21.22 3.6		Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mon	03.52 1.2 09.36 3.3 16.08 1.3 22.15 3.3		Ferry Crossings/Sea States			
Tues	04.53 1.4 10.34 3.1 17.16 1.4 23.28 3.1		Oban to Barra/South Uist			Moderate
Wed	06.08 1.5 11.59 3.0 18.39 1.5 ** ** *		Oban to Coll/Tiree			Moderate
Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)						
			Kennacraig to Islay			Moderate