

The Oban Times

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Donnie hits the button for ticket launch

Uists must wait for MoD decision

THE COMMUNITIES of Uist and Benbecula must wait until the autumn to learn the ultimate decision of the MoD on the future of the Hebrides Ranges, according to Defence Equipment and Support Minister Quentin Davies.

Mr Davies spent two and a half days in the Uists last week, touring the ranges, including St Kilda. He met around 40 Qinetiq employees and the same number of leading members of the local community.

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Donnie Munro at ticket launch

TWO OF the headline acts for the Oban Hogmanay Homecoming 2009 Final Fling helped to launch the ticket sales on Saturday at one of the outlets, VisitScotland's Oban tourist information centre.

Donnie Munro and Skerryvore, both dropped into the centre to help promote ticket sales.

See page 4.

Mull castle under fire

DUART Castle on Mull rang to shots of muskets and rallying cries of the Covenanters at the weekend as the Campbells' siege of the royalist Macleans was re-enacted by Fraser's Dragoons.

Second-in-command and event organiser Dale Haigh explained to castle visitors how the musketeers would have fought and recognised comrades in battle and told the story behind the siege of Duart.

See page 4.



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Mull castle under fire

See page 4



Seven-year-old chess player Liam Richmond is a formidable opponent for anyone. 07_133ch01

Liam becomes Oban chess maestro - aged 7

A SEVEN-year-old chess player, who only started playing last year, has returned home to Oban from a national competition with a runner-up medal.

Liam Richmond was joint second in the UK Chess Challenge Giga Final in Manchester, where he came up against the best players in his age group from Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and northern England, and was

one of only two Scots in his age group.

In his first ever competitive event Liam won the UK Chess Challenge Argyll heats to qualify for the regional final in Glasgow, which he also won to qualify for the Manchester event.

When asked what he liked about playing chess, Liam replied: 'Winning.'

He added: 'My dad plays chess and I saw the pieces

and wanted to know how they moved. Then I got some chess books and started getting into it. Now I beat my dad all the time.'

Liam's parents, Ian and Mora, enrolled Liam in Rockfield Primary School's Chess Club, where the primary two pupil quickly established himself against the senior pupils.

Liam has since joined Oban Chess Club where he often

takes games off his adult opponents.

Oban Chess Club member Duncan Campbell, who tutors at the Rockfield club, said: 'The thing you notice about Liam is that he is a very studious player. It is not just a game of skittles to him.'

'He doesn't rush his moves, like most young players, so there is a lot of potential there.'

Former school sale attracts only one bidder

ONLY one bid has been made for the former Rockfield Primary School in Oban.

At least two potential bidders failed to put forward offers for differing monetary reasons.

Rockfield Steering Group, in association with Oban Youth and Community Association (OYCA), wanted to turn it into a community hub but said because of a lack of funding sources available to them now, it was unable to come up with an offer in time.

A second developer, who was keen to involve some kind of community element to redeveloping the Hill Street school, is understood to have failed to bid after their potential operator's figures did not stack up.

Closed

The Category C Listed school, which was put on the market by Argyll and Bute Council earlier this year, with a closing date of July 31, closed two years ago when Oban Joint Primary Campus was built at Soroba to accommodate Rockfield and St Columba's primaries and Drummore Learning Centre.

A six-month delay was made in putting it on the market while a feasibility study was commissioned by OYCA into community facilities in the town centre, which came out in favour of the old school.

Chairman of Oban,

By MARIAN MILLER
'Because one offer has been made it doesn't mean it is acceptable.'

Lorn and the Isles Area Committee Councillor Duncan MacIntyre said he was disappointed that no more 'concrete' bids had been put in as he understood that at least a dozen sets of particulars had been requested.

'It is disappointing in that there had been a number of expressions of interest and there was pressure being put on us to get the sale moving.'

Studied

'Having said that just because one offer has been made it doesn't mean it is acceptable,' he said, adding that the bid would have to be studied in detail by the council's legal department before a recommendation is presented to the area committee in some months' time.

He expressed regret that the Rockfield Steering Group and OYCA had not put in a nominal offer on condition that funding was found in the future.

'Rockfield is an iconic

building and I would hate to see that building a derelict site; look at the performance we have had with the Argyll Hotel. Our prime purpose is for the building to be used, rather than lying empty,' he said.

Vice chairman of the area committee Councillor Roddie McCuish said: 'You have to recognise the current economic climate but only one bid is a bit disappointing.'

'The main thing in my mind is to retain the building at all costs. If the bid is no use to us we will have to re-assess what we can do again,' he said.

White elephant

He also conceded there was a danger that the building could end up as a white elephant but added: 'There is always a danger with things like that. We don't want to give the building away or clutch at straws.'

He said OYCA ultimately did not get the support it needed from the community to turn it into a community hub.

'If a community centre is not going to get community support, it has failed before it has started,' he added.

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council confirmed that one bid had been received which would have to be examined before a recommendation is presented to the committee at a later date.

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Lismore lighthouse stripped bare for new look

LISMORE lighthouse has been stripped naked as part of a refurbishment programme now nearing completion.

The 175-year-old, 26 metre high lighthouse, built by Robert Stevenson on Eilean Musdile at the southern tip of Lismore, has had its quarterdeck re-roofed, been repainted and a new generator system is to be installed. A telescopic access platform has been used to remove all the paint up to balcony level, showing the amazing stonework used to build the tower, which is a tribute to the care Stevenson took when choosing materials for the lighthouse. It is painted white to make it stand out from the surrounding area in daylight. Scaffolding is in place to paint above the balcony and work is expected to be finished in September.

To supplement demands on the lighthouse generator during the winter, two small wind turbines will be installed above the quarterdeck roof. During the work the Northern Lighthouse Board, which owns and runs the lighthouse, has issued a notice to mariners advising that the existing light has been temporarily replaced with lights on the scaffolding around the lantern and on the dome on north east and south west sides, with a reduced range of 10 miles.

Robert Stevenson's Lismore Lighthouse was stripped to the bare stone while in the process of being refurbished.

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Beachd Ailein

GUNTEAGAMH chan eil cuimhne idir cho làidir an duigh aig ire coimhearsnachd air an t-Strì Mhòir a rinn croitearan an as treas roinn den naoidheamh linn deug a' sireadh chòirichean tèarainteachd air an cuid fearainn. Cha robh na fearainn sin mòr ach bha iad a' toirt làraich dachaigh agus beagan beòshlaint dha daoine aig nach robh ach glè bheag. Bha Achd Croitearachd 1886 na chlach-mhìle shònraichte dha na daoine sin, agus bha iad a' faireachadh gun do bhuaicheadh iad, mu dheireadh thall, dìon an aghaidh uachdaranais an-ìochdmhor. Ged a tha iomadh car air a dhol air saoghal croitearachd bhon uairsin tha na còirichean gabhaltais agus seilbh air a bhith nam bunait phrìseil dha na ginealaichean a lean laoch "strì an fhearainn".

Ach a-nise tha Riaghaltas na h-Alba air Dreachd Bile Leasachaidh Croitearachd fhoillseachadh a dh'fhaodadh cur às dha na còirichean sin a th'air a bhith nan stèidh dha dòigh-beatha croitearachd fad còrr air sia fichead bliadhna. Nam faigheadh an "leasachadh" seo dhan lagh, a-rèir coltais chuireadh e stad air na croitearan a tha a' dèanamh beòshlaint ag obrachadh grunn chroitean. Stèidhicheadh e croitearan ùra gun teagamh ach cha bhiodh cinnt sam bith aca sin air beòshlaint far na croite.

Bheireadh am Bile a thathas a' moladh fras de riaghailtean ùr air croitearachd, ach cha chuireadh e misneachadh na taic ùr sam bith ris. Rachadh barrachd chosgaisean a chur air croitearan airson obair riaghlaidh agus clàraidh a phàigheadh, agus far an robh roimhe innleachd shoirbheachail airson croitearan a chuideachadh le cosgais taigh a thogail thathas a-nise a' moladh iasadan banca le gabhaltas na croite mar urras. Agus fiù 's nuair a ruigeadh croitear aois chluainidh theagamh nach biodh dòigh aige air luach a chuid saothrach-beatha a ghlèidheadh airson a sheann-aois. Cuideachd, nam faigheadh Riaghaltas am miann, bhiodh oifigearan Chomhairlean a' briseadh a-staigh gu ruige taighean ach an dearbhadh iad gun robhas a' fuireach annta.

Ciamar idir a chaidh an Riaghaltas cho càrr a' deasachadh a' Bhile seo? Tha cuid làidir nam beachd gur e innleachd a th'ann airson cur às do chroitearachd agus cha bheag an t-ìoghadh gum bheil uimhir de dh'ùpraid a' nochdadh na aghaidh.

THE SECURITY of tenure and succession rights delivered by the 1886 Crofting Act were hard won and are rightly precious to crofters. While many aspects of crofting have been amended over the past 123 years, these principles have remained sacrosanct.

It seems little wonder then that there should be such a volume of opposition to the proposals in the Scottish Government's Draft Crofting Reform Bill.

Many crofters suspect a hidden agenda to end crofting completely. One can understand such reactions to proposals which include layers of new regulations, burdens on property, and steep charges for regulatory services, but no new support or motivating initiatives.

Local authorities are also rightly resisting the proposed role of 'residency enforcer'. If this text was accidental, it is difficult to understand how the Scottish Government got it so wrong?

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

Teenager in Isle of Mull indecent picture case given two years' probation

A TEENAGER who incited a girl to send him indecent photos of herself has been given two years' probation. Kyle Livingstone, aged 18, whose address was given as HM Prison, Greenock, appeared for sentencing at Oban Sheriff Court last week, having previously admitted inciting the girl under the age

of 18 years by threats to send photos of herself to him by mobile phone. The offence took place between September 13 and September 27 last year at various locations on Mull. Sentence had been deferred from last month to allow for background reports on Livingstone.

The court heard he appeared to have 'some insight' into what he had done wrong but accepted he would benefit from some help and guidance. Livingstone had also pleaded guilty to three charges of breaching bail conditions on various dates until March 7 this year stopping him from

contacting or approaching any female pupil at Tobermory High School. Sheriff Peter Hammond said: 'You have pleaded guilty to a serious charge of causing a young girl, by threats, to send indecent images to you. This must have been a terrifying and humiliating experience for the girl concerned.'

'I take into account that you have accepted responsibility for your behaviour and I am advised you have spent a considerable period in remand. The social inquiry report has identified work that can be done with you, to reduce the risk of offending in the future.'

Sheriff Hammond sentenced Livingstone to two years' probation and six months' detention for the bail breaches, backdated to March 11, when Livingstone was first remanded in custody pending a jury trial on another charge of indecent behaviour towards a girl under 16 which was found not proven.



Defence Equipment and Support Minister Quentin Davies at the Hebrides range after two days of talks with local community representatives.

Defence Equipment and Support Minister won't let his heart rule his head

Uist must wait for MoD base decision

THE COMMUNITIES of Uist and Benbecula must wait until the autumn to learn the ultimate decision of the MoD on the future of the Hebrides Ranges, according to Defence Equipment and Support Minister Quentin Davies.

Mr Davies spent two and a half days in the Uists last week, touring the ranges, including St Kilda. He met around 40 Qinetiq employees and the same number of leading members of the local community.

Before leaving for London, he indicated that if his heart could rule his head he would have no difficulty making a decision to save the 125 jobs at risk from Qinetiq's proposal to use sophisticated technology to make the Hebrides ranges remotely manned from Aberporth, Wales.

Mr Davies said: 'I would simply see a charming and lovely community in a lovely part of the world which would easily be very badly impacted by a decision of this kind. However it's not possible to take a decision on that basis. There are a few thousand people living on the islands and 60 million in the UK.'

'A good and frank exchange' Asked whether he felt that the saving of £3.9 million per year as a result of the proposals was worthwhile in terms of the negative social impact on the island community, Mr Davies said: 'When I get back I shall have all kinds of people asking for money and if I said I've just given up a saving of £3.9 million a year because I want to do a favour for the charming people of the

Hebrides there'd be a lot of people who would think I'd betrayed the general national interest.'

Mr Davies confirmed that he would be making his decision within weeks of August 20, the final date for local submissions.

Mr Davies also met the task group convened to fight the proposals and look at ways forward.

Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar leader Angus Campbell heads the task group and said he felt the discussions with the minister had been 'a good and frank exchange'.

He said: 'We are concerned that he is still looking at the debate within the financial aspects of the MoD and we're pressing him to look at the bigger picture of the whole of the UK and from the socio-economic effect on these islands.'

Minister confirms Gaelic arts officer to join Creative Scotland

THE COMMITMENT to have a Gaelic arts officer in the new Creative Scotland organisation has been confirmed by Culture Minister Michael Russell during a visit to South Uist.

Creative Scotland is a new statutory body due to come into being in 2010 to bring together the Scottish Arts Council and Scottish Screen in the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Bill.

Mr Russell, while visiting Ceòlas Gaelic summer school, said the new body would have a dedicated Gaelic arts officer who will work with others to deliver the National Gaelic Arts Strategy.

He also announced that the Creative Scotland section of the new bill had been published in Gaelic. 'Making this information available in Gaelic recognises the contribution Gaelic arts and culture make to contemporary Scottish culture. It also recognises the number of Gaelic speakers involved in the arts and culture,' said Mr Russell.

Ceòlas Development Officer Mary Schmoller said: 'We are delighted to meet Mr Russell, to show him what we can achieve and to demonstrate the value of Gaelic arts, particularly in tying together culture and our beautiful island landscapes.'

Hospice gets cash back

A CHARITY offering care to adults with incurable diseases has received 20 per cent of the £661,468 it had invested with a failed bank.

Highland Hospice was warned it could lose half the funds held by KSF, a UK bank owned by Icelandic bank Kaupthing. Following the return of £132,293, chief executive Maria McGill said the hospice would keep fighting to recover more money.

Mather finds Skye forward-thinking and ready to recover from recession

PORTREE showed that its business community is forward-thinking and fighting the recession head-on during a visit by Enterprise Minister Jim Mather.

He was told by members of the business community at a meeting in the Aros Centre that the Highlands and Islands was well-placed to take a role in Scotland's recovery from the recession.

The minister also met graduates who are returning to work on Skye and visited two businesses, Skyeskyns, which makes high quality sheepskin clothing, rugs and medical mats and Sitekit, the award winning web content systems developer based in Portree.

'It was a pleasure to visit Skye and hear the views of the local community as



Stuart Macpherson and Robert Muir, both HIE, with Enterprise Minister Jim Mather and Clive Hartwell of Skyeskyns.

we work together towards achieving the shared goal of sustainable economic growth for Scotland,' said Mr Mather.

'I visited a number of innovative businesses and

it was a delight to witness such great enthusiasm and forward thinking from staff on the island. It was also encouraging to see that graduates in cutting edge industries are keen to return

to Skye to bring the skills and vision that will benefit the island in years to come,' he said.

Clive Hartwell, who owns Skyeskyns, said there were advantages to local businesses working together to offer improved value to visitors. His daughter Jessica is one of the Skye graduates who has returned to the island to work.

At Sitekit, the minister met director Dan Moulin and fellow director Chris Eckl, who joined the meeting by video conference from Sweden.

Robert Muir of Highlands and Islands Enterprise said he was delighted the minister was able to spend so much time on Skye hearing from business and community leaders.

Book festival aims to take readers on a journey from Barra to the Butt

FACLAN Book Festival brings together world-class authors in a variety of Hebridean settings and this year has events taking place from the Butt of Lewis to the Isle of Barra.

The festival encompasses writing in Gaelic and English and features non-fiction, fiction, poetry, music and film. Its themes are both

local and universal, aiming for a national as well as local audience.

Talent Among a wealth of talent are: Angus Peter Campbell and Cailean Maclean talking about their book 'Suas gu Deas' which details their walk from the Butt to Barra; Dr Finlay Macleod, who will be giving a guided tour

of the Norse Mills of Lewis; author John Macleod talking about his book 'When I heard the bell'; Micheál de Mórdha, director of Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhòir (The Great Basket Centre) in Ireland, speaking about the Literature of the Basket Islands; Margaret Bennett taking a look at 'Highland Customs from the Cradle

to the Grave'; geneticist Bryan Sykes shedding light on the 'Blood of the Isles' - and a number of events on Saturday August 29, St Kilda Day, including concerts by Anne Lorne Gillies, Rhona Mackay, Iain Morrison and Daibhidh Martin.

For more information and the event programme visit www.faclan.org.

Holidaying minister attends island meeting

CROFTERS on the Isle of Tiree had an unexpected visitor to a recent Tiree branch meeting of the National Farmers Union Scotland when Richard Lochhead, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, attended.

Farmers were meeting to discuss the current Draft Crofting Reform Bill and were surprised when Mr Lochhead, who was on holiday on Tiree at the time, was able to join them.

Mr Lochhead heard first hand from crofters their concerns about the Draft Bill and their aspirations for the future of crofting on Tiree. Discussion was wide ranging and, whilst there was support for some aspects of the bill, there was a strong feeling that if the Crofters Commission had been effective in the past that much of the proposed legislation would not be necessary. Issues relating to rural housing and the proposed occupancy requirement was the most contentious aspect of the bill and crofters were extremely concerned about the impact this proposal may have.

Richard Lochhead said: 'I was delighted to have the unexpected opportunity while in Tiree to hear from local crofters at first hand. Their views on the draft bill will be fed into the consultation and form an important part of the decision-making process.'

Union vice-president Nigel Miller also attended as did Lucy Sumsion, regional manager for Argyll and the Islands, and local branch secretaries Euan Warnock and Susan Lamont.

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Thieves target Kilchrenan plant

THIEVES have taken more than £1,000 worth of plant equipment from a property near Kilchrenan Primary School, near Loch Awe. Owners reported the theft from the site on Monday. Oban Police would like to hear from anyone with any information relating to the theft and can be contacted on 01631 510500.

Climbers raise £500

A TOTAL of £500 has been raised from a sponsored Ben Nevis climb, undertaken by staff at Oban's Atlantis Leisure.

The sum raised by the climb, which took place on June 28, has gone towards the upgrade of the children's play park. Meanwhile, those who took part in this year's Kerrera sponsored swim are reminded to hand in sponsorship money to Atlantis Leisure.

Iona 'wall' tries again

A NEW application, showing a slightly different lay-out, has been lodged for a 'celebration' wall in a redundant water tank on the Isle of Iona.

A previous application, which Iona Community Council objected to, was withdrawn by the applicants Iona Wall Ltd, which is represented by East Lothian architects Architecture JF Ltd, and a new application submitted within a matter of days, showing an oval layout rather than rectangular.

Iona Community Council has described the project, which it is understood would sell space for commemorations, mostly to customers abroad, as 'capitalising on [people's] emotional vulnerability'.

SPT backs call for immediate improvements to A82

A TRANSPORT group in Strathclyde has backed West Highland calls for significant improvements to the A82 trunk road into the area from the central belt.

'Priority status'
At a recent meeting of Strathclyde Passenger Transport, Ross, Skye and Lochaber MP Charles Kennedy told a group of councillors and transport officials that the A82 should be given 'priority status' and it urgently needed to be upgraded.

Following the meeting he said: 'Progress has been

very slow on delivering improvements necessary and it was good to meet with SPT to discuss what additional support it can lend.'

The meeting was also attended by Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid, Clydebank and Milngavie MP Des McNulty, Argyll and Bute Council transportation spokesman and chairman of HITRANS Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Lochaber councillor Brian Murphy, partnership director of HITRANS David Duthie, SPT chairman Councillor

Alistair Watson and SPT senior transport advisor Bruce Kiloh.

The group discussed how an accelerated programme of roadworks could be achieved. Councillor Watson said: 'It was great to get a group of like-minded politicians and transport specialists around the table.'

'We support calls for immediate improvements to this vital road to the isles and if we can help speed up project delivery that's even better.'

'The A82 is considered as

one of the least safe roads in Scotland and therefore important for the identified road improvements to be done as early as possible.

'Major overhaul'
'In particular we would like to see a major overhaul of the section between Tarbet and Ardlui which is not fit for tourist coaches and freight lorries essential to support the Scottish economy.'

Councillor MacIntyre added: 'HITRANS has identified the importance of the A82 to the economy of the area and the constraints

that the atrocious condition of major sections imposes on the ability of this region to grow.

'We welcome SPT's offer of support.'

As part of the national strategic transport projects review published in December 2008, between £100 million and £250 million was announced to 'significantly improve the standard of the A82'.

So far only £16 million of £90m for two projects - Pulpit Rock and a Crianlarich by-pass - has been committed and are

supposed to be completed by 2012.

The review indicated there would be a 'general upgrade' of the road, such as road widening between Tarbet and Inverran and Corran Ferry and Fort William along with climbing lanes, overtaking lay-bys, road re-alignment, junction improvements, hard strips and safety cameras to encourage safer overtaking and a safer route.

At least 22 people have been killed on the A82 in the last two years with a further 400 injured.

Local Plan ends 'very long journey'

THE LONG, drawn-out and complicated business of producing a new Local Plan for Argyll and Bute is at an end - for the moment.

The Local Plan, which provides a blueprint for building and development in the area, was formally adopted last week by Argyll and Bute Council after the final, final public consultation on the final document.

The process has seen a draft plan, a finalised draft plan and a modified finalised draft plan go through a number of public consultation processes, the first of which began in 2003.

All objections that were unresolved after the modifications were considered at a Public Local Inquiry which took nine months to complete before the report was made public in July last year.

Council leader Councillor Dick Walsh said: 'This has been a very long journey, in which the public has been involved from the start.'

'The Local Plan is a vital document which will have a significant impact on delivering not just our development objectives but also our economic, social and environmental aspirations.'

Two guilty of Oban assault

TWO MEN were found guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday of assaulting another man in Oban's Millpark Lane.

Daniel Kelly, aged 19, of 17A High Street, Oban, and Lance McCuish, aged 18, of 1 Polvinister Gardens, had denied repeatedly punching the 20-year-old victim on the head to his injury.

The assault happened while the victim, who had a history of bad feeling with McCuish, was walking home at around 2.05am on February 16. Kelly had committed the offence while on bail.

Defence agent Edward Thornton, who represented Kelly and McCuish, suggested to the court that the victim was the aggressor in the incident but Sheriff Paul Wade said the defence case's only witness, Daniel Kelly, was not a credible one and therefore accepted the Crown case.

Sentence was deferred on Kelly, who appeared from custody, and McCuish until September 9 for background reports.

Texan warms to 'real' Scottish welcome

A TEXAN visitor to Oban, who was on the verge of being sent home for saying she was volunteering at the Dunollie Homecoming celebrations, received star treatment when she attended The Gathering in Edinburgh.

Twenty-four-year-old Rachel Rogerson got on the wrong side of immigration legislation set up to stop foreigners from being exploited in the UK when she landed at Edinburgh Airport in June.

When she told UK Borders officials she was visiting, travelling and volunteering at Dunollie Homecoming, she was told that she would be sent home because she was not allowed to 'volunteer' to work while in the country.

But following alarm bells being pressed by Catherine Gillies, who was co-ordinating the homecoming project at Dunollie for the MacDougall clan and representations from various politicians and the Scottish government to the UK Government, Rachel was allowed to stay as long as she agreed not to do any voluntary work.

'It has been really great,' said Rachel of her time in Scotland

First Minister Alex Salmond then invited Rachel to a special reception at the Great Hall in Edinburgh Castle along with other VIPs on the weekend of The Gathering in Edinburgh.

'I was invited to the reception prior to the performance of Aisling's Children in the castle entrance,' said Rachel.

During his speech about Homecoming 2009, the first minister referred to Rachel's story and said how different a picture it could have painted of the Homecoming if she had not been allowed to stay.

Following the speeches, Rachel was presented by Culture Minister Michael Russell with a book of Robert Burns's poems, signed on the inside by Alex Salmond, and a silver necklace.

'I was kind of shocked,' said Rachel, 'I didn't know how to react but it was very nice.'

She was then invited to join the dignitaries in the Royal Box for the one and only performance of Aisling's Children, a spectacular one-hour pageant of Scotland's history following six generations of one family to a modern Australian on his way back to Scotland for the Homecoming.

'It was amazing, absolutely gorgeous. It was a music and light show but was choreographed with actors playing the different parts,' she said.

'It has been really great,' said Rachel of her time in Scotland.

'Although there was some adversity when I first got here, everyone has been incredibly welcoming and just really helpful and kind.'

Rachel, who recently graduated with a degree in sculpture, came to Oban last year with her mother and grandmother and learned about her MacDougall roots.

And such is her warmth for her ancestors' country that she has applied to St Andrews University to do a post-graduate course in museums and curating.



Rachel Rogerson receives her gifts from Culture Minister Michael Russell in the Great Hall at Edinburgh Castle.

Hunger strike called off

HUNGER strike campaigner Mark Carter has had to call it quits after 10 weeks for health reasons - two weeks short of his intended three-month protest against the shooting of seals.

Mr Carter, chairman of environment watchdog Hebridean Partnership, planned to eat only a slice of toast each day to take with his medicine, to coincide with the seal shooting 'close season'.

However, having lost three stone and suffering medical problems, the Bonawe man has called time on his strike but insists his publicity campaign will continue.

He said: 'During the last week I have been subject to numerous and potentially serious medical effects as a result of my powerful pain-killing medication in combination with my fasting.'

He added: 'I am unaware of any lasting problems affecting my organs but the latest pounding of my brain has raised my concerns further and in agreement with my word to my family I have decided to cease my hunger strike on medical grounds.'



AN Argyll teacher is preparing to jet off to Israel as one of only two Scottish teachers to be chosen for a prestigious study trip.

Anthea Hunter, principal teacher of Social Subjects at Lochgilphead High School, was one of two chosen to go to Israel on an intensive teacher training course about the Holocaust.

She applied for the trip after a visit to Auschwitz last year run by the Lessons from Auschwitz project. She and two senior pupils from

Lochgilphead teacher one of only two in Scotland selected to go to Israel

Lochgilphead travelled to Poland to help them understand the horrors which occurred there.

'Very privileged'
Several weeks after her return, she was invited to apply for the 10-day iteacher training course, run by the International School for Holocaust Studies in Jerusalem.

Several hundred applications were submitted for just 20 places. Anthea is one of only two teachers from Scotland to be chosen.

She said: 'Going to Auschwitz affected me very deeply. When I returned, I wanted to explore the whole subject in more depth so as to bring it into my teaching in the best, most informed way possible.'

'I feel very privileged to have been chosen, and am delighted to be going. I'm excited about the whole trip. I hope it will make me a better teacher and give me confidence as regards how best to approach such a sensitive subject in the

classroom.'

Yad Vashem, the International School for Holocaust where the course will be based, is Israel's official memorial to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust. For the last three years, it has welcomed teachers from around the world to study the course.

The Holocaust Education Trust is funding the course, making this type of experience possible for history; religious, moral and philosophical studies and

social studies teachers.

Today, (Thursday) Anthea starts her journey to Jerusalem to begin the course the following day. She will arrive back on August 25 and will use her experiences to help her get across the message of the Holocaust to the young people of Argyll and Bute. She said she was looking forward to 'the confidence that the course will give me to teach what is a very difficult subject to tackle well'.



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Duncan Livingstone welcomes everyone to Homecoming Lismore 2009.

Lismore welcomes its own

MORE than 100 people, many visitors, were welcomed to a 'gem of a place' at the opening ceremony on Saturday of Homecoming Lismore 2009.

Just in time the persistent morning rain cleared and from Lismore Heritage Museum balcony Duncan Livingstone welcomed the large crowd from far and wide, who came via foot, car and the two ferries in minibuses kindly supplied by Glensanda Quarry.

In his native Gaelic and English, Mr Livingstone thanked all those who had supported the Homecoming and said they were all in for a great week of celebrating Lismore through the ages. No effort would be spared, he said, in showcasing the island's legendary hospitality.

Oban Gaelic Choir sang two songs, followed by Mary MacDougal singing An t'eilean aluinn.

The Rev Roderick Campbell welcomed everyone 'home' and gave his blessing to the packed week's events.

In the early evening members of the Comann Eachdraidh invited everyone to a shared meal in the hall - displaying that legendary hospitality - which was followed by an evening of outstanding entertainment, hosted in Gaelic and English by Katy Crossan.

By PAULINE DOWLING

'a gem of a place'

Visitors who had never experienced Lismore warmth and the islanders' ability to organise diverse entertainment were full of praise.

'I am proud that my forebears came from such a gem of a place,' said one. Earlier The Walking Theatre, in conjunction with Lismore Youth Theatre, had set the tone with their exuberant, sometimes funny, sometimes very moving portrayal of Lismore 1745.

It took the audience on a journey through time and place walking to the deserted village of Portcharran in the footsteps of those who had lived on a far more populated island. Along the way characters appeared on the landscape whose reality was political and family conflict, hardship and uncertainty, and whose future was found on three ships bound for the new world, some paying their way, some being cleared.

The vigour and freshness of the cast and the opportunity to take part in the action made the experience live as no indoor theatre could.

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Local planners will decide on area's first wind farm

THE FIRM bidding to build Lochaber's first wind farm has expressed its satisfaction that the decision on its future will be determined locally. Ross, Skye and Lochaber Planning Committee will rule on North British Windpower's (NBW) application for four 400-foot turbines at Drumm Fada at a hearing in Fort William on August 25. NBW project manager Graham Irwin said the firm was 'delighted' the 10 megawatt project will be considered in Lochaber and hoped the site hearing would encourage members of the public to support the plan. Lochiel Estate, which owns the land, said the renewable energy development was one of a number of projects that would kick-start investment throughout the estate. Mr Irwin would not reveal to *The Oban Times* the amount of rent Lochiel Estate would earn if the wind farm went ahead. Discussions were still ongoing with Highland Council's community officer on how much local communities could expect, based on a figure of £2,000 per megawatt per year, or £20,000, he said.

Police warning over teams of thieves

NORTHERN Constabulary is warning shop staff to be on the lookout for teams of thieves using distraction ploys to steal cash and goods. Thefts are being carried out by two or three foreign men at a time, entering shops, banks and post offices. Jewellers are being hit hardest, but all retail premises should be extra vigilant, say police. One distracts the shop assistant, while the others remove items. For cash thefts, the con man asks to change money, argues over the amount and steals a proportion during the commotion.

Lochaber High School will open on Tuesday

LOCHABER High School head teacher Jim Sutherland has scotched rumours the school will not open on Tuesday because contractors are behind on work schedules. Mr Sutherland said it would be 'business as usual next week', following a meeting with contractors Morrison Construction and Highland Council architects at the school on Tuesday. 'Staff will be in on Monday and the kids on Tuesday,' he told *The Oban Times*. Phase one of the £15m revamp has already seen clapped-out 1950s buildings flattened and work progressing well on the new £7m sports centre. Classroom refurbishment and the provision of decant accommodation as work continues also form part of phase one, which is expected to be completed by late 2010.

Tarbert nets major regeneration funds for harbour

THE FISHING village of Tarbert in Mid Argyll is celebrating after being awarded £984,500 from the Scottish Government. The money from the Town Regeneration Initiative Funds will be used to improve the town centre and integrate the village with its harbour. It includes proposals for a new harbour pathway linking the pontoons and the town centre with a safe pedestrian route. It will allow visitors to move from the pontoons, to the town centre and other areas of the harbour and on to Tarbert Castle and the beginning of the Kintyre Way. The project will also see the clearance of Dickie's boatyard on the north side of the harbour, which has been unused since 1984. Alan Macdonald, chairman of the Tarbert Harbour Board of Trustees, said: 'This is an opportunity to acquire the site, demolish the shed and prepare the site for subsequent sympathetic development to support the town centre and harbour.' Tarbert Harbour Authority, with Argyll and Bute Council, put forward the application for which will result in more than £1,108,000 in improvements to the village infrastructure with Argyll and Bute Council contributing £103,000 in match funding.



Christina Banks, from Struan, Portree, strikes a graceful pose in the Highland dancing competition. 10_033skye15

Delight as record crowd flocks to Isle of Skye Highland Games

NO RECORDS were broken on the field at the Isle of Skye Highland Games last Wednesday – but at the gate it was a different matter. An estimated 4,200 people packed into the circular arena above Portree, the highest gate recorded in recent times. Space for anywhere to sit on the grassy bank round the field was at a premium as the huge crowd enjoyed a fine afternoon's entertainment in the atmospheric amphitheatre known as 'The Lump'. Games Chieftain Tommy Mackenzie said the crowd was 'the biggest he had ever seen'. Lochaber AC's Colin Donnelly won the Hill Race, Deb Bradley from Staffin took the best local athlete title and Portree's Alick John MacLeod won all three disciplines to become local heavy events champion. Full coverage and pictures on page 12. Sports pictures and results on back page.

Councillors and trunk road contractors locked in talks to minimise disruption

Roadworks to close A82 at Fort William

HIGHLAND Council and trunk road contractors TransServ Scotland are locked in top-level talks over major roadworks on the A82 at Fort William, *The Oban Times* can reveal. The town faces major traffic disruption when resurfacing and carriageway repair work starts this autumn, on a 3km stretch from Seafield Gardens on Achintore Road south to Heron Bay just beyond the town's outskirts. At a 'friendly and frank' meeting in Lochaber House on Monday, TransServ and Transport Scotland representatives said for safety reasons the road had to be closed completely between 8pm and 6am during the three-week contract, and were looking to be on site by mid-September. But Lochaber councillors argued for a 10pm to 6am closure to allow shiftworkers to get to and from work, and a start date after the October school holidays, when the holiday season ends and rail and ferry operators switch to winter schedules. Speaking after the meeting, Fort William and Ardnachurchan councillor Bren Gormley said 'reasonably friendly and frank' talks had focused on how to limit impacts on the local economy and shift work patterns. He told *The Oban Times*: 'CalMac and FirstScotrail both say the summer season runs until the October school holidays, and for tourism-related businesses it's the trade you get in the shoulder months that can make the difference to whether you can survive or not. 'The difference between the October holidays and a month earlier in terms of the area's income will be substantial. 'They were talking of closing the road from 8pm until 6am. We were saying from 10pm is more liveable with. 'There are a lot of people, at Alcan for example, whose shift patterns change at 8pm and they would obviously want to be able to get home. So 10am to 6am would be more helpful – but it's still not good. He added: 'Because of the narrowness of the road and the presence of infrastructure like fibre-optic cabling and water pipes on either side we are reluctantly having to accept limited hours closure. They will, however, be able to squeeze emergency vehicles through if required. There are concerns that if they go to further back in the year that low night-time temperatures may affect things like Tarmac setting. 'We are not unsympathetic to the engineering challenges they are facing. 'But we are concerned about the impact on the community and the level of disruption that the community would be able to tolerate. 'They will have some public events to inform people. 'It's important to give people the opportunity to know what's happening. Hauliers, for example, will need to know when they can run their trucks.' A TranServ spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'There is ongoing dialogue with locally elected members on the planned resurfacing of the A82 south of Fort William and a general acceptance that the works are necessary and the community will benefit from the improvement scheme. 'It is also accepted for the safety of road workers and users that the road will be subject to closure. Discussions are concentrating on the most appropriate timings of the works.'

Hogmanay headline acts launch ticket scramble

'To be here on a night like that is special for me.' - Donnie Munro



Ishbell Strachan, left and James Strachan, right, Sgeir Mhaol Guesthouse in Oban, buy 20 tickets from headline act Donnie Munro and Riona MacInnes of Oban tourist information centre, which is one of the outlets. 15_033hog01

TWO of the headline acts for Oban Hogmanay Homecoming 2009 Final Fling helped to launch the ticket sales on Saturday at one of the outlets, VisitScotland's Oban tourist information centre. Donnie Munro, the former Runrig frontman who now has a successful career with his own band, and Skerryvore, the young traditional Scottish 'boy band', both dropped into the centre to help promote ticket sales. The tickets were on sale locally for two weeks before they were launched via the internet, by Donnie on Saturday, in the hope that bed and breakfast establishments, guest houses and hotels would buy tickets to offer packages to people wishing to attend the Hogmanay bash. Ishbell and James Strachan of Sgeir Mhaol, Soroba Road, are two such proprietors who were quick off the mark to buy 20 tickets from Donnie. Ishbell explained that they would be offering two night packages including tickets to Oban Hogmanay. Oban Hogmanay is growing in stature each year and organisers were astonished last year when more than 1,000 tickets were sold within an hour of them going on general sale in the town. Final Fling This year it is being promoted as the Final Fling of Homecoming 2009, rounding off a spectacular year of events throughout the country. Donnie, who brought his 10-year-old daughter Tanith with him, told *The Oban Times* he was looking forward to the event: 'To be here on a night like that is special for me. 'I have played in Oban many times over the years and it is an amazing place to come to. In this Year of the Homecoming, with the Gaidhealach central to it, Oban is at the heart of it all.' His enthusiasm has also spilled over to Tanith, who is being allowed to go to the Final Fling too. 'I am looking forward to it because of all the things there are going to be to do. I think it's going to be really cool,' she said. Donnie said he would like to involve some of the local musicians and Gaelic choirs in his performance but had still to work on that. 'The Royal National Mod is here this year and you have some amazing Gaelic choirs in the area. It would be good to do something with the schools.' Coup Neil Mackay, who is on the production team, said it was a coup to get Donnie as the headline act 'especially in the Homecoming year'. 'It will be the last celebrations in Scotland for the Year of the Homecoming,' said Neil.

Mull's Duart Castle rings to the sounds of battle re-enactment

DUART Castle on Mull rang to shots of muskets and rallying cries of the Covenanters at the weekend as the Campbells' siege of the royalist Macleans was re-enacted by Fraser's Dragoones. The north-east based regiment, part of the Sealed Knot Society which re-enacts events from the 1640s around the country, was paying its fourth visit to the island at the invitation of Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart, Chief of the Clan Maclean. Around 22 of the regiment set up camp in the castle grounds as it would have in 1647, a turbulent time in Scottish history as well as in England, with pikemen, musketeers, an armourer, a barber surgeon – complete with leeches – and women to cook authentic fare for the soldiers. Second-in-command and event organiser Dale Haigh explained to castle visitors how the musketeers would have fought and recognised comrades in battle and told the story behind the siege of Duart. He told how the Scots Covenanters raised an army against King Charles I, in an effort to uphold the Reformed Church, and as part of the on-going conflict, the Campbells decided to subdue the west coast clans, many of whom were royalists who had contributed men to the Duke of Montrose's royalist uprising in Scotland in 1644. Dale explained why Fraser's Dragoones chooses the 1640s period to re-enact: 'Because the civil war was so widespread – in Scotland as well as England – almost every historical property was involved, even if it was just a skirmish.' For those involved in Fraser's Dragoones it can become a family affair, with visitors to enactments gaining an insight into life in the 1640s.



Fraser's Dragoones re-enact the 1647 siege of Duart Castle, with second-in-command and event organiser Dale Haigh raising the Saltire. 15_033duart01

Uist pipers at Piping Live

SGOIL Lionacleit Pipe Band is the only pipe band from the Western Isles to travel to Glasgow this week for the Piping Live festival and the World Pipe Band Championships. The young pipers and drummers from North Uist, Benbecula, South Uist and Eriskay will be playing on Friday (tomorrow) in George Square at 2pm as part of Piping Live and then competing in the Juvenile Novice Competition Heat 2 at 10am at Glasgow Green. The players and association hope that family and friends will be on hand at both venues to support them before they head home on Sunday, via Lochboisdale.

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You can email your Lorn news to lornlines@obantimes.co.uk



Jill Millar, with Bailey Hillhouse, handing Natalie Hillhouse her Modern Apprentice certificate.

A YOUNG mother has completed a modern apprenticeship in social care proving it is possible to gain qualifications while juggling with family life.

Natalie Hillhouse, a care assistant at Lynn of Lorne Nursing Home in Benderloch, recently completed her Scottish Vocational Qualification in Health and Social Care Level 3.

Natalie has a young son, Bailey, and was praised by Argyll Training Limited assessor Jill Millar: 'Natalie has done well to complete her VQ whilst coping with parenthood.'

Natalie said: 'I would like to thank Jill for all her help and encouragement. It has given me the confidence to think of progressing further in a care career.'

Her manager at the care home, Carole Buse, added her congratulations: 'I am delighted that Natalie has achieved her SVQ qualification.'

'I know that there was much hard work, commitment and dedication on her part to achieve it and I join with the whole team at the Lynn of Lorne to offer her our heartiest congratulations.'

Natalie's SVQ was funded by Skills Development Scotland.

Argyll Training provides vocational and professional training in areas such as ICT, care, catering, administration and more.



A RELATIVELY new Oban group dedicated to passing on the true picture of what is happening in Israel and occupied Palestinian territories is to hold two public meetings in the autumn.

Oban Middle East Group started with a public meeting and film show last November and had a stall at Oban Charities Day in June and now has almost 30 members.

Co-founder Graeme Pagan explained: 'The situation [in the Middle East] is complicated and there are many misunderstandings and much misinformation.'

As part of its wish that accurate information is available, a member of the group is in discussion with the education authorities to ensure that the history and current situation in Palestine and Israel can be accurately taught in schools, said Mr Pagan.

The meetings on September 23 and November 18 in Glenruitten Church Hall in Oban will include a film, Jerusalem...East Side Story, followed by discussion and peace monitor Kate Aspinwall, who returned recently from three months with the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel, will talk about her experiences and answer questions in November.

Anyone wishing more information or to join the group should contact Graeme Pagan on 563737 or email neaveton@tiscali.co.uk.



Oban Middle East Group's stall at Oban Charities Day.



A NEW planning design award is being launched by Argyll and Bute Council to recognise the quality of design in the area. The Sustainable Design Award will be held every two years, with the inaugural event happening at the end of this year.

The scheme is open to any individual, group or organisation in four categories, from new-build to conservation projects. The inaugural awards will recognise work carried out between August 1 2006 and June 22 2009.



Two children escaped injury after this 4x4 left the A816 opposite the Lerags road junction. The woman driver was taken to hospital with suspected fractured ribs but X-rays revealed it was severe bruising.

Punters boost Race for Life runners' efforts

PUNTERS at Ladbrokes' Oban branch have been praised for helping staff to raise more than £1,300.

The betting shop's customers gambled on manager Wendy MacNeil and staff member Hannah Mouat completing the five-kilometre Race For Life at Glasgow Green and donated a total of £1,383.29.

Wendy said: 'The customers donated over a couple of months and I would like to thank them for their help.'

'We had a wee bet on who would finish first and, fortunately, it was me.'

The ladies were doing the event in aid of Cancer Research.

Hannah, whose aunt is battling cancer, said: 'There were 17,000 women taking part, which was more than we expected.'

'We heard a lot of stories from women who had cancer, which made it a very emotional but fulfilling day.'



Hannah Mouat, left, and Wendy MacNeil completed the Glasgow Green Race For Life in aid of Cancer Research. 07_132lad01

Funding aimed at making Oban fireworks night go with a bang

Support needed otherwise future fireworks displays in jeopardy

PEOPLE in Oban and Lorn are being urged to support this year's Homecoming 2009 fireworks display at Mossfield in November.

Councillors agreed at a meeting last week to add funding from its leisure development grant to the pot to help make it a night to remember but warned that they would not contribute every year and next year the budget for such grants would be smaller than ever.

Oban and Lorn Lions Club applied to Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee for £1,500 and received £1,200

towards the £5,000 costs of what the organisation hopes will be a spectacular display set to music on the traditional bonfire night of November 5.

The committee heard that such an event would need the generous help of public donations on the night to help cover the costs otherwise future fireworks displays would be in jeopardy.

Money

Councillor Roddie McCuish, who helps to coordinate the event, said: 'Last year was a bit disappointing but that was because of a

lack of money. If people don't come and support it year after year it will just fail.'

'This is the Year of the Homecoming and it is going to be a spectacular display. It's only right that in the year of Homecoming we should be pushing the boat out.'

Oban and Lorn Lions has also received £1,500 from Oban Common Good Fund.

'It is an excellent event that prevents accidents from people doing their own bonfires and fireworks,' said Councillor Donald

MacDonald, chairman of Oban and Lorn Safety Forum.

The committee also gave out a leisure development grants of £180 to Argyll male voice choir, Coisir Ceann An Tuirc.

The Royal National Mod medal winning choir, which draws members from other choirs around Argyll, hopes to hold Gaelic and music workshops before this year's Mod in Oban.

To help cover future costs the choir also hopes to record a CD, using mobile recording equipment.

Climbing wall for campus

CHILDREN going to Oban Joint Primary Campus will soon, literally, be crawling up the walls.

Rockfield Parent Council, with input from the other two parent councils at the campus, wants to put up a low level climbing wall along a nine-metre section of the playground in the campus.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee of Argyll and Bute Council agreed last week to fund the project from its education development grants to the tune of £1,200 towards the £6,650 costs.

Part of the project is to include the hire of a mobile climbing wall to use during a fund-raising day to help with the rest of the costs of installing the wall, which will have grips no higher than 'picnic table level'.

Annual maintenance will be covered by a contract with the company installing the climbing wall.

Former soldier in Oban court

AN OBAN man who spent five months in Afghanistan before being discharged from the Army has found himself on the wrong side of the law.

Ross MacLellan, 19A Glenruitten Drive, had pled guilty to having an offensive weapon in his possession in a public place on July 29.

Oban Sheriff Court heard last week that MacLellan, aged 19, had been spotted on CCTV disposing of an item in a bin after police went to disperse a crowd gathered at Station Square in the town.

It turned out to be a pool ball in a sock and when arrested MacLellan was found to have only one sock on.

Defence agent Stephen Macleod said his client had joined the Army in 2006 and been sent to Afghanistan last year for five months, where his experiences had had a profound effect on him.

The court heard that MacLellan was already on probation for two other matters and had been remanded in custody for this offence.

Sheriff Peter Hammond deferred sentence until August 25 for background reports, including a psychological report, and continued the remand order.

Microwave thief admonished

A LONG-term drug addict was admonished at Oban Sheriff Court last week for stealing a microwave oven a year ago.

The court heard that James Kelly, aged 29, whose address at the time was 2C Sinclair Drive, Oban, had not re-offended since he pled guilty to the offence last November and had been receiving treatment for his drug addictions.

He had been ordered by the court to be of good behaviour while undergoing treatment.



North Argyll Carers Centre staff and trustees helped to celebrate its re-opening as an independent organisation. 07_132care01

August Independence Day for North Argyll Carers Centre

FOR AMERICANS it is July 4 but for staff and users of North Argyll Carers Centre, Independence Day will always be August 1.

The centre, which assists carers in the area, looked as though it would close in March after its parent charity could no longer support it.

However, manager Ruth Moody, who started the charity 11 years ago in its current Albany Street premises, helped to form a steering committee, with a view to keeping it open.

She was joined by six volunteers, who now make up the newly-structured centre's board of trustees, and its continuation as an independent body was celebrated last Saturday.

Chairman of the board Philip White said: 'Today is the birthday of a new North Argyll Carers Centre.'

'The staff will continue as they were and we are very much indebted to their loyalty in the face of uncertainty about the

centre's future. They were all very determined to keep it open because carers who used the centre, as well as members of the community, have told them how important it is.'

Having become independent from the previous service provider, Quarriers, the centre can apply for a wider range of grants but is also supported by Argyll and Bute Council.

Mr White added: 'The steering committee looked at the service as a business to see if it was going to be viable and we decided it was.'

'Around 40 per cent of our funding comes from the council but we raise the rest of it ourselves from grants and donations.'

'One man came in today with a cheque for £6,000!'

The board of trustees are: Philip White, North Connel; Peter Kemp, Lerags; Bob Clark, Kilmore; Janet Buchanan, Ardbrecknish; Hilary Brown, Ganavan; and Elma Davidson, Barcaldine.

RWE npower renewables



Raera Wind Farm plans go on show

RWE npower renewables is working towards developing a wind farm at Raera Forest, 8km south of Oban, near to Loch Melfort.

Environmental studies are ongoing and we would like to hear your views on the proposal.

We are holding public exhibitions in Kilmelford and Seil and your opinion counts.

This is your chance to find out more about the project, ask questions and register your comments.

Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

Public Exhibitions are being held at:

Kilmelford: Friday 28 August 2pm-8pm
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Texel stands supreme in Bunnessan Show sunshine

IN STARK contrast to last year's Bunnessan Show, this year's event enjoyed bright, warm sunshine, a healthy crowd, and stiff competition across all the classes.

The overall show champion came from the cross sheep ring with Angus MacColl, Croft 2, Fanamore's Texel leader being selected as top exhibit.

On his first show outing of this season, the three-shear tup by Camwell Monte Blanc, had been amongst the silverware last year when he won Salen, Lochaber and was overall champion at Strontian.

From a busy and highly competitive Blackface ring, judge James Fisher, Ardlui took a shearing from R&S MacDougall, Tobermory as overall champion. Bought as a lamb at Dalmally, the shearing called Rannoch, is off a ewe bought at the Laggan dispersal and by a £2,800 Dalchirla.

Robert MacDougall also produced the reserve female, with the gimmer, Miss Money Penny, out of a homebred ewe and by a £2,000 Millpark.

Leading the overall cattle championship was Jimmy Campbell, Fidden with a young cross Limousin calf out of a homebred



Overall Bunnessan Show champion was the Texel three shear tup from Angus MacColl, Croft 2, Fanamore. 17-433un05

Simmental cross cow and by a Limousin bull bred by Bert Leitch, Lagganulva. Judge Billy Ronald said after the judging: 'A quality calf like that would be fit for any show in the country.'

The pure-bred cattle title went to Stuart MacDougall, Fionnphort with a Highland cow with a Torloisk bloodline.

Dominating a busy horse and pony section was the diminutive Durris Fairwind, ridden by nine-year old Lewis Fergusson, Lochaline. The small pony was selected as overall champion by judge Mrs Betty Alcorn, Oban.



Overall champion in the dog show was the six-year old black and white Border Collie 'Sofie' with her owner Rebecca Joel from Newcastle, who are Mull holiday regulars and will return to defend their title next year. 17-433un08



Nine-year old Lewis Fergusson, Lochaline with his horse and pony champion the nine-year old Durris Fairwind 17-433un01



Blackface champion came from R and S MacDougall with the shearing 'Rannoch', bought as a lamb at Dalmally 17-433un06



Overall cattle champion was a cross Limousin heifer calf from Jimmy Campbell, Fidden 17-433un02



Confined cross breed sheep champion was a two-shear Cheviot from Messrs MacNeil, Tirraghoil 17-433un03



Dorothy Mann of Fionnphort with her trophies from the horticultural section where her basket of organically-grown vegetables met with many admiring glances. 17-433un09



John MacInnes, Iona shows how it's done with a log-splitter on the Forestry Commission stand 17-433un04



Hill race winner Stephen MacInnes, Tobermory, who showed a clean pair of heels to the rest of the runners 17-433un07

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Jail for selling friend's telly

A FORT William man who sold his friend's television, pretending it was his, has been sentenced to prison for theft.

Mark McManus, of 5 Lochaber Road, admitted stealing the TV from a flat in the town on October 30 last year.

Defence lawyer Stephen Kennedy told Fort William Sheriff Court a friend of McManus had allowed him to stay at his flat and then go to a party.

While he was out, a third man came to the flat looking for a screen to play computer games. McManus pretended the combination TV and DVD player belonged to him and sold it to the man for £30. The television, valued at £100, has not been recovered.

Sentencing the 32-year-old to 45 days in jail, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'The reason for the custodial sentence is because of the previous convictions that you have.'

Annual Sleaf 'Olympics'

SLEAT celebrates one of its biggest days of the year on Saturday when the annual Camuscross Crofters Olympics take place in the field just north of the Isleornsay road end.

The events programme features a tractor parade, giant sack race, five-legged race, children's races and men's and women's hill races. Highlight of the afternoon will be the inter-township tug-of-war contests at around 3.30pm.

Other attractions include the beer tent, food tent, tombola, raffle and face painting. To round off proceedings a ceildh dance will be held in Duisdale Hall in the evening.

Main events begin at 1pm with the tractor and wheelbarrow procession and pipers from Isle Ornsay Hotel.

All proceeds from the day go towards community developments.

Caol phone sex pest jailed for eight months

A CAOL man has been jailed for eight months for making sexually explicit phone calls to women picked at random from the Highland and Islands phone directory.

Neil Osborne, formerly of 51 Blar Mhor Road and now living at 7 Blindwells, Alva,

Clackmannanshire, appeared at Fort William Sheriff Court for sentencing after pleading guilty to 22 charges of making the calls between September 20 2008 and April 24 this year.

Defending Osborne, aged 30, Hamish Melrose said his client had

fully co-operated with the police and admitted the offences at an early stage.

He said: 'He made calls to numbers picked out at random from the Highlands and Islands telephone directory,' adding that if a man answered, Osborne would

hang up. Sheriff Douglas Small said the obscene calls had been made to homes and places of work. 'One of the ladies who received a phone call was 62 years age; another was nursing her dying father. You made these phone calls for your own personal sexual

gratification,' he said. Sentencing Osborne and placing him on the sex offenders' register, Sheriff Douglas Small said these were 'extremely serious matters', made all the more grave by his previous conviction for shameless indecency nine years ago.



Lorna Ungoad Thomas with her trophy haul from Caol Gardening Show.

Girls bloom at Caol Gardening Show

LADIES were cream of the crop at Caol Gardening Show in Caol Community Centre on Saturday.

Pauline Gillies, Lochailort, won the Alistair MacMillan Shield, newly gifted by the MacMillan family, for most points overall, the top tray award and Ben Nevis Distillery Quach for giant vegetable.

Lorna Ungoad Thomas won best flower in show, most points in floral and pot plants, best exhibit in show with a magnificent planted container, and the Margaret Cameron Memorial Salver for fuchsia.

Gayle Rand, South Laggan won the two novice entry awards for her floral and vegetable exhibits and Jessie Gourlay won the Mrs Cochrane Cup for best rose, once again.

Barbara Anderson won the Ella Laing Cup for best exhibit in preserves and baking with Catriona Smillie taking the highly coveted Neil Drummond Trophy for best clootie dumpling. Joan Milne won the Gardening

Shield for preserves and baking, Margaret Bellwood and Maureen Masson won the Café Chardon Crystal Vase for floral art, while Margaret also won the Provident Shield for best exhibit.

Flying the flag for the boys, B Bellwood won the other new trophy this year, Highland Council Trophy for arts and crafts. Raymond MacPherson took the William Brown Shield for best leek for the second year running, while Vic MacPherson won the Alastair MacGregor Trophy for dahlias, the trophy for most points in classes 4 - 21 and the Michie Cup for most points in show. Judge was Charlie Milne.

Lynne and Martyn would like to thank everyone for exhibiting and especially to Fay at the Community Centre for being so obliging and patient. Thanks also to Printsmith for their continued patience and understanding. Next year's show is on Saturday September 4. Schedules are available.

Drunk Fort exile fought with couple

A LOCHABER exile back in Fort William from Australia fought with a man and his wife as they got tried to get him out their home.

Simon Fraser, aged 35, was home on leave with his wife and two young children and had met up with a friend for an afternoon drink, Fort William Sheriff Court heard. After the six-hour drinking session on July 24, friends put him in a taxi for his in-laws' address in Claggan where he was staying.

But Fraser, who emigrated from Fort William to Tasmania three years ago, wandered into the wrong

house and burst in on the couple as they sat watching television.

Fraser became abusive and aggressive and battled with both husband and wife as they tried to get the unwelcome intruder to leave.

After several minutes of struggle, the couple realised they could not overpower the drunken Fraser, originally from Fort William, and let him go before phoning police.

Fraser, whose address was given as 11 Grant Place, Claggan, pled guilty to disorderly conduct, shouting,

swearing and struggling with the occupants of the house and committing a breach of the peace.

Defending, Stephen Kennedy said his client was extremely remorseful and had said: 'I'm totally gutted if I behaved like that. This is my worst nightmare.'

The incident had put a dampener on the family's trip home, he added.

Sheriff Douglas Small fined Fraser £500 and ordered him to pay £400 in compensation to the couple.

He said: 'This was an extremely upsetting incident.'

Biker dies on A82 near Glengloy

MOTORISTS faced five-hours of traffic chaos on Sunday afternoon after the latest fatality on the A82.

Motorcyclist Sergio Pardellans-Twite, from Kent, aged 32, died in the single vehicle crash around 12.30pm near Glengloy, north of Spean Bridge.

His white motorcycle struck a metal crash barrier next to the carriageway and he died at the scene.

Traffic was held up at the time by sheep crossing the road, supervised by farmworkers, police said.

The A82 was closed in both directions to allow police to carry out crash investigations.

The death brings to eight the number of motorcyclists killed on roads in the Highlands this year.

Earlier this summer *The Oban Times* carried police warnings about the need for all motorists to be vigilant after a spate of crashes involving motorbikes.

Police would like to hear from motorists who were in the queue of traffic and witnessed the crash occurring.

Northern Constabulary's Road Policing Unit can be contacted directly on 01349 869562 or 01463 715555.

Tourist falls to death from Portree cliffs

A PLEASURE boat passenger watched a man fall to his death from cliffs at the mouth of Portree Harbour.

The day-tripper was aboard Portree vessel the Lady B when the climber, Axel Heinz Weisskopf, aged 59, Oberborgermelster, Darmstadt, Germany, fell from the Big Head just after midday last Thursday.

A 999 call was made and Portree Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) Lifeboat launched to help. The lifeboat recovered the man's body from near Tom's Cave at the foot of Ben Tianavaig. The remains were taken ashore by the RNLI lifeboat at Portree and have now been removed to the mortuary in Portree.

Police are carrying out inquiries into the circumstances. His next of

kin have been informed and a report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. There do not appear to be any suspicious circumstances.

The incident was the fourth call-out in five days for Portree RNLI volunteers.

Late afternoon on Sunday the lifeboat towed a 21-foot motorboat with engine trouble back to Churcheon Bay on the Isle of Raasay.

On Monday evening the crew went to the rescue of a 16-foot dinghy which had broken down in Camustianivaig Bay, south of Portree, and towed it back to its mooring.

And on Tuesday the lifeboat assisted when a number of dinghies capsized when taking part in the Plockton Regatta, pitching 30 people into a heavy swell whipped up by 50 mile-an-hour winds.



Clan members at the memorial.

MacDonalds gather in Glencoe

MEMBERS of the ancient MacDonalds of Glencoe clan have welcomed distant relatives from overseas in Homecoming year.

Saturday's day of celebrations began with a poignant church service in St Mary's Church Glencoe, conducted by the Very Reverend Norman MacCallum, Dean of Argyll and The Isles. The clansfolk then marched to the MacDonald monument, led by piper John MacCallum, where church warden George Grant recited prayers, followed by 'Sons of Glencoe'

played on the bagpipes. A visit to the Glencoe Archives at the Glencoe Heritage Trust office followed lunch at the Carnoch Restaurant, before the MacDonalds rounded off the day with a ceildh at the church hall with local musicians Mike Hall and Jimmy Forsyth. Six members of the Lochaber Strathspey and Reel Society put in a surprise visit to the delight of the overseas guests.

Lachlan MacDonald captivated the audience with history and Gaelic songs, followed by *Auld Lang Syne* to bring the day to a close.

Cutting corners costs driver £300 and his licence

A MOTOR home driver has been banned from driving after causing an accident near Fort William in which two people were injured.

Holidaymaker Michael Jubb, of 19 Granville Street, Bamsley, admitted driving his left-hand vehicle without care and attention on the A82 on March 14. Fort William Sheriff Court heard other drivers were concerned about the

65-year-old cutting corners and driving in the middle of the road.

Around four miles south of Fort William Jubb's motorhome hit a car, forcing it to veer off the road down an embankment into trees. The car driver suffered cuts and her passenger had a cracked sternum as result of the crash.

Jubb's defence agent said: 'He appreciates the fact that at the time

of the accident his driving fell below the required standard but this was a momentary lapse due to difficult driving conditions.'

Banning Jubb from driving for four months and fining him £300, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'Looking at the photographs of the accident scene, it is indeed lucky that nobody was injured or killed.'

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West Highland Museum staff, left to right, Mairi Mooney, Dan O'Carroll and Jane Patten.

West Highland Museum gets £90,000 boost

THE WEST Highland Museum in Fort William is set for a major revamp after being granted £90,000 for an ambitious growth programme.

The cash -£45,000 each from HIE and LEADER - will underpin the museum's plan to boost visitor numbers in a three-year drive until the end of 2011.

New members of staff, development assistant Dan O'Carroll and outreach assistant Jane Patten, have already been appointed.

The growth plan includes the creation and management of an annual programme of events within the building, increased number of travelling exhibitions attracted to Fort William, audio interpretation and guides, updating the website and increasing membership.

Museum curator/manager Mairi Mooney said: 'We have been looking

at various options for growing the business and increasing visitor numbers for some time now.

'The museum now has a plan to work through which should help us attract new visitors and exhibitions, improve the experience for current visitors and secure the future of the museum for many years to come.'

The museum was founded in 1922 and is based in a Grade B listed building in Cameron Square.

Built in 1835, the building was home to the British Linen Bank until being taken over by the West Highland Museum in 1926.

The only interruption to the museum's occupancy was during the war years when the Ministry of Defence took over the building to aid the war effort and the collections were put in storage until after the war.

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Kilfinan Community Forest promises jobs and homes for Tighnabruaich

THE future for an Argyll village could be transformed if it can raise funds to buy an area of neighbouring forest.

A group from Tighnabruaich and the surrounding parish of Kilfinan believe a community forest behind the village will breathe new life into the area and stop young people leaving.

'People here have grown up with decline,' said David Blair, a director of Kilfinan Community Forest Company, which is spearheading the project. 'The population has gone from 3,500 to about 700 in the last 50 years. The school is losing pupils and the shops are closing.'

'It is widely recognised that the community is struggling and that an area of forest could change our future.'

forest crofts would provide badly-needed homes for young people and families priced out of the market by holiday homes.

Alongside new housing would be a forestry-based social enterprise, providing jobs and training in managing the woodland and processing the timber into woodchip, firewood, garden furniture and ultimately houses.

Since the project started four years ago, there has been plenty of community input into the plans. Three quarters of the population voted for the buy-out and the National Forest Land Scheme gave permission last July. Now the community has just six months to raise £130,000 and start putting their plan into action.

Mr Blair said they had already raised £38,000 towards the total, including a grant from

Highland and Islands Enterprise's Community Land Unit. He added: 'It sounds like a lot of money but it's not even the cost of a house here.'

'The value of the land to the community is far greater. If it can keep young people living and working here and keep the school and the shops going, that's invaluable.'

As well as seeking grants, there will be a concerted fundraising drive in the village, with a fun day on September 6th and a glamorous dinner dance planned for the autumn.

A permanent exhibition on the project can be viewed at Rachel's shop and further information available at Tighnabruaich Gallery and at www.kilfinancommunityforest.com.



Roddy MacDonald holds up the Argyllshire Herald and Campbelltown Advertiser from December 25, 1909. 06_a32pap01

100-year-old newspaper ignites memories of days gone by

'It's not in great condition. I suppose you can't expect anything else when you're 100 years old'

AN ARGYLLSHIRE Advertiser dating back to 1909 has been found amongst old paperwork in a house in Lochgilphead.

Known as *The Argyllshire Herald and Campbelltown Advertiser*, the four-page broadsheet was found by Roddy MacDonald, owner of D. A MacDonald Joiners and Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors in Lochgilphead.

Extremely fragile
Roddy was sorting through some of his parent's possessions when he came across the yellowing paper, dated December 25, 1909.

He said: 'My father collected a lot of things that interested him, especially anything historical but I don't see why he would have kept this paper especially.'

Roddy said the paper was found folded up inside a folder.

The condition of the document is extremely fragile.

'I remember seeing it before but never really thinking anything of it until I pulled it out the other day and saw the date.'

'It's a bit of history but it's just a pity it's not in great condition. I suppose you can't expect anything else when you're 100 years old,' added Roddy.

Also found within the paper was a booklet entitled: *The Clyde, The Columba and The Royal Mile*, which dates back to 1927.

The booklet contains a poem and verse on summer travelling on the Glasgow Caledonian MacBryne ferry around Argyll and the Outer Hebrides.

Roddy is donating the booklet to the Maritime Museum who will include in their exhibitions.

The Argyllshire Herald and Campbelltown Advertiser have been gifted to the Argyllshire Advertiser archives, which are contained in *The Oban Times* offices in Oban.



Supporters of the project, Renee & Colin Birks, Sam Lennox, Cath Stevens and Mr Jacobs want to see the community take over this area of forest.

Celebration of achievement at Tobermory High School

Primary Gifts: P1: Robert Chalmers, Sakshi Orichison, Harley Ware; P7: Hope Blakely, Liam Bryce, Stuart Crichton, Alasdair Currie, Ella MacDonald, Natalie McDowell, Peter Macgregor, Fraser MacLean, Hope Morrison, Laura Penny, Findlay Reade, Louise Reade, Kees Roesveld, Lewis Wilshire. Ms Anderson's Quill Prize for Creative Writing in P7: Hope Morrison. Sports Day Record Breakers: Junior Boy Discus: Rory Tait; Junior Girl Discus: Clara Montgomery; Senior Girl Discus: Kara Orichison; Junior Boy 1500m: Cullen McClymont. Rugby Trophy: Scott MacColl; Badminton Trophy: Angus Cowe; S1 Swimming Trophies: Cullen McClymont and Rhian Maidment; Cross Country Champions: Junior Boy: Connor Christine; Junior Girl: Katy Montgomery; Senior Boy: Craig Tomison; Senior Girl: Olivia Eedle; Overall House Trophy and Sports day Trophy to Staffa. House Captains: Elise MacLean and Joe McFadden; Sports Captains: Georgina Durie and Angus Cowe; Sports Champions: Junior Boy: Ciaran Whyte; Junior Girl: Kitty Raven; Intermediate Boy: Iain McDowall; Intermediate Girl: Katrina Durie; Senior: Sean Black; For

Outstanding Achievement in Sport: The Ted Heath Trophy: Finlay Carmichael. **Secondary Prizes** S1 - S4: Prizes are awarded to pupils who have made especially significant progress in an aspect of learning, becoming successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors, and responsible citizens. An Comunn Gàidhealach donate prizes for achievement for each year group. S1: Jordan Clark, Sam Dyer, Sian Henderson, Kirsten MacLean; An Comunn Prize for Gaelic: Learners: Mairi Davidson and Sam Dyer; Fluent Speakers: Kirsten MacLean. S2: Rosie Fellows, Ruby Low, Ana Raposo, Kate Stevens; An Comunn Prize for Gaelic: Learners: Claire Brown; Fluent Speakers: Lucy Langford. S3: David Black, Dexter Govan, Clodagh Hughes, Lewis MacLeod, Mat Ratcliffe; An Comunn Prize for Gaelic: Learners: Kirsty Currie; Fluent Speakers: Elisabeth Bowman. S4: Floraidh Canning, Seonaidh Cherry, Lydia Geall, Hannah Noble; An Comunn Prize for Gaelic: Learners: Georgina Durie and Naomi Robertson; Fluent Speakers: Eoghann MacLachlainn.

S5 and S6 Subject Prizes and Special Awards: Rebecca Barnard: Maths and Mr Brockie's Prize for Physics; Lewis McDowall: MacDonald Sprinkbank Memorial Prize for English; Holly Dyer: Mrs Clemenson's Prize for Geography; Sean Black: Biology; Kara Orichison: PE, Art & Design and An Comunn Gàidhealach Prize for Gaelic; Olivia Eedle: Malcolm McCorquodale Prize for Modern Languages; Heather Gash: Prize for Gaelic; Caitlin Malloy: Evans Prize for Gàidhlig; Sean MacPhail: Chemistry; Sarah Broombhead: Mrs Galbraith's Prize for Music; Edith Carmichael: Administration and History; Darren Thompson: Douglas and Christina Neilson Prize for Craft & Design; Katrina MacLean: An Comunn Gàidhealach Prize for Gàidhlig; Scott MacColl: Evans Prize for Graphic Communication; Calum Montgomery: Douglas and Christina Neilson Prize for Hospitality; Elise MacLean and Islay McNaughton: The Jacqui Hall Cuach for Gaelic; Eilisebeth Bowman and Ryan Cairns: Headteacher's Award for Creative Writing; Jenny McDowall and Karen MacLennan: Mr MacNeillage's ACE Cuach for special contributions to the life of the school.

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The timing of the tar

PLANS to close the A82 for 10 hours each night over a period of three weeks in mid-September will send shock waves through the west coast's tourism industry.

Highland Council sensibly argue that the Transerve Scotland roadworks, which would close a 3km stretch on the southern outskirts of Fort William for resurfacing and carriageway repairs, should be delayed until after the October school holidays when they would have the least affect on the local economy. This triggers the question, why did Transerve Scotland not consider the local community when they scheduled the work in the first place?

Nobody can argue that this road, and many other stretches of the A82, have fallen into serious disrepair, but what other country with a tourism-based economy would consider closing a main tourist highway during a summer season?

Glasgow Letter

Damp start to festival

THE WEATHER was dreich at the start of Piping Live 2009 when the Scotia Glenville Pipe Band from New York State entered the arena in George Square to signal the start of music for the entire week.

But there was nothing dreich about their performance and the atmosphere they generated for the sizeable crowd in the square. Fortunately the weather cleared up and the crowd enjoyed performances from the Robert Malcolm Memorial Pipe Band, our own National Youth Pipe Band, Oran Mor from the USA and the Pipe Band Club from Australia.

Away from the main arena, Dr Simon McKerral, piping's first Doctorate, started his daily series 'The Music of the Clans'. These lunchtime concerts/talks are the culmination of two months research by Simon in which he hoped to make an accurate study of clan histories and the music with which they were associated, both piping and other Scots' music.

To assist him the live music is provided each day by Gillian Chalmers, who recently graduated with First Class honours in Piping from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, fiddler Gillian Frame, a former winner of the Young Traditional Musician of the Year, Findlay Napier, Scots' ballad singer and Maevie MacKinnon, Gaelic singer. What a line up for a free concert each day so if you have not been along you still have time. Today (Thursday) it will be Clan MacDonald and tomorrow Clan MacLeod.

The Diary Dates contain a sample of the main events of the festival for the remaining days but there is a lot more to see and hear.

Try the National Piping Centre, George Square or the College of Piping and you will not be disappointed.

Reminder

CAN I please remind secretaries of local associations who have not already done so to forward their 2009-10 syllabus to me?

Engagement

CONGRATULATIONS to Caroline Morrison and Neil Cameron who recently announced their engagement.

Caroline is the daughter of Callum and Cathy Morrison, Glasgow, and of Lochmaddy and Levernburgh, and Neil is the son of Janet and the late James Cameron, Glasgow.

Diary dates

Thursday August 13: Silver Cup Piping Competition, College of Piping, 4pm. Pipes and Strings, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Strathclyde Suite, 7.30pm. Pipes of Peace, Oran Mor, 7.30pm. Strathclyde University Piping Recital Challenge, Lord Todd Bar, 7.30pm. Donnie Munro, Motherwell Concert Hall, 7.30pm. Filsken, Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh, 7.30pm.

Friday August 14: Willie McCallum Recital, Lord Todd Bar, 2.30pm. International Final of Pipe Idol, National Piping Centre, 3pm. Piping concert, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 7.30pm. Summer Sessions, Tolbooth, Stirling, 7pm. Caledon, Brunton Theatre, 7.30pm. **Saturday August 15:** World Pipe Band Championships, Glasgow Green, 9am. After the Worlds Shindig, Old Fruitmarket, with Peatbog Faeries, Finlay MacDonald Band, Ross Ainslie and Jarlath Henderson followed by a ceilidh with *Skerryvore*. Caledon, Brunton Theatre, 7.30pm.

Sunday August 16: Masters International Solo Piping Championships, National Piping Centre, 10.30am. Sunday Survivors Concert, Street Café, National Piping Centre, 1pm to 5pm.

Monday August 17: Blazin' Fiddles, Tolbooth, Stirling, 7.30pm.

Tuesday August 18: Blazin' Fiddles, Tolbooth, Stirling, 7.30pm.

Wednesday August 19: Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham, Perth Concert Hall, 7.30pm. Summer Ceilidh, Tolbooth, Stirling, 7.30pm.

Thursday August 20: Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham, Howden Park Centre, Livingston, 7.30pm. Star Folk Club, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, with Ian Dawson and Carissa Bovill.

Friday August 21: Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham, Arts Guild Theatre, Campbell Street, Greenock, 7.30pm. Summer Sessions, Tolbooth, Stirling, 7pm.

Saturday August 22: Professional Piping Competition, College of Piping, Ottago Street, 10am. Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham, Queen's Hall, Dunoon, 7.30pm. Alastair MacDonald, Brunton Theatre, 7.30pm.

Pub scene

DEOCH 'n Dorus will play in the Islay Inn on Friday with Gunna Sound on Saturday while in the Park Bar it will be Ballochmyle on Friday, Robert Nairn on Saturday and on Sunday there will be a piping 'Jam Night'.

Neil Murray, Tel: 0141 954 8105. Email: neilmurray@yahoo.co.uk.



The Oban Times in Vancouver BC

This week The Oban Times has made its way to Canada. Lorna MacLeod of Oban is pictured reading the paper as she waits to board a ferry to take her to Vancouver BC. We would like readers to send in flashback photographs and photographs of The Oban Times being read in far flung places. Please send prints to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

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

Telephone: 01631 568000
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No public criticism of council

Sir, Why did Councillor MacIntyre feel the need to jump to the defence of the Area Committee in relation to the failed efforts by Oban Youth and Community Association (OYCA) to secure the former Rockfield Primary School for community use?

At no time throughout our efforts has there been any public criticism of the council. The disappointing lack of community response to the project to which he refers related specifically to the fact that although I had called for at least 20 per cent of the population to indicate their support, the response barely reached double figures.

However, I have to say I was disappointed not to have had even an acknowledgement of my letter to the Estates Department of March 10 asking for more time to finalise our plans. Not only was there no response, but on April 29 the council put up a 'For Sale' board and fixed a closing date for July 31.

We continue to be grateful for the financial support afforded by the council for the preparation of the report, the main purpose of which was to replace the now closed premises in Soroba Lane. It was only during the investigations that the Rockfield option emerged as favourite at a late stage in the process.

I also wish to acknowledge the support from Councillor Elaine Robertson, both for OYCA during its operation and subsequently throughout this process. I do not know when Councillor MacIntyre's letter was written, but it was published after the closing date for offers, so if the property remains unsold, we would be interested in working with the council to see if the project could be salvaged in any way.

David M Preston, chairman, OYCA.

Are lengthy road closures justified?

Sir, I wonder if a senior police officer could be invited, through your columns, to explain precisely why it is often considered necessary to close roads for such lengthy periods following road traffic accidents?

I have just heard on local radio of the closure of the A82 at Spean Bridge last Sunday afternoon for five hours. To close this particular road on a Sunday in August must surely be a huge operational decision, and the enormous inconvenience of such a closure to the travelling public is obvious. I should like to know if it is justified.

In France, I understand, the priorities following an accident are to attend and give medical aid to casualties and then to re-open the road. Collateral damage is treated as an insurance matter. One consequence of this attitude is to reduce frustration in drivers caught up in the situation.

Is an accident scene always to be treated as a crime scene?

J C Cotman, Balvicar.

Support for hostel probe

Sir, Although unable to verify the present state of affairs at Oban High School's Glencruitten Hostel, as my child left in 2001, I wish to add my concern and bear witness to the fact that as far back as 2000 there was a disturbing situation there.

I had to speak to staff about incidents that had been allowed to occur there about once a week.

Although I was being charged £128 for boarding fees, being temporarily away from Argyll as a student, I was informed that my child would have to share a room with another pupil who I subsequently discovered was about to be suspended from school for drug possession and/or use.

There were also incidents involving the underage purchase and drinking of alcohol behind the hostel but when I expressed concern to the management they blamed the incidents on pupils and parents.

I spent most nights worrying what was going to happen next.

Eventually I removed my child from the hostel which led to a financial dispute with Argyll and Bute Council which has never been resolved.

I therefore support the call for a full investigation into how Oban High School hostel is being managed.

Name and address supplied.

Music holds the key

Sir, Could I add a few points and thoughts to the continuing debate in your letters page on the 'Way forward for Gaelic', Archie Campbell and Beth Frieden, August 6.

I am not in a position to argue the relative educational merits of the two main proposals put forward - that money is spread around all schools or, as Beth Frieden suggests, concentrating the money on Gaelic-medium schools - but I would like to observe that much of the growth in interest in Gaelic culture and language stems initially from the music, particularly for those who have no Gaelic in their family.

I remember my brother, who had not a word of Italian, being mesmerised as a young man by the operas of Verdi. His enthusiasm and love of the music led him to a desire to understand and learn the language.

The contribution that can be made to the long term health of the Gaelic language by groups who disseminate the music and song at Fèisean and schools tours might be overlooked if the focus is purely on language teaching.

As a volunteer for Lochgoilhead Fiddle Workshop, I have seen the

interest, joy and enthusiasm on the faces of children at primary and secondary schools when our Gaelic arm, Fèis Cheann Loch Goibhle, puts on its week-long annual tour of Argyll schools. If that initial spark is built on it can lead to a life-long interest in the language.

Mark Morpurgo, Lochgoilhead Fiddle Workshop.

Outstanding event

Sir, McCaig's jaundiced comments, August 6, on the Homecoming events cannot go unchallenged.

McCaig admits he wasn't there, but claims there was a steady stream of informants... who were unanimous in their condemnation'. Unlike your columnist, I was there and I can vouch for many thousands - my English other half included - who were very evidently enjoying themselves immensely.

You'dhavetobeparticularly bitter and twisted not to respond to the music, the good humour and the sheer camaraderie between native Scots, those of Scottish descent and Highland-born expats like myself.

The 'absurd sum of money' for the passport only applied to those taking part in the march up the Royal Mile to Edinburgh Castle. The rest could buy a day ticket. And at £88 I rated the passport excellent value. To be part of such an historic procession was justification in itself; the numbers lining the route and their uninhibited cheering was an added bonus. This was a truly memorable experience.

I suspect McCaig is a closet unionist who was hoping the entire event would be a failure, thus creating an opportunity to attack the Scottish government and the First Minister. It wasn't, so he resorts to sniping.

Get back to your tower mate and contemplate the folly around you and in your cringeworthy attitude to an outstanding event.

John MacDonald, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.



Where's all the money gone?

IT SEEMS strange it is only now that it has dawned on the powerhouses of local government that there's no money left in the kitty and no matter how hard they hawl there won't be very much for years to come.

Even the SNP government is having to shut the treasure chest lid and say 'no' to even modest demands for a little extra help.

I'm not going to say that councillors should have seen it coming. Finance, local or national, is an enormously complicated operation. Councillors, MPs and MSPs have in the last 10 years spent, spent and spent again in the belief there will be cash from somewhere.

Increasingly, since the beginning of this financial year everyone who depends on finance from the state or local government have had to accept there isn't any cash to get and therefore the painful situation has to be faced that jobs are at risk and big projects are being shelved. Even the SNP's totem schemes such as a new Forth road bridge will have to wait no matter how desperately it might be needed.

Public projects for the future, roads and transportation are not the only facet of the 2009/10 Budget wish list that is going to be trimmed severely.

The police are now admitting it has a 'black hole' in its pension scheme and that even their pensions may have to be subject to cuts and be nowhere as generous a plan offered as would have been paid just a few years ago.

Not unnaturally, there's great unease among the rank and file. After all, keep your nose clean and work as required and you'll get a good pension after 30 years plus a lump sum and have had a fulfilling career. Not now you want. There isn't any cash to meet the wage demands of the PC and pay for all the sophisticated equipment - the must have toys that must be provided.

Just what is the Chief Constable to do? He knows that all his officers want an above inflation wage increase and the public wants more 'bobbies' on the beat. In Oban, they certainly need them as cyclists on pavements never seem to get stopped and charged while pedestrians constantly take their lives in their hands as they face on-coming cyclists and another pedlars attack from behind by some more

The root cause

BUT LET'S face it. We have been living way beyond our means for years and the well has now run dry.

Education has been far too big a slice of the public purse for too long and too many frills are still being funded while essential projects are starved of cash.

Doing sport, for instance, is very laudable but do we need heavily-funded organisations to teach youngsters canoeing and sailing while there are clubs throughout the country which happily do it in the hope of recruiting new members? Oban Saints Amateur Football Club and Oban Lorne Rugby Club do sterling work in coaching and transporting pupils to keep their many teams supplied with recruits. Until the national economic situation improves greatly we must, as struggling businesses do, cut back to core activities and trim the budgets to help rebuild a strong, sensible budget before starting committing large sums to 'fringe' activities.

Unemployed or student?

IT SEEMS strange at first consideration that there has been a considerable growth in the number of those becoming mature students.

Some may be going through a mid life crisis and getting out of a dull, boring and perhaps not too demanding job to move to study brain surgery which, of course, with the necessity to acquire a basic medical degree before specialising can take more than a decade and certainly be more interesting than counting sheep in a slaughterhouse.

But it does beg the question as to how one finances such a daunting task.

Well it seems there are state funds for mature students that are often more secure than job seekers allowances which have a finite limit on them.

Hence the vastly increased number of those who are getting ready to go to college next month or early October for three or four years to find out the delights of being a student to broaden the mind and work moderately hard in the hope that some time in the future there will be that last great 'blow out' on graduation - entry to the middle classes.

McCaig

Correction

IN AN article in *The Oban Times* of July 23 'Warm Highland welcome for remarkable quadriplegic sailor', Hilary Lister was incorrectly named as Helen.

We apologise to Hilary and her supporters for any confusion or embarrassment this caused.

PRESS POLICY

WE AT *The Oban Times* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing the biggest local newspaper in the West Highlands.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB giving your day-time telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

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Your letters

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Islay Letter

Half marathon

THE ISLAND'S half marathon, now in its 23rd year, attracted close on 200 runners with Stirling competitor Paul Arcari repeating his 2008 success by romping home in 1 hour 13 minutes.

His victory was tinged with disappointment, however, as he failed to break his track record of 1 hour 10 minutes achieved in last year's race.

Glasgow runner Alasdair MacLeod breasted the tape in 1 hour 18 minutes to take second place with Glasgow athlete Nick Reid coming third one minute later. The race was run in favourable

weather conditions and attracted competitors from all areas of the British Isles, central Europe, the United States, Dubai and Singapore.

Local competitors were also to the fore and the first four island runners pounding victoriously home were Marcus Covell, Jim Lutomski, Fraser Campbell and Liam Corson.

Since its inception the event has gone from strength to strength. The inaugural race attracted 23 runners but it has now become one of the major attractions on the local sporting calendar and continues to enjoy sponsorship from Ardbeg Distillery.

Song in the Air

PARTICIPANTS in the annual 'Smaull Song' singing school displayed their vocal advancement at the 'end of course' summer concert in Ionad Chalumu Chille Ile on Friday.

The programme, themed on 'a song in the air', featured a variety of solo artistes, excerpts from opera and a rousing opening arrangement of 'Westering Home.' Works by Brahms, Handel, Britten, Debussy, Elgar and Vaughan Williams highlighted the singers' range as did compositions by Strauss, Schumann, Haydn, Offenbach and Tchaikovsky.

Port Ellen singer Rebecca Johnstone gave us Debussy and joined in 'Moladh nan Lanndaich' with local vocalists Bronwen Currie, Fergus Muir and Philip Maxwell who, along with his wife Briar, are the course organisers.

The special guest artiste favouring us with Handel was Marion Ramsay, a daughter of Port Ellen's Danka and Donald Ramsay, who is now embarking on a singing career in the world of opera.

Course tutor Richard Jackson was the laid-back fear an taighe, Sumie Saito provided the piano accompaniments as did Mary Hill who also conducted the ensemble singing. Others imparting their

musical skills to the students were Sheila McGrow, Paschal Allen and Russell Smythe.

Happy birthday

HEARTY congratulations to Cath Crawford of the Glebe, Bowmore, who celebrated her 80th birthday surrounded by family and friends on August 5.

Many happy return Cath and long may you continue to well prepare competitors for both local and national Mods. Slainte!

Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay, PA43 7JX. Telephone: 01496 810658.

☐ **Tribute to Valerie Thomson - see page 20.**

Lochaline

Your correspondent is Alistair Scoular: 01967 421285

New school plans top agenda

AN UPDATE on plans for a new Lochaline primary school topped the agenda at recent public meeting.

The event, held in the existing school, was organised by Lochaline Primary School Parent Council and attended by Highland councillors Dr Michael Foxley and Bren Gormley and 26 parents and members of the public.

The councillors brought along plans and gave an update on what was happening about the forthcoming new school. Eight years of preparatory work has been done by Lochaline Primary School Steering Group which comprises the previous school board, the present parent council, head teacher Keith Adams, Dr Foxley and Bren Gormley.

The original stone-built, Victorian era school building - now the GP room - which was also the venue for concerts and dances prior to the erection of Lochaline Village Hall in 1957, has been incorporated within the design of the new school for use as a dining room and gymnasium.

While its official title is Lochaline Community Primary School, accommodation has also been provided for the local fire and coastguard units. The fire service has allocated £300,00 from its 2009/2010 budget towards the project. As matters stand at the moment, the planning application should be lodged in September, with a view to issuing the tender in January or February, with the successful contractor to be on site to start construction by April 2010, with completion a year later.

Mr Adams said he was very pleased with the progress that



Luining islanders scale the heights for charity

Around 90 people, aged between three and 83, from the Isle of Luining climbed to the summit of Scarba Island in the Firth of Lorne, as part of the island's annual fund raising for the Cancer Research UK. Sponsor money, donations and proceeds from the ceilidh afterwards in the village hall amounted to more than £1,000. Co-ordinator John Blackwell thanked everyone who helped to make it a fantastic day.

was now being made towards the construction of the new school, and the positive attitude of the architect and the project manager.

Two evenings later the two Highland councillors returned to Lochaline to again address the issue of the new school at Morvern Community Council's July meeting in Lochaline hall, which started with seven community councillors and 16 members of the public.

Keith Adams was again in attendance to state his satisfaction with the progress. 'I am very happy to co-ordinate whatever moves need to be made. Tuesday's meeting was all positive and this new school is going to be a happy school.'

When asked by community council chairman Iain Thormer about the possibility of a slip in the construction timescale, Dr Foxley stated: 'I am convinced that there will be no slippage.'

So while the two discussions

about the new school were 'all sweetness and light', unfortunately that could not be said about parts of the community council business which followed once the two Highland councillors had left.

Since the June meeting, there have been further resignations from the community council, namely councillors Brian Mullins and John Hodgson, neither of whom received any recognition of their service. Their reasons for resigning were not given, or their letters of resignation read out.

However John Hodgson's resignation statement was an open letter to the chairman and members of the council and the community of Morvern in which, inter alia, he states: 'It is with great regret that I tender my resignation. I have been a proud member of Morvern Community Council for 12 years and during that

time there has never been such a dictatorial attitude by some members of the council, which has created much unrest among many of our community. My main reasons for resigning: the unminuted private meetings; derogatory and somewhat aggressive emails between some councillors relating to members of the community; there is a strong reluctance to allow members of the community to question or comment on matters raised during the public meetings, or to raise valid matters at short notice.'

'I am very sorry to have let down my supporters who wished me to remain on the council, but my moral convictions will not allow me to be party to this style of dictatorial management. I expect this to be read in full at the meeting.'

It was not. Concern was again expressed about poor visibility splays at corners on the single-track B849 Lochaline to Drimnin Road, caused by high bracken growth, branches and other vegetation. Councillor Calum Mackechnie, who uses this road daily and has already been involved in a bad accident there, gave the grim forecast that 'some day someone will be killed on that road'.

Following the earlier notification from the council to the Highland Council's roads department regarding the very dangerous condition of the downstream abutment at Killundie bridge on the same road, a tender will be issued for the replacement of the fallen masonry there.

Following the resignation of Alistair Sinclair in June, Councillor David John Robertson has been appointed vice chairman, while Kay Malcolm and John A Cameron have been co-opted following the

resignations of Brian Mullins and John Hodgson.

End of term leaver's service

THIRTY-ONE pupils ended the school year with what is now known as the 'leaver's service' before a full house of parents and friends in Lochaline Hall.

Head teacher Keith Adams welcomed the company and introduced the pupils as they went through a programme of choral Gaelic songs, instrumental music and Scottish Country Dancing by the whole school.

The Archie MacMillan Memorial Cup for all round achievement was awarded to Kirsty Ann Robertson.

resignations of Brian Mullins and John Hodgson.

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Drimnin plumber and artist Brian Mullins, aged 58, arrives back in Lochaline at the end of his recent seven-day gruelling trek round the coastline of Morvern, which raised £1,898 for the 'Maggies' charity. He decided to do the walk as thanks for 'the wonderful comfort and help' that the charity had given his partner, Vicki Brennan, during her course of chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatment.



Primary pupils bid farewell

Lochaline Primary School said farewell to six pupils at the end of term. Rory Malcolm, Maddy Raven, Kirsty Ann Robertson, Gregor Smart, Eilidh Boulton and Lucy Walter are moving onto secondary education. Maddy is heading to Tobermory High School while the others will be attending Ardnamurchan High School in Strontian.

25 Years Ago Those Were The Days
The Oban Times
Thursday August 16, 1984

Holiday hideaway for former first lady
THE PEACE and solitude of an Argyll castle were chosen this month as a holiday hideaway of Lady Bird Johnson, widow of the former United States President Lyndon B Johnson.
Claudia Alta Johnson, whose late husband acceded to the presidency on the assassination of John F Kennedy in Dallas in November 1963, left Argyll earlier this week after a private family holiday at Ardmaddy Castle, the home of Mr and Mrs Charles Struthers overlooking the Sound of Seil.
Included in the former first lady's party were her daughter Luci and husband Ian and daughter Lynda.
In an exclusive interview with *The Oban Times* at Ardmaddy Castle, Mrs Johnson was full of praise for the beauties of Argyll and Scotland.
'I just love your country. We have had some lovely days to enjoy the area. I was so impressed by the Struthers family and their knowledge of the flora and fauna of the district,' she said.

Highland dress became the subject for conversation and a kilted *Oban Times* representative was happy to tell the Johnson family about the Celtic design on his sgian dubh.

Woman motorcycles 3,000 miles
AN OBAN senior citizen is back home after a round trip of almost 3,000 miles on a motorcycle to raise funds for charity.
Kate Campbell from Pulpit Drive was the only Scottish member in a UK contingent of six attending the annual rally of the Women's International Motor Cycle Association held this year in Chiasso, Switzerland.
Like her husband, Mrs Campbell has been a keen motorcyclist for more than 30 years and she is a founder member of the Star Rider Training Scheme in Oban and is still an instructor.

£1 buys site for new Mallaig museum
A BOLD step to convert Mallaig's former railway dormitory into a heritage centre was taken on Thursday when the keys were handed over for the nominal sum of £1.
Performing the ceremony after travelling from Fort William by steam train was British Rail's general manager Christopher Green. He praised the people of Mallaig for their initiative and hinted at further possible development. He described it as an 'exciting project' which will help British Rail attract tourists to one of Europe's best known steam lines.
On handing over the keys to Angus MacIntyre, chairman of the Heritage Museum Committee, he said that it signified good will and that any further details would be ironed out.

Royal picnic spot
CONTINUING her tour of the Western Isles on the Royal Yacht Britannia Her Majesty the Queen visited the island of Raasay last Tuesday.
Britannia dropped anchor just north of Holoman Island just after 9am and remained at anchor until almost 11.30pm that evening.

Lismore

Your correspondent is Pauline Dowling: 01631 760293

The James Graham Trio

THREE young men with an impressive musical pedigree recently played to an appreciative audience in the hall. Singer James Graham from Lochinver listened as a child to his aunt Seordag Murray, a native Gaelic speaker from the nearby village of Achiltibuie.

This early influence led to an Honours degree in Scottish Music at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow where he studied Gaelic song under the respected Gaelic singer and scholar Kenna Campbell.

In 2004 James won the BBC Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year Award, the first male and first Gaelic singer to do so, and in 2007 he added the coveted Mod Gold Medal at the Royal National Mod.

Throughout the evening James was accompanied by pianist James Ross and cellist Neil Johnstone, both fine musicians in their own right, who have been performing with James as The James Graham Trio since 2005. It was obvious the three have a great understanding of both Scottish and Gaelic music so are able to bring their own fresh musicality.

As a singer James' deep respect for the strong Gaelic melodic lines was apparent in every song, and the sophisticated accompaniments and arrangements brought an original and very 21st century feel to their ancient roots.

Raft race and sports

THE EXCELLENT spell of fine summer weather continued long enough for the raft races and sports on July 18 not to be interrupted by rain despite some menacing looking clouds from time to time.

Add to this the seamless organisation and hard work of many islanders and the result was an excellent day for the crowds and participants, many of whom came from far afield.

The raft entries were, as usual, imaginative and mostly seaworthy and the slight wind made the going harder than many expected. Congratulations to the following winners: Children's Race, Reuben Campbell Paine and friends; Best Design, Christopher and Connor with the Bata Dubh; Best Name, Pink Piranha; Adult Race, Lismore Cafe Crew; Best Design, HMS Goodwin; Best Name, Timatanga Waka 2. It was judged by Alan and Tina Walker.

After the raft races it was onto the sports field for an afternoon of fun and spectacle. For the very young

to primary seven, there were flat races, potato and spoon and three-legged races.

Teenage girl winners were flat race, Eilidh Willis; discus and shot putt, Jemma Campbell; Hill Race, 1 and medal, Eilidh Willis. Overall Champion, 1 and shield, Eilidh Willis. Teenage Boys winners: flat race, Scott Johnstone; sheaf tossing and hammer throw, Robert Mackeller; shot putt, Ross Colthart; three-legged race, Calum McGillivray and Kieran Gallacher; hill race, 1 and medal, Calum McGillivray; overall champion, 1 and shield, Scott Johnstone. Women's flat race, Donna Smith; Sheaf Tossing, Jemma Campbell; discus throw, Katy Smith; Shot putt, Donna Smith; three-legged race, Donna Smith and Jemma Campbell. Hill Race, 1 and Medal, Donna Smith. Overall Champion, shield and Craignaich Cup, Donna Smith. Men's flat race, Lorne MacDougall; Sheaf Tossing, George MacColl; Shot Putt, Robbie Cook; Hammer throw, Robbie Cook. Hill race, 1 and medal, Eoghan Black. Overall champions, Ted Memorial Cup, George MacColl and Robbie Cook.

The tug-o-war was hotly contested. Team leaders were Archie McGillivray, north, and Iris MacColl, south. The judge was the Rev Dr Roderick Campbell. The winners were: primary, the North End; teenagers, the South End, ladies, the South End; mens, the North End. Medals and cups were presented by Alan and Tina A Walker. Thanks go to everyone who helped with the many preparations and on the day. Special thanks to David Glog who acted as MC, to everyone who contributed to the efficient refreshment tent, particularly to Roger and Gilly Dixon-Spain, to the marshals, judges and announcers and to Carol and Julian for donating the Craignaich Cup for the Ladies' Champion.

The day finished with a dance in the hall to the John Morgan Band. Many thanks to everyone who organised this and cleared away.

Sale of work
THIS year's Guild sale of work was extremely busy with visitors and islanders turning out to support the Guild which raised £1,500 for church funds.

Sue Campbell, the new minister's wife, opened the evening and in minutes the baking and produce were all sold and, as tea and coffees were served, Johnny Livingstone auctioned a painting, a freezer-ready sheep donated by Donnie MacCormick and two attractive wall hangings. The evening ended with a dance to the music of Donnie Files run by the hall committee.

Health consultation

PROFESSOR Jane Farmer of the Centre for Rural Health recently conducted an inde-

pendent evaluation of health care on Lismore and, as part of this, islanders were invited to voice their views.

This is part of the monitoring of the Community Health Partnership's proposed new model for out-of-hours health provision.

As Professor Farmer is an expert in the field of remote and rural health provision she is well placed to assess islanders' needs. However the model, as put forward by the Community Health Partnership in draft proposals and available to view on the community council website page, is not yet fully in place and the community still has concerns about it.

The Centre for Rural Health works as a collaborative venture between the University of Aberdeen and the University of the Highlands and Islands Millennium Institute and its aim is to advance knowledge of health and health services in rural and remote communities and to highlight the challenges resulting from remoteness and, in Lismore's case, with an unpredictable stretch of water to cross.

Mull Theatre

MULL Theatre brought Homecoming 2009 to the island, which was greatly appreciated.

The four actors were also accomplished musicians and introduced themselves with ceilidh music on fiddle and guitar until all feet were tapping and all hands clapping.

The programme was a series of short skits and dramatisations. The action took place on board a ferry which had run aground. Passengers were eager to get to the island's homecoming dance so had to be distracted with comedy, adventure, poetry and song.

More lively music and a ceilidh dance ended a memorable evening.

Community bus

LISMORE Community Transport's annual general meeting on July 20 was well attended.

Chairman Norma Black reported that the continuing problems with the engine were in the process of being resolved thanks to the generosity of Aggregate Industries at Glensanda which, as well as giving a funding grant of £3,283, offered to repair the minibus at no cost to Lismore Community Transport.

This involved collecting it from Appin Garage and transporting it to a workshop at Glensanda. They then arranged for the replacement of the engine and clutch parts, and the servicing of the brakes, all at their expense.

Norma expressed the island's gratitude for their generosity and their continued support of this community activity. 'It is a truly fantastic contribution and means we can continue providing our service to the people of Lismore,' she said.

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0845 230 EYES (3937)

Across
1 Friendly (6)
4 Bletcher (6)
9 Not for (7)
10 Meaning the opposite (5)
11 Shrub of the cashew family (5)
12 Bring out again (7)
13 Seal (11)
18 Casual wear (1-6)
20 Brownish (5)
22 Wading bird (5)
23 Precisely (7)
24 Boil (6)
25 Inconsistent (6)

Down
1 Open carriage (6)
2 Deprive of heat? (5)
3 Hire for a ride (7)
5 Accused's need (5)
6 Flower (7)
7 It blows off steam (6)
8 Ill-fated (4-7)
14 Throw (7)
15 Tidal wave (7)
16 Cuts by erosion (6)
17 Type of sock (6)
19 Cattle farm (5)
21 Style of hand dye (5)

Last Week's Solution

Isle of Skye Highland Games

Record crowd flocks to 'Lump' for feast of games action

PORTREE'S population almost trebled last Wednesday as thousands of visitors descended on the island capital for the Isle of Skye Highland Games.

Streets, pubs and shops were thronged as crowds made their way to and from The Lump, the legendary amphitheatre above the town.

Games organisers estimated at least 4,200 people attended through the day, with around £24,000 being taken at the gate.

Forecasted showers never arrived and the warm breeze kept the midgies away which provided perfect condition for competitors and spectators.

Treasurer Allan Stewart spent most of the day feverishly collating results in the games' HQ, a wooden shed on a grassy bank above the field.

First class

'It's been first class today with a very big crowd,' he told *The Oban Times*. 'We have an excellent number of competitors across all events, with entries in the local heavy events, local piping, and open dancing competitions especially strong.'

Chieftain for the second year, Tommy Mackenzie,

reckoned the crowd was the biggest he had ever seen, lending credence to many commentators' view that the Isle of Skye Games are in much ruder health than its counterparts elsewhere.

'The mainland games have been well down, but Skye is bucking that trend,' Tommy told *The Oban Times*.

Website

'We have a new website now and going by the number of inquiries we had it worked a treat.'

'Four years ago we paid local cubs and brownies £200 to distribute a questionnaire on the day asking how folk found out about our Highland Games. Fifteen per cent said it was through the internet - and that was then. It's really paid off - our visitors today are mainly continental people.'

Games compere, former Lochaline man Stewart Jackson, provided excellent running commentary to keep the big crowd informed and entertained during competitions.

One of the most popular was the local heavy events, which attracted a big entry of Skye strongmen.

Alick John MacLeod, a youth worker from Portree, won all three disciplines - the 56lb weight over the bar, putting the stone and the hammer.

Originally from Ranish, Stomoway, Alick hopes his success at the Games will presage better luck in the jobs market - his three-year contract has just finished and he is now open to new offers.

Competitors

'I've been a youth worker here in Portree for three years and I'm now looking for work - anywhere,' Alick told *The Oban Times*. 'But it's great to see so many local competitors have a go at the events. The problem is getting from local standard to open standard - it's a big step up.'

The medical profession might not be so enthused by Alick's success. 'I had a hernia operation earlier this year. The doctor doesn't know I'm here!' he said.



Calum 'Columbo' Nicolson from Portree throws the 56lb weight over the bar. 10_f33skye01



Jay Collins from Sleat jumps to victory in the confined long jump. 10_f33skye02



Chieftain Tommy Mackenzie meets some of the younger members of the crowd. 10_f33skye05



Peter MacInnes, from Kilmuir, Skye, tied for second in the weight over the bar. 10_f33skye17



Drum Major Peter MacDonald leads the Isle of Skye Pipe Band round the field. 10_f33skye07



David MacDonald, Clan Donald Lands trust executive director, and kinswoman Susan McDonald, from Tacoma, Washington State, USA, at their stall. 10_f32arisai010

Highland Dancing (Local) Junior (Under 16 Years) Highland Fling/Sword Dance: 1 Natalie Rosie 1 Brady Gillies; 2 Brady Gillies 2 Morvern Cameron;



The Lump saw its biggest ever crowd. 10_f33skye16



Bruce Robb from Oakley, Kincardine, spins round in the shot putt. 10_f33skye12

You can order copies of photographs which appear on this page. Contact 01631 568000 quoting the code at the end of the caption.



Above: Alick John MacLeod prepares to launch his winning throw of the 56lb weight over the bar. 10_f33skye03



The huge crowd enjoyed the junior tug-o'-war. 10_f33skye06



James Roxburgh from Kyle was competing in the piping competition for the first time. 10_f33skye09



Anne Marie MacRae from Portree enjoys a well-deserved rest after winning the two-lap race. 10_f33skye08

Arisaig Highland Games results

Piping (Open) Piobaireachd/March: 1 Martin Kessler 1 Martin Kessler; 2 Willie MacIntyre 2 Michael Gray; 3 Tracy Williams 3 Willie MacIntyre; 4 Tom Glover 4 Jim Dillahey; 5 Michael Gray.
Strathspey & Reel/Jig: 1 Michael Gray 1 Willie MacIntyre; 2 Martin Kessler 2 Jim Dillahey; 3 Willie MacIntyre 3 Michael Gray; 4 Tracy Williams 4 Tom Glover.
Arisaig Challenge Cup for Piobaireachd, Martin Kessler, Canon Iain Gillies Memorial Trophy, Martin Kessler, Neil Smart Trophy for Light Music, Michael Gray.
Piping (Junior) March/Strathspey & Reel: 1 James Rosie 1 James Rosie; 2 Sandy Cameron 2 Sandy Cameron; 3 Crisdean MacDonald 3 Andrew Hepburn; 4 Andrew Hepburn 4 Crisdean MacDonald. Cameron-Head cup for junior piping, James Rosie.
Highland Dancing (Open) Adult (16+ Years) Highland Fling/Sword Dance: 1 Laura Smith 1 Laura Smith; 2 Eilidh MacKellaig 2 Eilidh MacKellaig; Sean Truibhais/Strathspey & Reel: 1 Laura Smith 1 Eilidh MacKellaig;

2 Eilidh MacKellaig 2 Laura Smith. Sailors Hornpipe/Irish Jig: 1 Mairi MacKellaig 1 Laura Smith; 2 Laura Smith 2 Eilidh MacKellaig. Robert Cuthbertson shield, Laura Smith. Junior (11-16 Years) Highland Fling/Sword Dance: 1 Natalie Rosie 1 Natalie Rosie; 2 Mairi MacKellaig 2 Brady Gillies; 3 Brady Gillies 3 Natalie Laing; 4 Natalie Laing 4 Aimee Laurie. Sean Truibhais/Strathspey & Reel: 1 Mairi MacKellaig 1 Mairi MacKellaig; 2 Natalie Rosie 2 Natalie Rosie; 3 Brady Gillies 3 Brady Gillies; 4 Natalie Laing 4 Natalie Laing. Sailors Hornpipe/Irish Jig: 1 Mairi MacKellaig 1 Natalie Rosie; 2 Brady Gillies 3 Brady Gillies; 4 Natalie Laing 4 Natalie Laing. Marjorie MacDonald Cup, Natalie Rosie.
Juvenile (Under 11 Years) Highland Fling/Sword Dance: 1 Kelsey MacBeth 1 Jenna MacDonald; 2 Caitlin Muir 2 Aimee Snedden; 3 Aimee Snedden 3 Emily Brown; 4 Jenna MacDonald. Sean Truibhais: 1 Kelsey MacBeth; 2 Jenna MacDonald; 3 Aimee Snedden; 4 Emily Brown. Sailors Hornpipe/Irish Jig: 1 Kelsey MacBeth 1 Kelsey MacBeth; 2 Aimee Snedden 2 Aimee Snedden; 3 Jenna MacDonald 3 Jenna MacDonald; 4 Emily Brown.

3 Natalie Laing. Keith Eddie cup, Brady Gillies.
Highland dancing (Local) Junior (Under 12 Years) Highland Fling/Sword Dance: 1 Kelsey MacBeth 1 Jenna MacDonald; 2 Caitlin Muir 2 Kelsey MacBeth; 3 Jenna MacDonald 3 Aimee Snedden. Flora MacDonald's Fancy/Sean Truibhais: 1 Kelsey MacBeth 1 Kelsey MacBeth; 2 Aimee Snedden 2 Jenna MacDonald; 3 Jenna MacDonald 3 Aimee Snedden. Donald Post cup, Kelsey MacBeth; Zilinia trophy, Kelsey MacBeth.
Heavy events (Open) Putting 16lb Ball/Putting 22lb Ball: 1 Pat Hellier 52'6" 1 Pat Hellier 44'0"; 2 David Home 40'3" 2 David Home 32'11"; 3 David Hart 36'9" 3 David Hart 31'2"; 4 Richard MacDonald 29'11" 4 Richard MacDonald 25'5". Throwing 28lb Hammer for distance/Throwing 16lb Hammer: 1 Pat Hellier 86'7" 1 Pat Hellier 122'10"; 2 David Home 69'10" 2 David Home 108'3"; 3 David Hart 56'4" 3 David Hart 102'3"; 4 Rory Purvis 45'0" 4 Tommy MacEachen 74'2". Tossing the Caber/56lb Weight over the bar: 1 Pat Hellier 1 Pat Hellier 14'0"; 2 Peter Whitehead 2 Peter Whitehead 13'6"; 3 David Hart 3 David Hart 11'6"; 4 David Home 4 David Home 11'6". Whitehead Trophy, David Home; Allan

2 Longchong Cheung; 3 Findlay Shields 3 Emma Cameron. Boys (Under 12 Years) Girls (Under 12 Years): 1 Stephen Dent 1 Victoria McCue; 2 Shane Gillies 2 Katerina Puffer; 3 George Huxley 3 Bethany Brown; Boys (Under 16 Years) Girls (Under 16 Years): 1 Fraser Imrie 1 Isla McKay; 2 Ranaid MacDonald 2 Frankie Austin; 3 Robert Gaskell 3 Sophie Scott. Junior Highland Games (8-12 years) Boys Shot-put / Girls Shot-put: 1 Calum McEachen 1 Hope Thomson; 2 Hector MacDonald 2 Katie Allan; 3 Toby MacWilliams 3 Eleanor Fraser. Boys Weight for distance / Girls Weight for distance: 1 Calum MacDonald 1 Hope Thomson; 2 Steven Dent 2 Becky Broadley; 3 Arran Friel 3 Eleanor Fraser. Boys Caber / Girls Caber: 1 Steven Dent 1 Katie Allan; 2 Calum Boyle 2 Hope Thomson; 3 Calum MacEachen 3 Naomi Cameron. Shot-put (Under 14) / Shot-put (Under 17): 1 Calum MacDonald 1 Rory Purvis; 2 Jordan Brookie 2 Jonathan Chisholm; 3 Marly Falconer 3 James Graham. Hammer (Under 14) / Hammer (Under 17): 1 Calum MacDonald 1 Rory Purvis; 2 Jordan Brookie 2 Jonathan Chisholm; 3 Alistair MacRae 3 James Graham. Caber (Under 14): 1 Calum MacDonald; 2nd Jordan Brookie; 3 Alec Baird.

An excellent entry for the boys 100 yards. 10_f32arisai04
MacDonald Trophy, Pat Hellier; Creag Mhor Caber Trophy, Pat Hellier.
Track and field (Open) 100 Yards/ 200 yards: 1 Stuart Atkinson 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Ian Murray 2 Stuart Atkinson; 3 David Hart 3 Ian Murray; 440 yards/Mile race: 1 Stuart Atkinson 1 Stuart Atkinson; 2 Ben Searf 2 Caluin Routledge; 3 Kieran Saunders 3 Shaun MacIvor. West Coast Hill Race/High Jump 1 Stuart Atkinson 1 David Hart; 2 Ian Richardson 2 Donald MacDonald; 3 Pablo Ferrand 3 Stuart Atkinson; 4 Caluin Routledge 4 Jerome MacDonald. Ladies Race: 1 Isla McKay; 2 Frankie Austin; 3 Alison Hastings. Donald MacKenzie Trophy, Stuart Atkinson.
Track and field (Local) 100 yards/

200 yards: 1 Ross Douglas 1 Ross Douglas; 2 Stuart Atkinson 2 Stuart Atkinson. 3 Donald MacDonald 3 Isla McKay. Long Jump/Triple Jump: 1 David Hart 1 Donald MacDonald; 2 Donald MacDonald 2 David Hart; 3 Stuart Atkinson 3 Jerome MacDonald; 4 Jerome MacDonald 4 Stuart Atkinson. Astley Nicholson cup, Ross Douglas. Tony Moynihan Trophy, Ross Douglas.
Children's events
Boys (Under 6 Years) Girls (Under 6 Years): 1 Taylor Brown 1 Erin Cubitt; 2 Andrew Duncan 2 Rachael Nicolson; 3 Somerled MacDonald 3 Scarlett Maxwell-Brahms. Boys (Under 9 Years) / Girls (Under 9 Years): 1 Finlay Scott 1 Cara MacDonald; 2 Kieran Northwood

Isle of Skye Highland Games results 2009

TROPHIES

Piping: Dunvegan Medal - Stuart Liddell, Inverary; Col. Jock MacDonald Clasp - Dr Angus MacDonald, Braes; DR Allan MacDonald Challenge Cup for best all round open piper, Peter MacFarquhar Challenge Star - Stuart Liddell; Capt. Kemble Star for open march - Peter MacGregor, Edinburgh; MacBeath Parr Associates Cup: jig - Niall Stuart, Kyle; Alan Torrance Associates Cup: 6/8 March - Stuart Liddell; Clan Donald Quaich (For under 18 Piobaireachd) - David Sneddon; Col. Jock MacDonald Viewfield Cup for local piobaireachd - Alasdair Murray, Erboisag; Donnie MacKenzie Cup for local march - Rhoan Jagger, Portree; Toronto Cup for best all round local piper - Alasdair Murray, Erboisag; Dougie MacLeod Cup for best all round local piping (under 18) - Seamus O'Boaghill; Nicol Campbell Memorial Trophy - overall winner (local) light music - Alasdair Murray, Erboisag; Peter Beaton Memorial Cup - highest scoring pipe band member in local competitions on the field - Alasdair MacPherson, Portree.

Dancing: Caledonian MacBrayne Cup - Best all round dancer (open) 13 years and under - Mellissa Fife, Inverness; Woodman Family Trophy - Best all round dancer (open) 15 years and under - Rhiannon McPhee, Dundee; Hugh Gillies Trophy - best all round dancer (open) 15 years and under - Laura Smith, Cairnie;

Sailing: Vice Admiral Sir Roderick MacDonald KBE Memorial Cup - Malcolm Matheson - Randan

Local Piping Competitions:

Under 16, Marches - 1 Christopher MacDonald, Sleat; 2 Seamus O'Boaghill, Sleat; 3 Brighde Campbell, Sleat; 4 John Gillies, Portree; Strathspey & Reel - 1 Seamus O'Boaghill, Sleat; 2 Brighde Campbell, Sleat; 3 Bruce MacDonald, Portree; 4 Rona Nicolson, Portree. Jigs - 1 Bruce MacDonald, Portree; 2 Seamus O'Boaghill, Sleat; 3 Christopher MacDonald, Sleat; 4 Rona Nicolson, Portree. Piobaireachd - 1 Brighde Campbell, Sleat; 2 Bruce MacDonald, Portree; 3 Seamus O'Boaghill, Sleat; 4 James Roxburn, Kyle. 16 years & over, marches: 1 Rhoan Jagger, Portree; 2 Alasdair Connor, Portree; 3 Alasdair MacPherson, Portree; 4 Lee MacIntosh, Portree. Strathspey & Reel - 1 Alasdair Murray, Erboisag; 2 Rhoan Jagger, Portree; 3 Alasdair MacPherson, Portree; 4 Alasdair Connor, Portree. Jigs - 1 Alasdair Murray, Erboisag; 2 Alasdair Connor, Portree; 3 Alasdair MacPherson, Portree; 4 Rhoan Jagger, Portree. Piobaireachd - 1 Alasdair Murray, Erboisag; 2 Rhoan Jagger, Portree; 3 Alasdair Connor, Portree.

Open Highland Dancing:

13 years and under, Highland Fling - 1 Melissa Fife, Inverness; 2 Charlotte Faulds, Falkirk; 3 Jenny Pollock, Dunfermline. Gillie Callum - 1 Melissa Fife; 2 Jenny Pollock; 3 Charlotte Faulds. Seann Triubhas - 1 Iva Wheatly, Tasmania; 2 Melissa Fife; 3 Lisa West, Inverloch. Reels - 1 Melissa Fife; 2 Charlotte Faulds; 3 Lisa West and Eilidh Grant, Aberdeen. Hornpipe (in costume - 1 Jenny Pollock; 2 Charlotte Faulds; 3 Lisa West. Irish Jig (in costume - 1 Melissa Fife; 2 Jenny Pollock; 3 Charlotte Faulds. 15 years and under, Highland Fling - 1 Rhiannon McPhee, Dundee; 2 Kirsty Innes, Inverness; 3 Rebecca Murray, Dundee and Catherine Beaton, Portree; Gillie Callum - 1 Rhiannon McPhee; 2 Kirsty Innes; 3 Johnathan Faulds. Seann Triubhas - 1 Kirsty Innes; 2 Rhiannon McPhee; 3 Rebecca Murray and Johnathan Faulds. Reels - 1 Kirsty Innes; 2 Rhiannon McPhee; 3 Catherine Beaton and Rebecca Murray. Hornpipe in costume - 1 Johnathan Faulds; 2 Rebecca Murray; 3 Kirsty Innes. Irish Jig in costume - 1 Rhiannon McPhee; 2 Rebecca Murray; 3 Kirsty Innes; 16 years and over, Highland Fling - 1 Laura Smith, Cairnie; 2 Darra Wood, Tain; 3 Kelly Adam, Dundee and Ashley Walker, Dundee. Gillie Callum - 1 Laura Smith; 2 Darra Wood; 3 Louise Johnstone, Australia and Kelly Adam. Seann Triubhas - 1 Darra Wood; 2 Laura Smith; 3 Kelly Adam and Rowena Miller, Australia. Reels - 1 Darra Wood; 2 Laura Smith; 3 Lorna McElligan, Cornhill. Hornpipe in costume - 1 Laura Smith; 2 Louise Johnstone; 3 Darra Wood and Kelly Adam. Irish Jig in costume - 1 Laura Smith; 2 Darra Wood; 3 Lorna McElligan and Louise Johnstone.

Sports results on back page.

Mallaig and Morar Highland Games 2009 results:

ADULT PIPING,

piobaireachd: 1 Robert Wallace; 2 Gordon Walker; 3 Mark McKenzie; 4 John McInnes. March: 1 Gordon Walker; 2 John McInnes; 3 Martin Kessler; 4 Andrea Boyd. Strathspey and Reel: 1 Gordon Walker; 2 John Angus Smith; 3 John McInnes; 4 Matt Pantaloni. Jig and Hornpipe: 1 John Angus Smith; 2 John McInnes; 3 Matt Pantaloni; 4 Andrea Boyd.

JUNIOR PIPING,

March: 1 Sandy Cameron; 2 Ross Miller; 3 James Rosie; 4 Seamus O'Boyle. Strathspey and Reel: 1 Sandy Cameron; 2 James Rosie; 3 Ross Miller; 4 Seamus O'Boyle.

ADULT DANCING,

Fling: 1 Darra Wood; 2 Laura Smith; 3 Eilidh Buchanan, 4 Melanie MacKay. Swords: 1 Laura Smith; 2 Darra Wood; 3 Melanie MacKay; 4 Eilidh Buchanan. Seann Triubhas: 1 Laura Smith; 2 Darra Wood; 3 Melanie MacKay; 4 Eilidh Buchanan. Hornpipe: 1 Laura Smith; 2 Eilidh Buchanan; 3 Darra Wood; 4 Melanie MacKay. Irish Jig: 1 Laura Smith; 2 Darra Wood; 3 Melanie MacKay; 4 Eilidh Buchanan.

UNDER 16,

Fling: 1 Lisa West; 2 Mairi MacKellaig; 3 Natalie Rosie; 4 Morven Cameron. Swords:



Supreme cattle champion and overall supreme champion was a seven and a half month-old Limousin cross bullock from David Wright Jr, Woodend, Clovullin 10-633sunart06



Lachie MacLean with the Blackface shearing from D and L MacLean, Knock Farm, Isle of Mull was judged supreme champion sheep 10-633sunart02



Texel gimmer from Angus MacColl, Fanamore, Mull was reserve sheep champion 10-633sunart05

Sunart Show trophy winners

Open Competition: J A Cameron Cup Champion of Champion: David Wright Junior; Presidents Cup: Most Points (Open Classes): Ardornish Farms; Cooper MacDougall & Robertson Cup: Best Animal in Beef Cattle Class: D Wright Junior; C Walton Carnoch Cup: Reserve Champion in Beef Cattle Class: D Wright Junior; Glenborrodale Perpetual Cup: for best Cross Shorthorn Animal: Ardornish Farms; Edith Madden Cup: Best Calf at Show: D Wright Junior; Alex Jackson Memorial Cup: Best Cow in Show: Dairy or Beef, in calf or in

milk: D Wright; John Raven Trophy: Best Highland Animal: J Ferguson; Laidlaw Cup: Best Spring born Calf: D Wright; Peter Gatherer & Son Cup: Best Blackface Sheep: D & L MacLean; Hon Mrs MacLean of Ardgour Cup: Best Sheep at show bred by exhibitor: D & L MacLean; D & J MacGillivray Cup: Best Female Blackface Sheep: T Nelson, Glengorm; Forrest Challenge Cup: Best Blackface Ewe with Lamb bred by exhibitor: T Nelson, Glengorm; Woolgrowers Cup: Best Fleeced Blackface sheep at show: John Nudds; Alice Horsman Cup: for Reserve Champion Blackface Sheep: T Nelson,

Glengorm; Alisdair M MacKenzie Cup: for best blackface aged ram: T Nelson, Glengorm; Laudale Prize: Best Blackface Sheep bred by exhibitor: J Nudds. Small Holders & Registered Crofters Classes: Fraser Carnoch Cup: Most Points: A MacColl; Inversanda Cup: Best Dairy Animal: Mr & Mrs Barber, Gowan Brae Cup: Best Animal in Crofter's Cattle Classes: D Wright Junior; Ardery Rosebowl presented by Mr A Ritchie: Best Female Blackface Sheep: J Nudds; West Ardnarnach Cup: Best Blackface Sheep: John Nudds; Camuschork Cup: Presented by Mr & Mrs D MacPherson:

Limousin calf is Sunart Show champion

A SEVEN and a half-month old Limousin cross bullock calf from David Wright Jr, Woodend, Clovullin won the supreme champion ticket at Sunart Show on Saturday - by the narrowest of margins.

A large crowd gathered round the judging ring as the champions from the horse, sheep and cattle sections were brought before the judges for the final decision on which would be the best animal in the show.

Judges Malcolm MacDougall (cattle), Alastair MacDougall (sheep) and Raymond Strachan (horse and pony) deliberated long and hard before raising their cards to award marks out of 10 to each animal. It was a tough choice between an immaculately turned out nine-year old Welsh Section 'A' pony, ridden by Lewis Ferguson, a fine Blackface tup from D and L MacLean, Knock Farm, Mull and the classy Woodend Limousin calf.

The Limousin proved to have the edge, winning by a single point, with a score of 15, from the sheep and the pony.

Big entries in the sheep sections meant competition was fierce for honours.

Report by STEPHEN NORRIS

Alastair MacDougall of Carrickfergus, and formerly of Kilchoan, told *The Oban Times* the Blackface line-up, in particular, would stand scrutiny with any other show in Scotland.

Any other breed sheep judge Jimmy Mills, from Dunmaglas, Inverness had an equally tough task but eventually picked out a home-bred Texel from Angus MacColl, Fanamore, Mull, as his champion.

In the horse and pony sections, the Fergusson family from Lochaline, with mum Amanda in charge, swept the boards.

Amanda's youngest son Alex won reserve on his pony, while nine-year old Lewis took the overall championship aboard nine year-old Welsh Section 'A' pony, Durris Fairwind.

David Wright Snr, of No.7, Clovullin - David Jr's grandfather - made it a family double by taking the reserve cattle championship with an eight year-old Limousin cross cow.



The Ferguson family from Lochaline made it a clean sweep in the horse and pony section, taking the championship and reserve across all classes. Pictured are mum Amanda, centre, with sons Lewis and Alex, judge Raymond Strachan, right and steward Naomi Watson, left. 10-633sunart04



Linda and Isabel Campbell had a big queue of customers to try their home made butter, made fresh on the day 10-633sunart08

Best Sheep any breed except Blackface: Angus MacColl; Dugald Graham Silver Medal: Best Blackface Gimmer: John Nudds; Dugald Graham Silver Medal: Best Blackface Ewe Lamb: John Nudds; Laudale Prize: Best Cow or Heifer any breed or cross: D Wright.

Dairy Produce Home Baking, Preserves, Handicrafts and Flower Classes: Presidents Cup + £10: Most points: Sue Elliot; Mrs Colin Palmer Prize: Runner up: Sheila Campbell; £10 Prize Best Cloutie Dumpling: Mairi MacDonald; £5 Prize for Flower Class: Sue Elliot; Marjorie Jones Cup: Best Knitted

Garment: Mairi MacDonald; Harry Gull Cup: Best Cross: Ray Websell; Sunart Cup presented by AJ&D Anderson: Best Junior Baking: Megan MacPherson; Craig Stuart Trophy: Presented by Mrs L Bannerman: Best Junior Crafts: 4 Winners: Kyle Lamont, Mitchell MacPherson, Sara MacKinnon, Megan MacPherson.

Poultry: Finlayson Cup: Poultry Champion: Sukie Barber; Mrs John Dewar Prize: Best Cockerel: Sukie Barber; £5 Best Heavy Breed: Sukie Barber; £5 Best Light Breed: Hazel Dallinger; £5 Best Bantam: Jane Collins.

Glenhauhin Charlie is Portree champion

EARLY rain failed to dampen the annual Portree Show on Saturday.

Showers soon petered out and the sun shone, encouraging locals and visitors alike to spend a day out at the Show, run by the Skye Agricultural Society in the King George V Playing Field.

Stock entries were down in all sections apart from the dog show, but there were some who had missed a few years of showing who returned and provided good competition.

The overall Champion of Champions was Alannah Beaton with her horse, Glenhauhin Charlie: reserve was Willie Nicolson with a calf.

Trophy winners

Sheep Cheviots A MacDonald, Udale, Challenge Cup for Best Sheep: N Montgomery, Ose W Currie Cup for Best Male: A Beaton, Gesto Society Shield for Best Female: N Montgomery, Ose Society Cup for Best Home-Bred: N Montgomery, Ose Maecinn Shield for Best Male Group: A Beaton, Gesto Maecinn Shield for Best Female Group: A Beaton, Gesto SCF Shield for Crofter with Most Points: A Beaton, Gesto NFU Mutual Challenge Plate: Novice Champion: Ian D Nicolson, Eyre **Blackface sheep** MacLeod Skeabost Cup for Best Ewe: J A MacCusbie, Totarder Reith & Anderson Cup for Best Male: N Montgomery, Ose Walford, Scalpay Cup for Best Female: Ian D Nicolson, Eyre Society Shield for Best Home-Bred: Ian D Nicolson, Eyre Maecinn Shield for Best Female Group: J A MacCusbie, Totarder SCF Shield for Crofter with Most Points: N Montgomery, Ose NFU Mutual Challenge Plate: Novice Champion: Ian D Nicolson, Eyre

Open Cowie Memorial Cup for Supreme Champion: N Montgomery, Ose Bosville Memorial Cup for Reserve Champion: Ian D Nicolson, Eyre HILL Shield for Best Butchers Lambs: John Blamire, Borve

Cattle

West Highland Oils Cup for Best Cow: W Nicolson, Glencannon MacLeod Skeabost Cup for Crofter's Heifer: W Nicolson, Glencannon Stormont Cup for Best Calf: W Nicolson, Glencannon Society Cup for Best Pair of Calves (same sex): Angus MacLeod, Glenhinisdal Reith & Anderson Cup for Best Polled Stirk: W Nicolson, Glencannon MacKenzie Cup for Supreme Champion: W Nicolson, Glencannon Highland Marts Cup for Reserve Champion: Angus MacLeod, Glenhinisdal SCF Shield for Crofter with Most Points: W Nicolson, Glencannon

Horses

A MacKay, Kingsburgh, Cup for Most Points (Open): W Nicolson, Glencannon

Horses

Skye Riding Centre Cup for Champion: Alannah Beaton Norman MacLeod Cup for Best Highland Pony: Alannah Beaton Glenedin Shield for Best Mare or Filly over 3 Years: Molly Danter, Edinbane Borve & Annshadder Cup for Best Turned Out Horse and Rider: Gail Ross Borve & Annshadder Cup for Best Turned Out Child and Pony under 12: Fiona Gillies Royal Bank Cup for Best Turned Out Child and Pony 13-15: Elaine Nicolson Royal Bank Cup for Best Ridden Pony 13-15: Rachel MacPhee Skye Boarding Kennels Cup for Best Ridden Hack: Mairi MacPherson MacQueen Builders Cup for best Ridden Child's Pony: Alannah Beaton Society Shield for Best Horse/Pony under 14.2h: Anna Cryer Society Shield for Best Horse/Pony over 14.2h: Sarah Cryer Society Shield for Best Veteran Horse: Megan Cowie Best Ridden Child & Pony (7 years and under): Cameron Long Best Turned Out Child & Pony (7 years and under): Cameron Long Best Ridden Child & Pony (9 years and under): Shannon MacDonald Best Turned Out Child & Pony (9 years and under): Sarah Gillies

Overall

Nicolson Memorial Cup for Supreme Champion: Alannah Beaton Reserve Champion: W Nicolson, Glencannon Dogs Skye Boarding Kennels Cup for Best Dog: Natasha Paik, Portree Eilean a Cheo Cup for Best Terrier: Donna Montgomery, Ose Graecam Cup for Best Gundog: Natasha Paik, Portree Jersey MacLeod Cup for Best Dog - Any Other Variety: Warren Shepherd, Portree Jersey MacLeod Cup for Best Crossbred Dog: Ms Eva MacRae, Bagillt, Wales Jersey MacLeod Cup for Best Skye Owned Dog or Bitch: Natasha Paik, Portree Priddle (Hamamelis) Cup for Reserve Best Skye Owned Dog or Bitch: Mrs Ina Beaton, Portree Watts Trophy for Best Girl Handler: Ms Eva MacRae, Bagillt, Wales



Lisa West, Fraserburgh, Mairi MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir and Mallaig's Solene Cargill in unison 10-632morar02

16lb Ball: 1 David Hart; 2 Colin MacLeod; 3 Douglas Fairbairn; OPEN

Putting the 22lb Ball: 1 Alistair Ferguson, Muir of Ork; 2 Jim Parman, USA; 3 David Hart, Fort William; 4 Matthew Rasmus, USA. 56lb Weight over bar: 1 Jim Parman; 2nd Equal David Hart, Alistair Ferguson. 56lb Weight for distance: 1 Jim Parman, USA; 2 Alistair Ferguson; 3 David Hart; 4 Matthew Rasmus. 22lb Hammer: 1

Alistair Ferguson; 2 David Hart; 3 Jim Parman; 4 Matthew Rasmus. Putting 16lb Ball: 1 Alistair Ferguson; 2 Jim Parman; 3 David Hart; 4 Matthew Rasmus. Tossing The Caber: 1 Jim Parman; 2 Alistair Ferguson; 3 David Hart. Junior Heavies Girls 12-14, Shot: 1 Hope Thomson; 2 Eilidh Armstrong; 3 Katrina MacMillan. Hammer: 1 Eilidh Armstrong; 2 Hope Thomson; 3 Katrina MacMillan. Weight for distance: 1 Eilidh Armstrong; 2 Hope Thomson; 3 Katrina MacMillan. Caber: 1

Hope Thomson; 2 Eilidh Armstrong; 3 Katrina MacMillan. Boys 15-17, Shot: 1 Alex Mills; 2 Donald Livingstone; 43 Rys Jenkins. Weight for distance: 1 Rys Jenkins; 2 Emma Livingstone; 3 Chris Horne. Hammer: 1 Donald Livingstone; 2 Chris Horne; 3 Rys Jenkins. Caber: 1 Donald Livingstone; 2 Alex Hills; 3rd Equal Shaun MacMillan Chris Horne. Boys 11 & Under, Shot: 1 George Raynor; 2 Ewen Lesley; 3 Robert Ferguson. Weight for Distance: 1 Ewen Lesley; 2 Mick from Spain. Girls, Shot: 1 Katie Allen; 2 Rachel Senogles; 3 Morven MacKellaig. Weight for Distance: 1 Ghisaine, from Holland; 2 Katie Allen; 3 Movren Warren. Tossing The Caber: 1 Rachel Senogles; 2 Morven MacKellaig; 3 Ghisaine. ATHLETICS, Toddlers Race: 1 Jamie Scheuerl, Tilloucy; 2 Cara MacDonald, Morar; 3 Mia Turner, Coventry. Girls 4 and Under: 1 Gracie MacDonald, Morar; 2 Corra MacKellaig Davis, Cockermonth; 3 Mellissa Dalton, County Durham. Boys 4 and Under: 1 Ruairidh MacDonnell, Mallaig; 2 Ronan Hendricks, Holland; 3 Daniel Connolly, Northumberland. Girls 6 and Under: 1 Katy Cameron, London; 2 Eilidh O'Donnell, Inverness; 3 Jodie Grey, Mallaig. Boys: 1 Bruem, from Holland; 2 Andrew Snedle, Mallaig; 3 Fraser MacKellaig Davis, Cockermonth. Girls 9 and Under: 1 Anna Zaunmond, Epson; 2 Lottie Summers, Suffolk; 3 Megan O'Donnell, Inverness. Boys: 1 Jolyon Summers, Suffolk; 2 George Rayner, Winchester; 3 Dean Williamson, Fort William. Girls 12 and Under: 1 Amy MacDonald, Morar; 2 Morven MacKellaig, Stenhousemuir; 3 Sarah Creek, Germany. Boys: 1 Kieran

Saunders, Dumfries; 2 Robbie Elder, Jedburgh; 3 Christopher MacDonald, Morar. Girls 13-16 200m: 1 Lisa West, Inverloch; 2 Emma Mitchell, Newtonmore; 3 Lottie Summers, Suffolk. Boys: 1 Tim, from Germany; 2 Connor Stork-Hall USA; 3 Linus, Switzerland. Men: 1 Stewart Atkinson, Fort William; 2 Rob Blake, Cheshire; 3 Iain Murray, Ballater. 400 metres: 1 Stewart Atkinson; 2 Stewart Orr; 3 Kenneth MacPherson, Mallaig. Women's 200 Metres: 1 Rachel Summers, Suffolk; 2 Ali Cartmail, Borders; 3 Rowena Dickerson, Dubai. Hill Race: 1 Colin Donnelly, Fort William; 2 Stuart Orr, Cambuslang; 3 Kenny MacPherson, Mallaig; 4 Ian MacKellaig, Glenfinnan. Mens 100m: 1 James Salisbury, Bournemouth; 2 Kenny MacPherson, Mallaig; 3 Stewart Atkinson. Under 12 Cross Country: 1 Christopher MacDonald; 2 Anna Zaunmond; 3 Thomas Kennedy, Morar; 4 Lewis MacPherson, Mallaig/Newcastle. Mens 1500m Stuart Orr; 2 Kenny MacPherson; 3 Randy Norman, Glasgow. High Jump: 1 David Hart; 2 Ed Hides; 3 Alex Hills. International Relay: 1 Kenny Stewart and Jim Stewart; 2 Southampton Harriers; 3 Noah and his Ark.

Bank of Scotland, Natalie Laing, Spean Bridge; 15 and Under, Bank of Scotland Lisa West, Inverloch; Adult, John and Mac MacVarish Memorial Trophy Laura Smith, Cairney.



Alastair Ferguson launches the hammer 10-632morar07



Ewan MacPherson Jrn with the overall supreme champion and cattle champion at Mid Argyll Show from Ewan MacPherson and Sons, Mill Farm, Benderloch. The April-born British Blue heifer was bought at Huntly as a calf. 17-433mid21



Robbie Love with the reserve overall cattle champion, a six-year old Limousin cow from J S Adam, Garraron Farm, Ardfern. 17-433mid22



Left: Champion Highlander at Mid Argyll came from the new fold of Islay farmer Hamish Porter, West Carrabus Farm, Bridgend with the four-year old Kayren of Achterneed, by Tommy of Achterneed, out of Morag Dubh of Shenavallie 17-433mid23

Mill Farm heifer takes Mid Argyll Show title in the rain

Wet weather hits show for second year

ORGANISERS of the 112th Mid Argyll Agricultural Show may have been disappointed to be hit with wet weather for the second year in a row but there was a good turnout of both competitors and spectators.

Supreme show champion and overall cattle leader was a British Blue heifer out of the cross British Blue dam and a British Blue sire from

Ewan MacPherson and Sons, Mill Farm, Benderloch. The heifer was confidently shown on Saturday by Ewan MacPherson's grandson, also Ewan, who took the Young Handlers award for his efforts.

Standing reserve in the open supreme was Christina Ferguson from Castleton, Lochgilphead with her overall champion from the

horse and pony section, a 13-year-old mare, Blossom Hill.

Taking the confined supreme award was the overall confined and reserve cattle champion, a pure-bred Limousin cow from the Garraron herd of J S Adam, Ardfern, bought at Carlisle and well brought out by Robbie Love. The Garraron Limousin group of bull, cow, heifer and calf had earlier won the cattle team award.

Islay success

There was also a winning debut in the Highland ring for Islay stockman Hamish Porter, Carrabus, Bridgend when his four-year old black heifer Kayren of Achterneed, by Tommy of Achterneed, out of Morag Dubh of Shenavallie. The heifer was bought in Oban in February when Hamish paid Andrew Macphee, Strathpeffer, 2,200gns for her.

Following her success at Lorn Show, the Blackface two-year old ewe Black Velvet from Messrs Jackson, Pole Farm, Lochgilhead lifted another overall sheep championship at Mid Argyll. Out of a homebred ewe by a Midlock and by a £1,400 Netherwood, the ewe came through the Blackface ring ahead of a ewe lamb from Donald Shaw, Inshaig, Ardfern which took the confined champion's ticket. The stylish lamb by a £1,100 Sillons and out of a ewe by a £2,400 Sillons had also attracted interest at Lorn.

Leading the cross bred sheep and taking the reserve confined title was a Beltex tup from Rosslyn Smith, Ballimore Farm, Kilmichael-Glassary.



Overall sheep champion was the Blackface leader from Messrs Jackson, Pole Farm, Lochgilhead. 17-433mid24



Overall confined sheep champion was a Blackface ewe lamb from Shaw, Inshaig, Ardfern. 17-433mid25



Best sheep other than a Blackface was Rosslyn Smith's three-shear Beltex from Ballimore Farm. 08_a33maas05



Christina Ferguson from Castleton won overall champion in the horse and pony section with her 13-year-old mare Blossom Hill. They were also reserve supreme open champion. 08_a33maas14

Clochkeil Ayrshires lead the line at Kintyre Show

KINTYRE confirmed its reputation as having the most competitive dairy sections amid the country's agricultural shows. This year, the overall dairy champion came from the ranks of the Ayrshires with a heifer from J and M Barr, Clochkeil by the

home-bred sire, Lancelot taking the title from the Holstein leader, Darlochran Brad Sheena, a heifer-in-milk, from William Ralston, Darlochran.

Overall beef champion was an April-born cross Charolais heifer, Topsy Ellie, by Carradale

Adrenalin, and out of a home-bred Limousin cross cow, from Messrs Semple, Dippen, Carradale. The heifer was making her first show outing.

Blackface sheep judge John MacPherson, Balliemeanoch, selected as his champion, a

home-bred gimmer by a £1,600 Arnicle and out of a home-bred ewe from Messrs McArthur, Arnicle, Glenbarr. Also amongst the sheep silverware was the Camerons of Gartvaigh, with championship winners in both the Mule and Suffolk lines while

the Bluefaced Leicester title went to a home-bred two-crop ewe from J and M Turner, Kildalloig and the Texel leader came from Rory Colville, Langa, with a tup lamb off a Langa sire and out of a home-bred ewe.

In the horse and pony section,

overall champion went to Alastair Strang, Gobagrennan, Campbeltown, with the pedigree Highland pony Lagalgarve Shapinsay and the Clydesdale champion was Calum MacPhail's three-year-old mare Garcal-fra Sweet Emily.

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Left: Ayrshire champion and overall dairy champion was from J and M Barr, Clochkeil. 12_c33show25

Right - Overall beef champion from Messrs Semple, Dippen, Carradale was the April-born heifer by Carradale Adrenalin, and out of a home-bred Limousin cross cow. 04_c33show16



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Tiree Agricultural Show trophy winners 2009

Pure Bred Cattle
Best Suckled Cow or In-Calf Heifer; 1 MacInnes; Best Heifer suitable for breeding 1 I MacInnes 2 AJ MacKechnie
Best Calf 1 M MacInnes 2 I MacInnes 3 I MacInnes
Gunnis Cup Pure Bred Section
Champion Morven MacInnes, Ruaiug with a December born British Blue bull calf - Ruaiug Diago by Elogueux out of Ruaiug Angel Reserve Iain MacInnes, Ruaiug with Ruaiug Tonna, British Blue heifer which stood 4th at the RHS this year.
Young stockpersons
Best Crossbred Suckled Calf; 1 Fraser MacLean 2 Alasdair MacLean 3 Duncan MacLean
Best Breeding Heifer 1 Alasdair MacLean 2 Fraser MacLean 3 Neil Hugh MacKinnon
Cross Bred Beef Cattle
Cameron Calves Cup-Best Suckler Cow 1 E MacKinnon 2 AJ MacLean 3 L Kennedy
Best Heifer suitable for breeding - born before 1/1/08; 1 A MacLean 2 F MacLean 3 E MacKinnon
Best Heifer suitable for breeding - born after 1/1/08; 1 E MacKinnon
Drumfrahoch Cup Breeding Animal Champion Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with a homebred Limousin X heifer
Reserve E MacKinnon, Hillcrest Society Cup Best Beef Bullock; A MacPhail; Lochaphuil John MacKinnon (Builders) Cup Best Beef Heifer; T MacDonald, Main Road; Best Bullock Calf Any Breed Autumn Born 1 A MacPhail 2

G Campbell 3 G Campbell Best Heifer Calf - Any Breed Autumn Born 1 T MacDonald 2 G Campbell 3 A MacPhail Best Native Bred Female Calf 1 E MacKinnon Best **Simental Male Calf**; AJ MacLean Best Simental Female Calf; A MacPhail Best Limousin Male Calf 1 I MacInnes 2 T MacDonald 3 G Campbell Best Limousin Female Calf 1 MacInnes 2 A MacLean 3 E MacKinnon
Best Overall Limousin Calf; 1 MacInnes, Ruaiug; Best Charolais Male Calf 1 AJ MacLean 2 A MacLean 3 F MacLean; Best Charolais Female Calf AJ MacLean 2 AJ MacLean 3 L Kennedy
Best Overall Charolais Calf AJ MacLean, Heylipol; Best Female Calf Any other breed; E MacKinnon; Best Overall British Blue sired calf E MacKinnon, Hillcrest
Special prizes
MacLennan Motors Salver Champion Male Crossbred Suckled Calf; Iain MacInnes, Ruaiug Reserve Archie John MacLean, Heylipol
ID MacKinnon Memorial Cup Champion Female Crossbred Suckled Calf; Tearlach MacDonald, Main Road Reserve Archie John MacLean, Heylipol
Bernard D. Smith Cup Overall Champion Crossbred Suckled Calf; Iain MacInnes, Ruaiug Reserve Tearlach MacDonald, Main Road
L.A. MacKinnon Haulage Cup Overall Crossbred Champion United Auctions Ltd, Prize Champion; Iain MacInnes, Ruaiug with Bullseye, a February born Limousin X bullock

by Grahams Volvo and out of a pure Charolais cow Thrunton Voucher Reserve Tearlach MacDonald, Main Road with Hilary, an Autumn born Limousin X heifer calf by their Limousin stock bull and out of a British Blue X cow.
Parkhouse Cup Supreme Champion in Cattle Section, Corson Cup Supreme Iain MacInnes, Ruaiug with a February born Limousin X bullock calf by Grahams Volvo and out of a pure Charolais cow Thrunton Voucher Reserve Supreme Morven MacInnes with Pure Bred Champion Ruaiug Diago Best Cattle Animal Bred by Exhibitor Tiree Association Prize 1 MacInnes; Most Points in Cattle Section; 1 MacInnes
Flora & Stafford Elgin Shield Most Points in Cattle Section for Crofters; Tearlach MacDonald
The Royal Bank of Scotland Trophy For Champion of Champions at Show; Fraser MacLean, Heylipol with Supreme Champion Sheep Westcarse Islander, a Suffolk shearing by Cairness First Glance, bought at Kelso 2008.
Sheep section
Young stockpersons
Best Crossbred Ewe Lamb suitable for breeding 1 Duncan MacLean 2 Neil Hugh MacKinnon
Best Crossbred Gimmer 1 Duncan MacLean 2 Neil Hugh MacKinnon
Best Crossbred Ewe 1 Jack Brown 2 Neil Hugh MacKinnon
Annie Cameron Cup Most Points in Cattle and Sheep Sections (Under 18) Duncan MacLean, Ruaiug

Best Young Handler in Sheep Section; Duncan MacLean, Ruaiug
Prime lambs Best Pen 3 Suffolk X Lambs 1 S Brown 2 C MacKinnon 3 S Brown Best Pen 3 Prime X Lambs - Any other breed 1 A MacKay 2 I MacInnes 3 C MacKinnon
DA MacLean Cup Champion Pen of Prime Lambs Champion A MacKay, Balemartine with a pen of Texel X lambs Reserve S Brown, Balevullin
Blackface sheep
Best Blackface Ewe 1 I MacInnes 2 G Campbell 3 G Campbell
Best Blackface Gimmer 1 G Campbell 2 G Campbell Best Blackface Ewe Lamb 1 G Campbell 2 G Campbell 3 H Campbell
The Robert Nisbet Memorial Salver Blackface Section; G Campbell, Garraphail Reserve 1 MacInnes, Ruaiug
Cross bred sheep
Best Halfbred Ewe 1 I MacInnes 2 E MacKinnon 3 E MacKinnon
Best Halfbred Ewe Lamb 1 M Campbell
Best Mule Type Ewe 1 E MacKinnon 2 M Campbell 3 M Campbell
Best Mule Type Gimmer 1 I MacInnes 2 D MacLean 3 I MacInnes
Ewe Lamb 1 I MacInnes 2 M Campbell Lachie "Drumfrahoch" Quach - Best Mule Sheep 1 MacInnes, Ruaiug Best Suffolk Cross Ewe 1 S Brown 2 S Brown Best Suffolk Cross Ewe Lamb 1 C MacKinnon 2 M Campbell 3 G Campbell Best Texel Type Ewe

M Campbell 2 M Campbell 3 G Campbell Best Texel Type Gimmer G Campbell 2 M Campbell 3 I MacKinnon Best Texel Type Ewe Lamb A MacKay 2 E MacKinnon 3 E MacKinnon Overall Crossbred Ewe; S Brown
Overall Crossbred Gimmer; 1 MacInnes Overall Crossbred Ewe

Ewe Lamb 1 S Brown 2 F MacLean 3 F MacLean Best Texel Ewe 1 MacInnes 2 M Campbell 3 I MacInnes Best Texel Gimmer M Campbell 2 I MacInnes Best Texel Ewe Lamb 1 MacInnes 2 S Brown 3 I MacInnes Best Beltex Ewe 1 A MacLean 2 I MacInnes Best Beltex Gimmer 1 A MacLean 2 I MacInnes

Special prizes
MacLeod Construction Cup Champion Pure Bred Ram; Fraser MacLean, Heylipol with Westcarse Islander, a Suffolk shearing Reserve Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with a homebred Beltex tup lamb. Tiree Nutcracker
Overall Best Pure bred Ewe 1 F MacLean Best Overall Pure Bred Gimmer A MacLean Best Overall Pure Bred Ewe Lamb A MacLean
Tariff Valley Cup Champion Pure Bred Female Sheep Champion Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with Tiree Nellie, a Beltex ewe lamb by Beechtree Maxi Muscles. She was 4th at the Royal Highland Show.
Reserve Fraser MacLean, Heylipol with a homebred Suffolk Ewe
The Drumfrahoch Cup Supreme Champion Sheep; Fraser MacLean, Heylipol with Westcarse Islander, a Suffolk shearing by Cairness First Glance, purchased at Kelso 2008.
Reserve Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol with Tiree Nellie, a Beltex ewe lamb by Beechtree Maxi Muscles.
The Society Cup
Most Point in Sheep Section - I MacInnes, Ruaiug; The Stafford & Flora Elgin Shield - Most Points in Sheep Section for Crofters S Brown, Balevullin
Pony section
Best Pure Bred Pony Shown in-hand 1 J MacArthur 2 J Bowler 3 J MacArthur Best Ridden Pure Bred Pony 1 J MacArthur 2 J Bowler
Champion Pony; Struan, ridden by Janis MacArthur, Balepoull



Judging in the sheep ring.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
 The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY and, where given, the alternative location(s).
 Written comments should be made to the Area Planning and Building Standards Manager at this office 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	Location where application may be inspected
09/00307/FULLO	Land West of Dykelands 74 Camaghall Fort William	Erection of house	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 Days)
09/00317/OUTLO	Land 1.25M North of Tigh Na Craobhan Drimmin	Erection of house	Drimmin Post Office (14 Days)
09/00320/FULLO	Site 240M North West of Clearwater House Roshven Glenuig Lochailort	Erection of house, garage, store and guest annexe (Plot 5)	Glenuig Post Office (14 days)

Area Planning and Building Standards Manager, Ross, Skye & Lochaber:
 Dafydd Jones, Highland Council, Fulton House, Gordon Square, Fort William, PH33 6XY
 Tel: (01397) 707015 Fax: (01397) 707022 e-mail: planning.lochaber@highland.gov.uk

WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday 27 August 2009 at 7.00 p.m.
in the Main Hall , Church Centre, Church of Scotland, Glencruitten Road, Oban.

The Scottish Government
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT: ROAD EQUIVALENT TARIFF (RET) - ONLINE BUSINESS SURVEY
 Since October 2008, the Scottish Government has been running, as a pilot programme, a scheme that subsidises fares on lifeline ferry services in the Western Isles. This scheme is known as Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) and will run until spring 2011. The Scottish Government is seeking to assess the effectiveness of this scheme in supporting fragile island economies and whether there might be a long-term role for this kind of subsidy across the ferry network in Scotland. As part of this process, information is needed regarding the views of businesses who use ferry services in the Western Isles. To collect this information, we have set up an online survey for those with an interest to complete. You can access the survey at www.hie.co.uk
 The data collected will inform decisions about possible future roll-out of RET. To maintain confidentiality, the information will be combined and will contain no reference to any individual business. The survey is now online and will be open until 11 September 2009.

PROPOSED LET OF PART OF A CROFT
 Wilma I M Kennedy and four others are applying to the Crofters Commission for consent to let the tenancy of part of the croft at 17 and 18 Kimoluaig, Tiree, to Colin MacKinnon. If you have any objection to the proposal, you may submit representations in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Castle Wynd, Inverness, IV2 3EQ by Thursday, 10th September, 2009, specifying your interest in the application and your reasons for objecting.
 A copy of any representations made will be forwarded to the applicant.

CROFTERS COMMISSION
 The following decrofting Directions have been granted:
Part Croft
SOUTH CORRAN, KILMALLIE
 Direction dated 3 August 2009 granted to Corran Bunkhouse Limited. Area ext to 0.0091 ha.
 Conditions: Complete enclosure of the site with a stockproof fence or barrier within 4 months of the date of this Direction.
 Case Number: 4.86.17722
 The granting of this Direction may be appealed to the Scottish Land Court, within 42 days from the date of this advert. Information on how to appeal is available from the Crofters Commission.

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Argyll & Bute Council

PLANNING
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20 (1) ADVERT STATEMENT
 Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other document submitted with them may be: Examined at Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AR between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging on to the Council's Website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on online planning applications.
 Written comments for the following applications may be made to Planning Services, Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AR by 3rd September 2009 for the following list of application for planning permission.

- Ref No: 09/01017/PP
 Applicant: Mr Angus J MacColl
 Proposal: Proposed Erection of Dwelling House - Amended Design to 08/01819/DET
 Site address: Home Farm Glengorm Road Glengorm Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 60D
- Ref No: 09/01025/COU
 Applicant: Mr and Mrs Drake
 Proposal: Change of Use from Shop (Class 1) to Dwelling (Class 9)
 Site address: The Workshop Gallery Main Street Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6NU
- Ref No: 09/01147/PP
 Applicant: Mr and Mrs Hanlin
 Proposal: Demolition of dwellinghouse, erection of 2 dwellinghouses and formation of road access
 Site address: Baileard Benderloch Oban Argyll and Bute PA37 1SA
- Ref No: 09/01152/PP
 Applicant: Diana Forbes
 Proposal: Erection of a field shelter/stable
 Site address: Land North of Ardenstair Kilmelford Argyll and Bute

Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m at Planning Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST.
 An extant list of planning applications which can be viewed on the Councils website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
 A weekly list of applications which can be viewed at Planning Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED LEGISLATION PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
 Take notice that the applications in the following schedule may be inspected during normal office hours at the location given below, at 67 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig and by logging on to the Council's Website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to the undersigned within 14 or 21 days of the appearance of this notice, whichever is applicable as indicated below. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION OF PLANS

- Ref No: 09/01081/LIB
 Applicant: Suzanne Cobb
 Proposal: Alterations to store to form part of dwellinghouse
 Site Address: Lighthouse Cottage Burnahabhain Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA44 7PW
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office, Port Askaig
 Regulation 5 Listed Bld Consent - 21 Days

Area Team Leader Development Control, Planning Services, 67 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig, PA30 8DX

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED LEGISLATION PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
 Take notice that the applications in the following schedule may be inspected during normal office hours at the location given below, at Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban and by logging on to the Council's Website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to the undersigned within 14 or 21 days of the appearance of this notice, whichever is applicable as indicated below. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION OF PLANS

- Ref No: 09/01142/LIB
 Applicant: Beaver Perseverance Ltd
 Proposal: Installation of garden gate (Retrospective)
 Site Address: The Colonsay Hotel Scalasaig Isle Of Colonsay Argyll And Bute PA61 7YP
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office, Isle of Colonsay
 Regulation 5 Listed Bld Consent - 21 Days

Area Team Leader Development Control, Planning Services, Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban
 Any letter of representation the council receives about a planning application is considered a public document. Please therefore note that representations will be made available for public inspection and, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, will be copied on request. They will also be published on the council's web site.
 The author of such a representation is solely responsible for its content and accuracy.
 Anonymous representations will be "shredded" and those marked confidential will be returned to the sender. Neither will be taken into account when the application is being considered.
 Details of representations we receive on planning applications can be viewed on the council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/publicaccess

MALLAIG DENTAL SERVICE
 The dentist Mr John Roy, after many years of service to the Mallaig community, is withdrawing from that service. As of 10 August 2009 the M&S Dental Care Practice, which is based in Fort William, is to take over the responsibility for the care of those patients previously registered with Mr Roy. In early September the dentist Marilyn Ibell from M&S Dental Care will start attending the Mallaig Health Centre on a weekly basis:
 Monday 10am to 4.15pm
 Thursday 10am to 4.15pm
 Patients wishing an appointment may contact M&S Dental Care on : **01397 702147**
 As the practice is not currently computerised it has not been possible to contact each patient individually and it is hoped that this notice will ensure that as many patients of the Practice as possible are made aware of the new arrangements for their care.
 NHS Highland would like to thank Mr Roy for his many years of service in Mallaig and are delighted that M&S Dental Care has been in a position to continue to provide local access to NHS dental services to the Mallaig community.

69%
 of the business community need the regional press

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
 Tony Ratcliffe trading as North West Marine Ltd of 7E Glengallon Road, Oban, PA34 4HG is applying for a licence to use 7E Glengallon Road, Oban, PA34 4HG as an operating centre for 2 goods vehicles and 5 trailers. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hill Crest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

The Scottish Government
TRANSPORT SCOTLAND
ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984
THE A82 660 BA BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT - DECISION TO PROCEED WITH PROJECT
 THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS, give notice that in terms of paragraph 13(1B) of Schedule 1 to the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 they have decided to proceed with the A82 660 Ba Bridge Replacement project in relation to which an Environmental Impact Assessment has been made, and that they have complied with their obligations under paragraph 13(1A) thereof.
A C MCLAUGHLIN
 A member of staff of the Scottish Ministers
 Transport Scotland,
 Buchanan House,
 58 Port Dundas Road,
 Glasgow G4 0HF
 4th August 2009

EVENT TO PUBLICISE?
 The Oban Times
 West Highland Times
 Be seen by over 40,000 readers
 Tel: 01631 568000
 www.obantimes.co.uk

Burns Stewart continues to grow

DESPITE the start of the recession last year, parent company of Tobermory Distillery on Mull and Bunnahabhain on Islay, Burns Stewart Distillers Ltd, recorded continued growth.

The company announced last month a £16 million gross profit for the year to the end of December 2008, up £1 million from the previous year.

A boom in Scottish tourism saw visitor numbers increase at Bunnahabhain by 17 per cent, meanwhile, Tobermory launched a 15-year-old Island Single Malt in more than 20 different markets.

Burns Stewart employs 250 people and owns three distilleries, including Deanston in Doune, and a bottling hall in East Kilbride.

As well as Bunnahabhain, Tobermory, Ledaig, Black Bottle and Deanston whiskies, Burns Stewart produces Scottish Leader which has seen growth of seven per cent in Taiwan, where it is brand leader in the standard Scotch whisky category, and 15 per cent in the South African market.



General manager Iain Jurgensen with his staff at Portavadie Marina bar and restaurant on Loch Fyne.

Major award for new Loch Fyne bar and restaurant

A NEW Argyll restaurant has won a major award just 12 weeks after opening its doors.

Portavadie Marina bar and restaurant on Loch Fyne won the nautical restaurant and bar of the year title at this year's Scottish Licenced Trade Awards.

General manager Iain Jurgensen was

delighted with the award. He said: 'We are absolutely thrilled. The restaurant is brand new and has only been open for 12 weeks, so to achieve this award in such a short period of time is fantastic for the team.'

'We have sourced top quality local produce that features heavily in our offering and are creating significant

employment opportunities for the region. The building itself includes lots of glass so there are views right over the marina. This year we have been very busy and are still recruiting staff. The marina is also very busy. It's a popular destination for day-trippers and a lot of boats cruising up from the Clyde to the west coast are calling in here.'

Oban proves an ice-cream dream for family business
Chocolate flavour an instant hit at new shop

IT HAS to be every child's dream - to make up an out-of-this-world flavour of an ice cream.

Would it be blue banana? Or lemon cake? Or Turkish delight? Or what about Toblerone...

Well Oban has been blessed with a new shop selling all of those flavours and more thanks to one family's decision to up sticks from Rothesay and move to the mainland.

The MacKenzie family opened The Pokey Hat on Stevenson Street on July 11 and have been amazed at the amount of business they have done in a few short weeks.

'Our worst day here would be a good day in Rothesay,' said Rosanne, who runs the shop with husband Alex.

The couple, who have four children, began with a cafe in Rothesay in 2002, which sold their own home made vanilla ice cream.

Then they took a course with an Italian company on the art of making gelato - proper Italian ice cream, with Italian sourced, natural ingredients and a lower fat content than other ice creams but that unmistakable Italian texture and taste.

The result was the opening of The Pokey Hat in Rothesay two years ago.

But with their children, Ross, 15, Coll, 13, Abbie, 11, and Olivia, 8, all growing up they felt the need to move somewhere on the mainland.

'I loved Oban the first time we came up to see it,' said Rosanne. 'It is very similar to Rothesay - just busier.'

'The feedback has been excellent since we opened. The people are all lovely; I

have not met one rude person yet and the locals have all said they'll come back,' she said.

Oddly the favourite type of ice cream in Oban - chocolate - is different from Rothesay - mint-choc-chip.

'The thing we want to get across is that we make it all ourselves; it is made here in the shop,' said Rosanne. 'It is a solid chocolate paste or Italian strawberries or pure coconut that goes in.'

The ingredients are sourced through Italian ice cream firm Marcantonio.

The bit Rosanne likes doing is finding new flavours as well as keeping to the traditional favourites; plain banana was not going particularly well so they mixed it with toffee to make banoffee ice cream, which was an instant hit.

Flavours

Other flavours include tangle or bubblegum - popular with the kids - or more grown-up flavours including Cointreau and Baileys, which all sit alongside strawberry and raspberry, white chocolate, honeycomb and, of course, the starting point for it all, vanilla.

And it's not just about the ice cream, it's also about what you put it in and they are all there - cones of every size and shape, plain and chocolate; single wafers, double wafers, nougats and even the good old oyster as well as tubs to take away.

If this was not enough choice, the MacKenzies are planning to introduce a breakfast bar in the shop so people can enjoy their morning glories, banana boats and that childhood favourite, the ice cream soda.

Seafood factory jobs boost for Highlands

A NEW seafood factory could be opening up in the Inverness area within the next 12 months, creating around 150 jobs.

The Highland Council has confirmed that it has received a planning application to convert a chicken farm near Cawdor into a modern fish processing centre.

The application has come from the company Nairns Limited which normally specialises in poultry products and it is thought that this is new venture for them.

A Highland Council planning spokeswoman told Fishupdate.com that she expected the application to be discussed by the planning committee by the autumn.

The development has already been hailed as a welcome boost for the economy by local political leaders including local MP Danny Alexander.

Issues

However, the planning spokesman said there were a number of issues to be considered first.

If successful, work could start fairly quickly and the factory - about 12 miles from Inverness - which is expected to produce high quality fish and seafood products, could be in operation by mid 2010.

It would also help to partly offset the blow caused by the recent closure of the Strathaird salmon factory in Inverness with the loss of 325 jobs. The site, owned by the Seafood Company, part of the Grimby-based Findus group, which said it had decided to move salmon production to Fraserburgh because the plant needed £7-million to bring it up to date.

There are hopes, however, that the factory may be taken over by another seafood or food company.

69% of the business community read the regional press

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Source: Business Choice 5, The Newspaper Society

Regional Press closer to home



Alex and Rosanne with children Olivia, Abbie, Coll and Ross outside The Pokey Hat. 9_t33pokey01

Portavadie MARINA Loch Fyne, Argyll

Portavadie Marina Restaurant and Bar Ben Romach Nautical Bar or Restaurant of the year at the Scottish License Trade Awards 2009

Situated on the stunning shores of Loch Fyne, Portavadie Marina is the newest addition to Argyll's thriving restaurant scene.

Relax and enjoy fresh simple cooking using local produce and some of Scotland's finest fayre while enjoying the stunning views over the Marina and Loch Fyne.

Lunch: 7 days (11.30am - 5.30pm) Dinner: 7 days (5.30pm - 9pm)
Breakfast: Mon - Fri (9am - 11.30am) Sat & Sun (8am - 11.30)

- Afternoon Tea
- Business Lunches
- Group Dining
- Children Welcome
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- Outstanding Views
- Romantic Meals
- Local/Seasonal Produce
- Special Occasions

The team at Portavadie look forward to welcoming you.

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Inveraray soap shop owner wins Entrepreneur of the Year award

PURDIE'S, The Scottish Soap Company in Inveraray has scooped a top business award.

Owner Denice Purdie was presented with The Scotsman Entrepreneur of the Year Award at the 2009 National Business Awards for Scotland in Glasgow. More than 400 business leaders and esteemed guests attended the event.

Jim Mather MSP, Minister for Enterprise, Energy and Tourism, presented Denice with her award.

Judges said Denice had demonstrated exceptional vision and leadership with her business.

She will now go on to be considered for the British Entrepreneur of the Year Award, which will be presented in November this year.

In just five years, Denice has expanded her business from her own cottage in Strachur

to three shops in Dunoon, Inveraray and Glasgow and is planning to open a fourth shop in Oban in 2009.

Speaking of her award, Denice said: 'I'm just ecstatic.'

'When you work from home with four kids and in a rural place it's hard enough, so to be recognised and to represent Scotland in the national awards is just such a great honour.'

'But what I've taken from the experience is what this means to other woman. They can look at me and think 'well if she can do it then so can I'.'

Denice is actively looking for new premises in Oban and is appealing to anyone who knows of a vacant shop to get in touch.

'I've been trying for ages to get somewhere in Oban but I've had no luck as yet,' she added.

Denice can be contacted on 01369 860196.



Denice Purdie is presented with her award by Jim Mather, MSP, Minister for Enterprise, Energy and Tourism.

The Pokey Hat

Enjoy our Italian 'Gelato' experience. Tantalise your taste buds with our unique variety of flavours. Turkish delight, baileys, chocolate

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NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORKS

Requires a Community Living Worker for Oban

Salary: £19,300 (pro-rata)
12 hour week (flexible)
Plus 5% Employer Contributory Pension

- Are you resourceful, supportive, flexible, reliable and willing to learn?
- Do you know your community well and are eager to support people living independent lives?
- Are you approachable and good at developing relationships both with individuals and groups?
- Can you be there for people especially in a crisis?

Then you may be the person we are looking for!

Neighbourhood Networks seeks to employ someone living in or near Oban. The successful applicant will work a flexible 12 hour week supporting a group of adults with learning disabilities who live independently in Oban. The work will be self-directed with the support of the Network Manager and other colleagues. The successful candidate will undergo an induction programme and have continued opportunities to learn and develop.

The successful applicant will be required to have, or be working towards a relevant qualification such as SVQ3 in Social Care, to meet SSSC requirements.

Please call 01413140027 for further information and an application pack.

Closing Date: 27th August 2009
Interviews likely to take place on 9th September 2009

Neighbourhood Networks is an Equal Opportunities employer. Successful application will be preceded by Disclosure Scotland and personal reference checks.
Registered Charity No. SCO28984
www.neighbourhoodnetworks.org

BLUE TRIANGLE (GLASGOW) HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

We work with people affected by homelessness providing person centred support and quality accommodation.

Lochgilhead Project Worker
15 Hours £17,874 - £19,830* (pro rata) Ref: LOCH0010

Blue Triangle (Glasgow) Housing Association Ltd was set up in 1975, providing housing support to males and females of all ages. An exciting opportunity has arisen at our Lochgilhead Project for a part time Project Worker. Can you provide a quality service compatible to the assessed needs of each individual service user? Do you have experience in working with vulnerable service-users and have a drug and alcohol awareness? Do you have experience of key working and managing your own caseload? Possession of a SVQ Level III in Social Care/Promoting Independence or equivalent is desirable although not essential. If you can meet our requirements then please apply. You will undergo a full enhanced Disclosure Scotland check.

We also require Relief workers on an "as required" basis to cover annual leave and staff training in Oban and Lochgilhead, £7.61 per hour.

To request an application pack telephone Stewart Allan, HR Assistant, Quoting Ref: LOCH0010 on 0141 221 8365 or email sallan@btha.org.uk

Closing date: 28 August 2009.

www.btha.org.uk

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Oban Depot - Apply to Mr C MacDonald
Telephone 01631 563 711

Permanent full time positions
Full clean driving licence required

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REQUIRED FOR THE OBAN AREA - 25 HOURS.

Medico, a local, experienced homecare provider are currently looking to recruit caring, reliable and flexible individuals to work with in CAMPBELTOWN, LOCHGILHEAD, DUNOON, HELENSBURGH, STRACHUR AND OBAN.

- Flexible hours to suit you days, evenings and weekends
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- Full induction and training
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- Employee benefits

Contact **01631 564396** www.medico.co.uk
for information and application form.

MEDICO
Homecare and Community Support

SUPPORTA CARE

SUPPORTA CARE require a **CARE CO-ORDINATOR** for office duties, including coordinating staff rotas, visiting Service Users and dealing with Social Work Dept. On-call duties on a rota basis will be required. A working knowledge of the Care Industry and use of a car is essential. SVQ Level 3 in Health & Social Care or equivalent will be an advantage.

CARE WORKERS also required to provide a quality care at home service to persons living in their own homes in the Argyle and Bute area. Full time and part time shifts available including week-end shifts.

Experience preferred but not essential as a comprehensive training programme is provided. The use of a car is an advantage. We offer competitive rates of pay and an enhanced disclosure will be requested.

We are an equal opportunities employer.

If you are interested in the either of the above posts please call Liz Mc Laughlan on 01355 238021 Ext 5 Monday to Friday between 9.00 a.m. and 17.00 p.m.

Lynn of Lorne Care Home

To cover for maternity leave we are looking to recruit permanent/bank staff for the following positions.

- Registered Nurse Night Duty**
- Care Assistant Day Duty**
- Kitchen Assistant/Cook**

Please contact Carole Buse on 01631 720278

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CrossReach is Scotland's largest voluntary social work organisation, offering care and counselling to over 4,000 people daily. At **Auchinlee in Campbeltown**, our aim is to provide a quality of care for older people that incorporates the principles of privacy, choice, dignity, independence, rights and fulfilment and which encourages people to regain and retain the skills of living.

Administrator - Grade 1
20 hours • £15,395-£16,512 pro rata • Campbeltown

By providing administrative support to our team you'll make a big difference to the quality of care we offer. Confident with Microsoft Office, you'll have previous administrative experience and an understanding of financial processes.

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£13,514 • Campbeltown

You will prepare meals, plan menus, monitor budgets, and control stock.

In return we offer a comprehensive benefits package, including a generous pension and holiday allowance. These posts are subject to enhanced disclosure.

Applicants must be in sympathy with and supportive of our Christian Ethos. For more information and to apply visit www.crossreach.org.uk/jobs or call 01586 552568.

Closing date: 28th August 2009.

CrossReach is the Social Care arm of the Church of Scotland - a charity registered in Scotland SC011353.

crossreach.org.uk

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Lochgilhead, Argyll

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Must be able to work on own initiative
Driving Licence Essential.

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Must be able to work on own initiative.

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Due to our continuing expansion, we are currently seeking to recruit **Support Workers** in the Campbeltown area. These positions involve supporting adults to be independent in their own home and promoting community inclusion.

Experience in working with adults with a learning disability is preferred.

For further information please contact 0141 556 3294 or email glasgowcs@careuk.com

Please quote reference number CSL/CAM www.careuk.com

This post is subject to Disclosure Scotland
Care UK is an Equal Opportunities Employer

Scottish Sea Farms

Marine Site Manager Loch Eriboll

Scottish Sea Farms wish to recruit a proven and exceptionally skilled salmon farm manager to develop and strengthen our new marine production site situated by Durness in Sutherland.

Loch Eriboll is a unique and challenging marine environment with exceptional potential and sensitivity. Candidates must demonstrate excellence in all aspects of fish husbandry including fish health and welfare, feeding optimisation, containment, infrastructure maintenance and skilled seamanship. If successful you will be hardworking, focused on achieving your own key performance indicators and developing the potential within your staff.

To be considered you must already be a leading site manager in the aquaculture industry with more than 3 years experience. You will have excellently developed risk assessment skills and be able to demonstrate your commitment in developing a strong safety culture. You will be open, honest and communicate with ease at all levels. Your ability to plan ahead will be matched by close attention to detail.

Scottish Sea Farms Ltd site managers are already expected to be industry leading - with competence in finance, budget control and planning, stock management, stakeholder interactions, personnel management and promotion of health and safety. Throughout your career we will commit to support your development through training and close mentoring.

If you have a passion for aquaculture and the skills to deliver please contact Angela Hand on 01786 445521 or angela.hand@scottishseafarms.com for more information.

Closing date for applications is Monday 31st August 2009.

Oban's 1st Steps Day Nursery

NURSERY STAFF REQUIRED

Contact 01631 567491 or email CV to firststeps@tiscali.co.uk

North Connel Cubs need your help

Do you have 1 1/2 hrs a week free to help with the weekly running of the North Connel Cub Pack. Training and Disclosure provided free. If you can help in any way please contact Chris MacPherson on **01631 720626.**

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Beauty Tutor

Applicants should be qualified to SVQ3/HNC level in beauty and have relevant commercial experience.

The hours are 18 teaching hours per week for the 36 week academic year plus 6 hours per week supervising students in our commercial salon. The supervision starts when students are sufficiently competent to work with paying customers.

The teaching salary is £16,018.56 per annum. Supervision in the commercial salon is paid at £15.90 per hour, which includes a payment in lieu of annual leave of £1.84 per hour.

In the first instance, please send a CV (maximum 2 pages) and a 1 page covering letter by **21st August** to:

Lorna McDonald, Dunstaffnage Learning Centre, Oban, Argyll PA37 1PZ or email to lorna.mcdonald@argyllcollege.ac.uk or fax to 01631 559519

Interviews will be held in Campbeltown on **27th August 2009**

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Gaelic Development Officer (Community)
Education & Children's Services
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Blackfriars Development Centre, North Port, Perth PKC1299

Closing date: When sufficient suitable applications received
Please APPLY ONLINE at pkc.myjobscotland.gov.uk

If you have a disability which prevents you applying online, please call 01738 475000 to discuss any reasonable adjustments.

Perth & Kinross Council is committed to equality and diversity and welcomes applicants from all sections of the community

PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL

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Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

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new car index

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PERSONALS

Emma would like to thank all the charities and businesses who funded her for the Special Olympics and all the many friends near and far who gave donations as well. God Bless You All.

ANNE AND HEIDI Would like to sincerely thank Aulay and everyone who came to remember Reinhard last Friday night. He would have loved it.

Donald John Ferguson Taynuilt I would like to thank Mr Scobie and the nursing staff of Ward A, Lorn and Isles Hospital, for their care and attention shown to me after my operation. Also Dr Neil Bennett at Connel/Taynuilt Surgery and to district nurses for their care at home.

Robert and Adele Gillies would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts and good wishes they received for their wedding on Saturday, August 1, 2009. A special thanks to those who attended from near and far. A great time was had by all.

Still a cool dude at 21 Happy Birthday Camy Love Mum, Dad & Jamie x

Happy 21st Birthday Natalie Lots of love Mum, Dad, Adele, Robert, Lee, Natalie and Pisceags.

Catherine Fitness celebrates her 50th Birthday on 15 August 2009. Hope you have a lovely day! Love from all the family xxx

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BIRTHS

Stuart Kunz and Deirdre Buchanan-Kunz would like to announce the arrival of their daughter Freya who was born on August 3, 2009.

ROGERS - On August 7, 2009, to Sarah (née Penny) and Norman, a daughter, Phoebe Jennifer.

ENGAGEMENTS
THORNTON - PORTER - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Aisling Niamh Thornton and Stewart Cameron Carse Porter. Mealanaidheach!

MARRIAGES
ASKEW - GILLIES - Marriage of Adele, daughter of Brian and Penelope, Oban to Robert, son of Duncan and Marie, Taynuilt on Saturday, August 1, 2009 at Church of Scotland, Esplanade, Oban.

O'SULLIVAN MACDOUGALL - At Lismore Parish Church on August 1, 2009 by Rev Roderick Campbell, Bona, daughter of Una and the late Cormac O'Sullivan, Blackrock, Dublin to Peter, son of Mary and Dougie MacDougall, Bailuacraich Farm, Lismore.

DIAMOND WEDDING

McLUGASH - MACAULAY
 Anne to Alexander at St Kieran's Church, Port Charlotte, Isle of Islay on August 10, 1949, by Rev R Torrie. Present address, Portree, Isle of Skye.

DEATHS

GILL - Peacefully, in the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on August 9, 2009 in her 95th year, Margaret Malcolmina Fairlie (Ina) beloved wife of the late Roderick Gill a much loved mother, mother-in-law, granny and great-granny. Funeral service will take place from the Oban Baptist Church on Thursday (today) August 13, at 12.00 noon, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery, Lochgilphead, for interment at 2.30pm. Family flowers only.

GRAHAM - Peacefully on Monday, August 10, 2009, in Ardnahain Hotel for the elderly, West Bay, Dunoon. Archina (Ina), beloved wife of the late Donald (Donnie), a loving mother to Donald, Margaret and son-in-law Alastair, a much loved grandma to Jeannie, Robert, Cara, William and Lorne, and dearly loved great grandma to Liberty. The funeral service will be held in Greenock Crematorium on Wednesday, August 19, 2009 at 3pm to which all are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please.

GRAINGER - Rev Ian G. Peacefully in his daughter's manse in Acharacle, Lochaber, on Sunday August 9, 2009, aged 84 years. Dearly loved husband of Rena and father of Jonathan, Alison and Thomas, he will be missed by many. A thanksgiving service for his

life will be held at Tobermory Parish Church, Isle of Mull, on Saturday, August 15, 2009, at 11am, followed by interment at Suidhe Cemetery, Bunnassan at 2.30pm. The cortege will be piped slowly through Bunnassan at 2.10pm. Family flowers only, please, but donations can be made in church to Wyresdale Children's Home.

MACGILP - Donald James (Hamish) Macgilp. Born August 6, 1942. Died February 16, 2009. Dear adopted son to late Donald and Dorrie Macgilp. Stepson to Mary Macgilp, Argyll House, Westleton, Suffolk.

MACGREGOR - Peacefully at Ardconnell Farm, Connel, on August 7, 2009, in his 75th year, Alastair, beloved husband of Hannah and much loved father of Alastair, the late Robert, Anne and Duncan. Adored grandad of Ewan, Jamie, Rachel, Emma and Sophie, father-in-law of Kathleen and Julie and dear friend of John.

MACLEOD - Peacefully at home, after a long illness borne bravely, on August 9, 2009, Donald Alexander MacLeod, in his 73rd year, of Castleton Farm, Lochgilphead. Beloved husband of Catherine and much loved father of Alastair and Caitriona. A dear brother, brother-in-law and uncle to all the family. A good neighbour and friend to many. Funeral service will be held in Ardshirva Parish Church today, Thursday, August 13, at 1.30pm. Thereafter to Kilmuir Church and Cemetery, Isle of Skye on Friday, August 14 at 1.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired to, Marie Curie Cancer Care and Motor Neurone Disease Association.

O'CONNOR - With much regret we announce the passing of Ian O'Connor, 4a Duncairn Street, Inverness, (formerly of Caol and MacRae and Dick), husband of Marjory, loving father of David, Sharon, Philip and Richard, also a dear grandad of Danielle, Megan, Callum and Isobel. Funeral enquiries to D Chisholm and Sons, Telephone 01463 712255.

PUNCHARD - Elizabeth (Bunty) (Kilchoan and Edinburgh). Peacefully at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley following a stroke, Elizabeth (Bunty), devoted wife of the late Laurie, loving mother of Susan and doing 'Nana' to Callum and Alastair. A celebration of her life will take place at Kilchoan Parish Church, Kilchoan, Acharacle, Argyll at 2pm on Friday, August 14, 2009, to which all friends and relatives are respectfully invited followed by an interment at Kilchoan Cemetery. Family flowers only please but a retiral collection will take place at the church for those wishing to donate to the R.N.L.I.

SMITH - Suddenly but peacefully at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on Wednesday, August 5, 2009, in her 78th year, Aeneas Frances (née Simmonds), beloved wife of the late Alexander Smith, much loved mum of Frank and Brian, granny of Kirsten and Jennie, a dear sister, aunt and friend. She will be sadly missed by all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BONAR - Fleurie, Alison, Lynn and Lorna would like to sincerely thank all relatives and friends for the kind expressions of sympathy extended to them following the sad loss of John. Thanks to ward 1 RAH, ambulance staff and Bowmore medical practice. Special thanks to reader Angela Stather for a beautiful service which brought great comfort. Thanks also to Craig and Jean McAffer for their professional support with funeral arrangements. The sum of £898.22 was collected for Marie Curie nurses.

DAIRON - Mary and the family would like to thank friends and neighbours for the kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, cards and phone calls following the passing of Andrew. Special thanks to the nursing staff in Ward C and the Macmillan nurses for their care and attention. Thanks to Hamish Hoey and sons for their efficient funeral arrangements, Rev Roderick Campbell for his service of comfort. The retiring collection for Cancer Research amounted to £352.87. Thanks to all those who paid their last respects at the church and the graveside.

KELLY - James, Pauline and family would like to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the extremely kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, cards and phone calls received following the sudden death of Kenneth. Special thanks to those friends in Australia who have been of great support and who were Kenneth's family in Australia.

MACKINNON - Philip, Mary, John and Tracey would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their expressions of kindness and sympathy on the sad loss of their mother Jean. Many thanks to the nurses at Oban Hospital, and grateful thanks to the doctors and nurses at

Gartnavel Hospital. Many thanks to Father MacKay for his lovely service, to Maureen Gracie for the lovely flowers, to Paul and Alastair from Cuan Mor, The Rowantree Hotel and Hamish Hoey for their advice and support. The retiral collection for the Breath Easy Group raised £520. Finally we would like to say though we knew what a "lady" our mother was, it was humbling to know that everyone regarded her in the same light and with such high regard.

MACLEOD - Alice, Margaret and family would like to thank everyone who has supported us during Calum MacLeod's illness and in times since his death and funeral. The visits, phone calls, flowers and sympathy were much appreciated. Special thanks to the Rev James Beaton, Donnie Graham for his many visits, the staff of wards A and C, Oban Lorn Hospital, Hamish Hoey and the staff of the Falls of Lora. We would also like to thank everyone who paid their last respects at the church and graveyard. Donations sent to Cancer Research were most welcome.

MARTIN - John. Sharon and family would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their kindness, sympathy and support after the sudden death of their beloved John. They would also like to thank John's family for being supportive and for organising John's funeral.

MATHESON - John. Elizabeth and family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, floral tributes, cards and phone calls following the sad loss of Ian. Very special thanks to Donald MacKinnon for his comforting service, Caitriona and staff at Hamish Hoey, the staff at Lorn and Islands Hospital and the Lynne of Lorne care home for their caring efficiency. We would also like to thank everyone who paid their last respects at the church and graveside. A collection at the service amounted to £368.00 for Oban Lifeboat and Oban MS Therapy Centre.

PATERSON - The family of the late Irene Paterson would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, floral tributes, cards, and telephone calls, following their recent sad loss. Special thanks to Rev George Cringles for a very comforting service and to Billy McClymont for efficient funeral arrangements. We would also like to thank all those who came to pay their last respects at the church and graveside.

SHAW - Neé Shevlin. The family of the late Cathleen, would like to thank everyone for all the support, help and kindness they have received at this sad time. Special thanks to Hilary Brown, Father Donald MacKay, Royal Hotel, Hamish Hoey and Son and all who attended the church and graveside and generously donated £633.31 for Macmillan Nurses.

IN MEMORIAM

CAIRNS - In loving memory of our much loved mother and grandmother Christine (Cameron) Cairns who died on August 17, 2008. Sadly missed.

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of Margaret, a much loved wife, mother and granny, who passed away August 15, 2004. Always loved and never forgotten.

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of a dear auntie, Tootsie, who died August 16, 1989. Memories of you are fondly kept. Someone too special to ever forget.

CHISHOLM - Sarah 'Rae' King MacMillan called to higher service on August 11, 2008. Devoted mother and cherished friend. Lovingly remembered everyday.

DOCHERTY - Mae. In loving memory of a dear mother who died August 16, 2002. Always in our thoughts.

FLEMING - In loving memory of my dear husband Donnie, who died on August 15, 1984. We'll meet again.

KENNEDY - In loving memory of our dear mother Annie Kennedy, who passed

away on August 9, 2006. - Inserted by her son John Donald, Crossapol, Tiree, and her daughter Anne and family, Glasgow.

MACARTHUR - In loving memory of my dear brother, Alastair, who died August 15, 2008. Loved and remembered always.

MACCORQUODALE - Treasured memories of May beloved mother and mother-in-law who died August 11, 2008. Always remembered.

MACDONALD - Treasured memories of Alister, a devoted husband and father, who died on August 18, 2001. The many things you did for me

In your kind and loving way Give me memories to treasure As I think of you each day. - Helen. You shared our lives, our smiles, our tears. Thank you dad for those precious years. Today, tomorrow, our whole lives through We'll always thank God our dad was you.

MACFARLANE - In memory of Nadia, my wife and mother of Iain and Craig, who died August 12, 2008. Sadly missed, loved and remembered always.

MACFARLANE - (née Lafferty) In loving memory of our dear sister Nadia who was taken from us so young on August 12, 2008. Two tired eyes are sleeping. Two willing hands are still. For one who suffered far too much

Is resting in God's will You never said goodbye to us Perhaps it's just as well We never could have said goodbye To one we loved so well! What more is there to say We only wish with all our hearts

That you were here today Always in our thoughts. - Much love from all your brothers and sisters xx. **MACFARLANE** - (Lafferty), Nadia, died August 12, 2008, a dear sister and friend. Miss you every day.

MACFARLANE - In loving memory of Nadia MacFarlane who passed away August 12, 2008. Gone are the days we used to share. But in our hearts you are always there. The gates of memory will never close.

We miss you more than anyone knows. With tender love and deep regret We who love you will never forget. - Brian, Pene and family, xxx. **MACINNES** - Thomas Tyson (Tommy). In everlasting memory of a dear father and grandpa taken from us too soon on August 11, 1997, and also our dear mum and nana, Nancy who is sadly missed. How constantly we think of you

With hearts and eyes that fill The love in life we had for you In death grows stronger still Let the winds of love blow softly And whisper for you to hear We love and miss you sadly, as

It dawns another year. - Tom, Alice, Robert, Martin, Lorraine and Tom and James, Iona and James. **MACECHNIE** - In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle, Angus who died August 11, 2005. Sadly missed. I laid aside my Cromag, my telescope and gun.

MACKECHNIE - Treasured memories of our dear brother and uncle Angus, who died at Killin on August 11, 2005. Forever in our thoughts. - Inserted by his sister, brothers and families.

NICHOLSON - In loving memory of Malcolm, who died August 11, 2001. Forever in our thoughts. - From all the family.

POTTER - Treasured memories of a dear husband, father and danda, Thomas, who died at An Airigh, Dalmaily on August 15, 1980. - Loved and remembered always.

RODGER - Alister (Sunshine), beloved husband, father and papa, passed away August 16, 2003. Remembering you is easy I do it every day. But missing you is heartache That never goes away. - Elsie (1437) xx.

VANCE - In memory of Margaret Vance who died August 19, 2008. A much-loved mum, mother-in-law and granny. "Forever in our hearts." - Mairi, David and family.

WEIR - Treasured memories of Elsie, a dearly loved mum, gran and great-gran, who died August 12, 2003. A smile we shall always remember. A voice we shall always recall. A love we shall cherish forever. Of a mum who was dear to us all. Loved and remembered always. - Jean, Margaret, Liz and families, Oban.

ECCLIESIASTICAL NOTICES

ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN
 Campbell Street Church
 Sunday 16 August 2009
 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.
 Phone-In 'Worship Link' available
 Rev. Archie McPhail MA, MTh
 (01631) 567076
 All welcome

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION
 Sunday 16 August 2009
 Dedication Festival
 Trinity 10
 St John's Cathedral, Oban
 Holy Communion.....08.00
 Sung Eucharist and Confirmation.....10.15
 Loop System
 Large Print Hymn Books
 All Welcome
 Norman MacCallum, Provost
 (01631) 562323
 St James, Ardbrecknish, Cladich
 Holy Eucharist.....11.00
 St Columba, Gruline, Mull
 Holy Eucharist.....11.00
 St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona
 Holy Eucharist.....08.00
 Evensong.....20.00

LORN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
 Sunday 16th August
 Skippinich Ceilidh
 House
 10am
 All Welcome
 Telephone
 07876 735 794
 www.lorncf.org.uk

OBAN ELIM
 Pentecostal Church
 Worship Meeting
 Saturdays 6.00pm
 Guide Hall
 Soroba Road
 Oban
 01631 570485
 Everybody Welcome

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Church NEWS

Please keep sending in the news about your church!
 Church News, The Oban Times, PO Box 1
 Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB or FAX: (01631) 568001

Thought for the Week

The question not to ask

The question not to ask in the doctor's waiting room is? At the doctor's recently I found myself sitting beside a lively toddler. He was too young to speak, so there was no danger of him asking, How are you today? He was old enough to caper. His mother was speaking to him in German so it's a reasonable guess that he was from abroad. A common human need had

brought us together, a need to see a doctor. In the African state of Malawi there is one doctor for every 88,000 people. If we had a similar ratio here in Scotland we would have a couple of doctors in the whole of Argyll & Bute that would make for some waiting list. These are not easy times in which we live at present. Many in Scotland today are struggling with health issues, with the pressures of the recession. Of

course public services can always be improved and standards raised. It is always possible to find fault. There is also much to value here in Scotland today. We do have a range of committed and caring people amongst us to positively appreciate. We do have good things to share with other people, family, friends and indeed the wider world.

Rev. Jeff McCormick

Tribute

Valerie Thomson Glasgow and Islay



Valerie Thomson

Mourners from throughout the island crowded into Portnahaven Church on Saturday to pay their last respects to 60 year old Valerie Thomson who was fatally injured in a road accident on Glasgow's Great Western Road on the early evening of July 24.

Valerie was the only daughter of the late Captain Angus and Mrs Margaret Ferguson of Portnahaven. She has two brothers, Angus, a college lecturer, and Duncan, rector of Plocton High School and the first chairman of Bord na Gaidhlig.

She married Kenneth Thomson, a musician and former NHS Trust supreme, in 1971 and was a family of two - son Fergus and daughter Alison.

They also have three grandchildren Anna, Archie and Lucy of whom they are all justly proud.

Valerie trained as a home economics teacher and was a valued member of staff at Laurel Bank School prior to its closure and latterly at Glasgow Academy where she was a dedicated teacher and highly regarded by other staff members and by all the pupils she came into contact with.

In more recent years she shared her domestic science skills with scholars at Glasgow's all Gaelic school.

The tragic manner of her passing shocked the whole of Gaeldom and left a void in many lives and most particularly in the those of her nearest and dearest.

Although not an officianado of Gaelic choral music she fully supported Kenneth, who won the gold medal at the National Mod in Stornoway in 1979, in his busy life as conductor of Ceolraidh Ghaidhlig Ghlachdu, the GG, for his past 25 years and in his many other musical pursuits.

Valerie was a family orientated person, loved cooking and entertaining, was a generous hostess and was an actress of no mean ability as was evidenced by her successes at the Glasgow Gaelic Drama Association festivals.

Shortly before her death she, Kenneth and the family enjoyed a happy break at their Portnahaven home which included the baptism of their youngest grandchild.

The Portnahaven memorial service was conducted by the parish minister the Rev Steve Fulcher and a heartfelt and touching eulogy was delivered by Oban's Duncan MacDonald, a fellow gold medallist,

'GG' choir member and family friend. Duncan, in his sincere address, encapsulated the person that was Valerie and assured the sorely grieving family that eventually happy recollections of days in the sunshine and laughter will heal the painful scars and dry the bitter tears of loss.

The tragic manner of Valerie's death touched the hearts of all and led 1,200 mourners to attend a service of thanksgiving for her life in Glasgow's Gaelic Cathedral in St Vincent Street on August 3. A private family cremation took place on the following day at Clydebank.

Islay, and the Rhinns area in particular, also mourn her passing and those who came to pay their last respects did so with heavy hearts.

The Thomson and Ferguson families are all in our hearts even if words fail us. Goodbye Valerie. We will miss you and mourn your untimely passing. **Hugh Smith**

Elizabeth Ballantyne Rennie OBE

Teacher and Archaeologist: June 10, 1920 - July 17, 2009

Dunoon has lost one of its best known and most respected characters with the death of Betty Rennie on July 17.

Born in Glasgow, Betty was educated at Jordanhill Primary School before her family moved to Kilmorie on the Cowal peninsula in 1930. At this time she attended Dunoon Grammar School before continuing her education at Edsdale School in Edinburgh, where she gained a Higher Leaving Certificate, and Jordanhill Training College where she attained the 'Fribble' qualification to teach nursery age children.

During the Second World War she obtained a position in the Children's Nursery in Kilmorie before being appointed as the infant mistress at Sandbank Primary School in 1947, a post in which she was to remain until her retirement in 1980.



Throughout this period she was also involved with the 3rd Dunoon (Kim) Guides, holding a variety of offices within the organisation. Consequently she played a major part in the development of a large proportion of the youth in the area. This period of service was recognised by the Guiding Association when she was awarded the Beaver Award upon her retirement - the highest honour that the Guides can bestow. It was as an

archaeologist and local historian that Betty was best known, however, being a founder member of the Cowal Archaeological and Historical Society and a recognised expert in her field. Amongst her published works were 'Cowal Historical Guide' (1993), 'The Recessed Platforms of Argyll, Bute and Inverness' (1997) and 'Cowal Shore and Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites' (2006).

She was awarded an MBE in 1996 for services to archaeology in Argyll, and this was presented to her by Her Majesty the Queen at Holyrood Palace Edinburgh.

Betty joined St Andrew's Church, Kilmorie, later to be known as Kilmorie Parish Church in 1936 and remained an active member of the congregation until her

death. She was the author of a history of the church, produced in 2007 to mark the centenary of the building it currently occupies. In addition to the multitude of church organisations in which she played an active part, she was also a founder member of the Cowal Choral Club and a member of the Dunoon Sub Aqua Club.

Following her retirement Betty took up new pursuits, including gliding, from which she was able to obtain better views of the countryside she loved, and learned to play the violin.

Betty died in the Cowal Hospice, Dunoon after a short illness. She will be greatly missed by her many friends and, in particular, by her sister-in-law, Jean, her nephews, niece and their families. **A J Niven Rennie**

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Shinty fixtures

Shinty

Friday August 14

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Col-Glen v Bute
Jim Innes

Saturday August 15

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Semi Final
Bute v Fort William
Billy Wotherspoon
1.30pm at Jubilee Park Ballachulish
Kingussie v Kyles Athletic
Colin MacDonald
4pm at Jubilee Park Ballachulish

Strathdearn Cup Semi Final
Fort William v Kingussie
Ron Kennedy
Lovat v Newtonmore
Innes Wood

Bullough Cup Semi Final
Kyles v Glenorchy
Duncan Kerr
Lochside v Aberdeen
Robert Baxter Jnr

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Glenorchy v Inveraray
David Mitchell
Glenurquhart v Newtonmore
Deek Cameron
Lochaber v Oban Caman
Graham Cameron

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Caberfeidh v Beaully
Donald MacRae
Kinlochsheil v Inverness
Graham Irving
Lochcarron v Lovat
Neil Ferguson
Strathglass v Skye
Jock Matheson

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Kilmory v GMA
Oban Celtic v Inveraray
George O'Rourke

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Glengarry v Kilmallie
John MacLeod
Glenurquhart v Caberfeidh
Calum Duff 12 noon
Skye v Kinlochshiel
Roddie MacLennan

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Beaully v Lochcarron
Evan MacRae
Lochaber v Ardnamurchan
Daniel MacRae 11.30 am
Strathglass v Aberdeen Uni
John Angus Gillies 12 noon

Marine Harvest South Division 2
GMA v Ballachulish
Euan Pearson 12 noon
Glenorchy v Strachur
Dougie Cameron 11.30am

Oban Camanachd's title dreams at an end Inveraray take full points at the Winterton

A DISPUTED penalty five minutes into the second-half of the Premier league tie between Inveraray and Oban Camanachd ended the latter's hopes of their first ever Premier title.

For Inveraray, it meant a continuation of a run of league form that has taken them up the table and away from a tight relegation fight for second bottom slot.

With the match starting 15 minutes late, Inveraray wasted no time in getting on the scoresheet with Grant Griffen finding the finish in the 10th minute to put the home side ahead. However, within two minutes, Oban Camanachd were back on level terms when Daniel MacIntyre picked his spot from outside the box.

On the half-hour, the visitors went ahead when David Devine's pace again troubled the home defence and he ghosted in to score at the back post.

Inveraray, with Gary MacPherson controlling much of the forward play, equalised with a vicious shot from 20 yards from Scott Robertson which gave young keeper Robert Dunning no chance, and the teams reached the interval on level terms which was a fair reflection of the play over the 45 minutes.

Five minutes into the second-half referee Charles Young judged Oban defender Gareth Evans to have kicked the ball in the

Shinty
Scottish Hydro Premier Division Inveraray 3 Oban Camanachd 2

penalty area and awarded the spot hit. After a heated debate, Gary MacPherson remained calm to slot home what was to prove the match winner.

The remainder of the tie became an interesting tactical battle with Ian Campbell and David MacInnes dominating the midfield area for Oban where the home side missed the influential David Robertson. Inveraray aimed to get Gary MacPherson involved at every opportunity despite the close and effective attention of young defender Daniel Cameron.

Two league points takes Inveraray away from any relegation worries and allows them to concentrate on the Macaulay Cup Final against Kingussie. Another two points against bottom-of-the-league Glenorchy this Saturday at Dalmailly would keep the momentum going.

Oban Camanachd are safe in mid-table but will aim to end the season on a flourish with an away win at Spean Bridge against a Lochaber side which need points and have been lacking match practice in recent weeks.



The Ballachulish defence clear the ball as Lochside Rovers moved a step closer to the South Division One title at Ganavan, Oban on Saturday thanks to a 4-1 win, with Jonathon Will netting a hat-trick

Lochside move a step closer to South Division One title

LOCHSIDE Rovers are one South Division One point away from securing the league title, with the prospect of a deciding tie against old rivals Oban Celtic their target.

Celtic, however, came very close to defeating Lochside the

last time the two sides met, with the league leaders scraping a 3-all draw with a last minute equaliser.

Last Saturday at Ganavan, a hat-trick from Jonathon Will, plus a goal from Louis Cameron set-up this week's decider for a reserve team that has led the

senior league from day one.

Under the current league restrictions, Lochside cannot be promoted, therefore it is likely that Glasgow Mid Argyll or Kilmory may be the team to go forward to try to claim a place in shinty's Premier Division.

Cup semis this weekend

Shinty

CAMANACHD Association officials will have one eye on the weather forecast for this weekend as both semi-finals of the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup are scheduled for the Jubilee Park, Ballachulish this Saturday.

To allow live coverage by BBC Alba, the match between Fort William and Bute will start at 1.30pm - with the second cup tie, between Kingussie and Kyles Athletic scheduled to start at 4pm.

The first match will be refereed by Billy Wotherspoon, the second by Colin MacDonald.

Kyles add to Fort's woes at An Aird

Shinty

FORT William slumped to their fourth league defeat in a row on Saturday when Tom Whyte and Grant Irvine earned Kyles Athletic a 2-1 victory at An Aird.

For the young Kyles side it was their second win at Fort William in as many matches and will be a great boost of confidence ahead of the Camanachd Cup tie this Saturday against Kingussie.

Fort William introduced veteran striker Victor Smith to the line-up and he was to prove their only scorer.

In a restricted premier league programme, the only other tie played on Saturday was relegation dog-fight between Bute and Glenorchy at Rothesay with the tie being decided within the first 35 minutes.

Stuart Strathie opened the scoring for the home side after 15 minutes with Robert Walker adding a second

goal 10 minutes from the interval. Although Glenorchy produced a better performance in the second-half they lacked that vital touch in front of goal and failed to find the net.

This Saturday, Glenorchy have something of a local derby match when Inveraray come 'over the hill', while Bute are at Ballachulish for their Camanachd Cup semi against Fort William.

Newtonmore are away to Glenurquhart at Drumadrochit for what will be a very close encounter, while in the remaining Premier Division fixture, Lochaber welcome Oban Camanachd to Spean Bridge, with the home side keen to collect league points to take them away from the foot of the table.

Glasgow Mid Argyll leave with two league points from Ganavan

OBAN Celtic will still be smarting that they failed to get a share of the spoils at Ganavan on Saturday, despite having the lion's share of possession for long periods in both halves.

Fighting hard to retain the ball and using his speed to turn defenders inside out, led to Kieran Gallagher's opener for Oban Celtic on seven minutes, when he fired a low angled shot beyond GMA's goal minder Donald Oliver. But on the quarter hour, right winger Ian Luke fired a 25 yard rocket high into the Oban net to bring the visitors level.

Shinty

South Division One
Oban Celtic 2
Glasgow Mid Argyll 3

The home squad was undone again on 22 minutes, needlessly conceding a free hit in midfield. The defence was bypassed as the hit was flighted towards the left hand upright where keeper MacNab was uncharacteristically hesitant to clear his lines and this time left winger Gary Luke nipped into the box and flicked the ball into

goal. Stung at being caught out, Oban Celtic pressed forward again, their right winger McNeil showed the way, tackling effectively and sending intelligent passes forward. But the Glasgow back four worked hard to push the Celtic forwards wide and cut their shooting opportunities to a minimum.

One minute into the second half saw Gary Luke breaking up the left wing and firing a low 20 yard shot that deceived MacNab but put GMA two ahead.

Again, the home side got

the game by the scruff of the neck and piled on the pressure but Mid Argyll always looked dangerous on the break, with ex-Celt Mark Bain showing some subtle flicks and touches at full forward, feeding his fast running colleagues. However, the home defence continued to work hard with Gibson and John Hill reading the game well, intercepting passes and defusing much of the danger.

For 20 minutes the play became frenetic and, for Oban, seemed to pay off when Oliver pulled off a fine save from McKerracher's angled shot

on 66 minutes but could do nothing to stop Miller's low drive a minute later.

Oban Celtic still had time to salvage a point, but a combination of resolute defending and some good stops by Oliver saw Mid Argyll ride out the storm and head back to the city with two points. Nevertheless, this and recent performances have shown that Oban Celtic can compete well at this level, but are also learning that single mistakes or a slight lapse of concentration will be punished and prove costly.

Shinty leagues

Premier Division

Kingussie	10	7	2	1	4	1	14	16
Glenurquhart	14	7	2	5	2	7	24	16
Fort William	13	7	1	5	2	4	19	15
Kyles Athletic	13	6	3	4	3	4	30	15
Newtonmore	9	5	4	0	3	4	12	14
Oban Camanachd	10	6	1	3	1	9	15	13
Inveraray	11	4	1	6	2	2	25	9
Lochaber	11	3	5	1	4	2	9	9
Bute	10	2	3	5	1	5	20	7
Glenorchy	15	0	2	1	3	9	5	2

North Division 1

Skye	13	8	1	4	3	0	18	17
Kilmallie	11	8	0	3	4	2	25	16
Caberfeidh	11	7	0	4	2	0	18	14
Beaully	10	5	1	4	2	3	20	11
Strathglass	7	5	0	2	7	7	10	10
Lovat	6	3	2	1	3	6	8	8
Kinlochshiel	8	3	1	4	1	8	20	7
Inverness	11	1	1	9	5	4	3	3
Lochcarron	9	0	0	9	4	2	5	0

South Division 1

Lochside Rovers	11	9	1	1	4	2	19	19
GMA	9	6	1	2	3	4	14	13
Kilmory	9	6	0	3	2	3	17	12
Oban Celtic	9	3	2	4	2	5	29	8
Inveraray	9	3	1	5	2	4	30	7
Ballachulish	11	2	1	8	2	3	35	5
Tayforth	10	2	0	8	1	7	44	0

North Division 2

Glenurquhart	13	11	2	0	5	1	11	24
Kingussie	15	11	1	3	5	7	24	23
Fort William	12	9	1	2	4	7	13	19
Lovat	13	7	0	6	3	7	33	14
Glengarry	13	5	2	6	2	9	30	12
Newtonmore	13	5	1	7	2	7	39	11
Skye	14	4	2	8	3	0	45	10
Kilmallie	12	3	0	9	1	5	40	6
Caberfeidh	12	2	0	10	2	4	55	4
Kinlochshiel	9	1	1	7	1	3	40	3

South Division 2

Taynuilt	11	11	0	0	5	4	12	22
Strachur	12	7	1	4	2	6	18	15
Kyles Athletic	8	6	1	1	2	6	8	13
Aberdour	13	6	0	7	3	4	40	12
ColGlen	13	5	2	6	2	3	32	12
Bute	11	4	1	6	2	3	21	9
GlasgowMid Argyll	12	3	3	6	2	7	38	9
Glenorchy	10	3	2	5	1	8	16	8
Ballachulish	12	1	0	11	1	3	59	2

North Division 3

Lochbroom	15	11	1	3	5	9	20	23
Beaully	14	11	0	3	5	9	13	22
Aberdeen Uni	16	10	2	4	5	6	27	22
Lochaber	15	10	0	5	6	8	33	20
Boleskine	13	6	1	6	3	0	26	13
Strathglass	12	6	0	6	4	7	42	12
Inverness	12	4	1	7	2	2	46	9
Lochcarron	11	4	0	7	1	8	36	8
Ardnamurchan	13	2	0	11	1	6	65	4
Kincraig	13	0	1	12	1	7	8	1

Results

Shinty

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Bute 2 Glenorchy 0; Fort William 1 Kyles 2; Inveraray 3 Oban Caman 2
Marine Harvest North Division 1
Inverness 2 Kinlochsheil 7; Lochcarron 1 Kilmallie 4
Marine Harvest South Division 1
Lochside 4 Ballachulish 1; Oban Celtic 2 GMA 3; Inveraray 1 Kilmory 2
Marine Harvest North Division 2
Fort William 0 Kingussie 2; Glengarry 0 Skye 2; Kilmallie 1 Newtonmore 2
Marine Harvest South Division 2
Aberdour 3 Bute 1; Ballachulish P Taynuilt P; GMA 3 Kyles Athletic 3
Marine Harvest North Division 3
Aberdeen U w/o Kincraig
Inverness 2 Lochaber 7

Spot the SHINTY BALL Competition



All you have to do

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon on Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



WIN £1300

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



I enclose £1 (note) for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules.

How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel No. _____

Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
A McGleish, Firth Court, Oban and B Hill, Longsdale Crescent, Oban

Clyde sailor's Highland win

CLYDE sailor Brian Young lifted the top prize at Tennents West Highland Yachting Week, taking home the Peter Cocks Memorial Trophy for the best overall performance of the regatta.

Young's well-known Myline ketch *Glenafton* revelled in the strong wind conditions to take five firsts in each race of the week in Class 6 in the Argyll restricted sail fleet.

Sailing

He said he was delighted and very surprised at the win. 'We enjoy sailing this week so much and are very pleased - winning is a bonus. The boat enjoys the west coast passage race conditions and this year's course for the Argyll Fleet off Tobermory was very good.'

Brian has been competing

at West Highland Yachting Week since 1957, initially in the Cruiser 8s *Tinto*, K7 and *Debbie*, K22.

He bought *Glenafton* in 1976 and has raced the 42-year-old boat at West Highland Yachting Week ever since.

Murray Findlay and family on their X43 *Abraxas* from the Clyde were awarded the Tennent Caledonian Trophy for the best family yacht with *Jus 'Cos* taking the Angus Meldrum Trophy for the best corrected time from Oban to Tobermory.

And 84 year old Bill Taylor of Oban was awarded the Endeavour Trophy for racing his *Contessa 26 Allegro* in the first weekend of the regatta. Bill also collected a third place for the feeder from Craobh to Oban.

with memorable racing for the first five days.

'Unfortunately the wind was just not there on the final day to give any good racing' he said.

'However competitors have enjoyed the testing conditions and we are all now looking forward to the 2010 regatta.'

With Tennents bowing out after 30 years this year Tunnock's sponsored the spinnaker fleet classes and Argyll and Bute Council the Argyll Fleet. Support also came from Caledonian MacBrayne and the Crown Estate with EventScotland helping to market WHYW. For the first time this year West Coast Motors laid on a shuttle bus between Oban and Dunstaffnage that proved popular with competitors and guests.

The week's après sail social programme was enjoyed by all with the mix of headline events, including Skipinnish at Oban Marina, Skerryvore at the Ceilidh House and Oban High School Pipe Band, who treated skippers and guest at the Skippers Reception in the Caledonian MacBrayne ferry terminal to some stirring pipe band music. Prior to this they played on top of a West Coast Motors open-top bus.



Bill Taylor of Oban, right, was awarded the Endeavour Trophy by Robert Clark of Tennents.

Tides

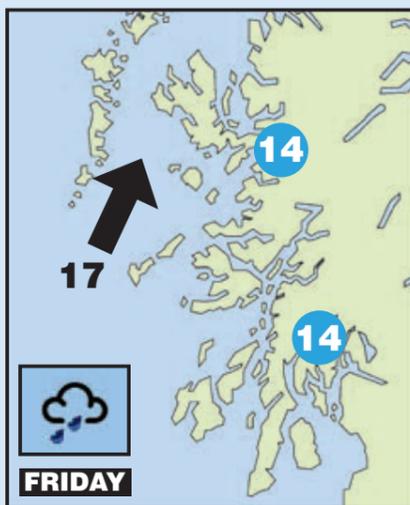
Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday, August 13, 2009 are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	03.48 1.5 09.32 3.2 16.00 1.5 22.08 3.2	
Fri	04.49 1.6 10.27 3.1 17.11 1.7 23.23 3.0	
Sat	06.12 1.7 11.56 2.9 18.49 1.8 *** **	
Sun	06.12 1.7 11.56 2.9 18.49 1.8 *** **	
Mon	01.58 3.0 07.36 1.6 14.28 3.1 20.30 1.7	
Tues	03.24 3.2 08.53 1.4 15.39 3.4 21.55 1.4	
Wed	04.19 3.4 09.56 1.0 16.27 3.7 22.51 1.0	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Lochboisdale	+0.30
Campbeltown	-5.30	Mallaig	+0.25
Crinan	-0.47	Portree	+0.55
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Tobermory	+0.16
		Dover	+5.30

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Ships' Chandler 01631-562550



the weather

Sponsored by
NANCY BLACK Ships' Chandler

Thursday
Sunny intervals with a light south-westerly wind. Temperatures 13°C to 17°C

Friday
Expect heavy rain with south/south westerly winds picking up strength and gusting to 17mph. Temperatures 13°C to 16°C.

Weekend Outlook
Heavy rain and showers. Winds moderate west/south-westerly. Temperatures 12°C to 14°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist - Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree - As above
Kennacraig to Islay - As above

Sponsored by **NANCY BLACK**
Ships' Chandler 01631-562550



No way through for Saints striker Darin Bryars as he is surrounded by Clark Drive defenders during Saturday's match at Glencruitten. 15_03saint01

Clark in the driving seat

Pre-Season Friendly
OBAN SAINTS 0
CLARK DRIVE 2

OBAN Saints played their final pre-season friendly match last Saturday when they took on top Ayrshire side Clark Drive at Glencruitten.

This was a battle between last season's Scottish Cup quarter finalists. Like Saints, Clark Drive reached the last eight of the national cup competition.

The home side could have been three goals up in the first half hour, but Drive keeper Kenny Pollock made three tremendous saves

Football

from Ross Maitland, Jamie Graham and Sean Ford.

As has happened before, instead of taking the lead it was a disappointed Saints team that went in at the half time interval 1-0 down.

They gave away a needless free kick at the edge of their box and Clark Drive full back David Smith curled his shot round the wall which caught out keeper Graham Douglas who allowed the ball to squirm under his body and into the net.

Saints made six second

half changes which understandably upset the rhythm of the team a bit.

The visitors increased their lead midway through the half from another set-piece when Graham Douglas failed to hold on to a high free kick into the box. The ball fell kindly for Brian Love who needed no second invitation to hammer it into the net.

Manager Iain Jackson was disappointed at the result, but not by the performance of his team. He said: 'We lost two poor goals, but we played

well against an experienced Clark Drive side.

'We could have won the match two or three nil just as easily. It's now down to the nitty gritty, I have to select a squad for Saturday's league opener that will get us off to a good start, picking up all three points, but it will be a difficult game and we will need to be at our best.'

Saints start off their 2009-2010 campaign with a home game against Castlemilk. The match will be played at Glencruitten with a 2pm kick-off with John McKeown from Glasgow in charge.



Mull racer gears up for strong finish

CRAIG Rutherford from Fionnphort, Mull, is still in the running for this year's Scottish Junior Championship after winning his class at the Gleaner Oil and Gas Speyside Stages on Saturday. The 18 year old finished first in class in his Vauxhall Nova and 37th overall out of 112 drivers.

Graham tames Tobermory course

Golf

NOT only did Graham Davidson win this year's MacBrayne Cup at Tobermory Golf Club, he set a new course record by becoming the first player to make par.

Graham, the club champion and captain, played with overnight leader and past winner David Brown on the second and final day of competition on Sunday when he carded his 64.

This was the first year the competition has been sponsored by Belhaven Brewers, and there is no doubt that the injection of new prize money from Belhaven, plus the enthusiasm of the club's

committee in publicising the event, contributed to the best turnout for years, with golfers finding their way to Mull from all points of the compass.

Overnight leaders in the handicap competition, the William McAllister Trophy, John MacPhail and Tom Nunn eventually had to give best to past winner Donald 'Dods' MacLean, whose second-day 61 fairly set the heater on fire and saw him deservedly lift the cup.

Tom Nunn won the prize for best 18 on handicap for his first-day 61.

Cruachan team's adventure race

Adventure racing

A TEAM of four people from the west Highlands will represent the area in the Adventure Race World Championship this year, the Portugal XPD Race.

Team Cruachan is entering the race, from November 30 - December 4.

The course sees teams race through the most difficult terrain any way possible and will have to run, trek, swim, kayak, climb, abseil and

even roller blade to get to the various checkpoints.

The team will consist Lizzie Rose, Philip Price, Dan Gates and Joe Faulkner. Lizzie said: 'We'll need to make as many checkpoints as time allows, so there won't be much time to sleep.'

The team is seeking a sponsor and can be contacted through teamcruachan.co.uk

Kintyre's golden boy wins another prize

Athletics

TWENTY year-old Matthew Turner from Campbeltown has gained gold medal success at the Scottish Under-23 Track and Field Championships held at Grangemouth last Sunday.

The Kintyre athlete was unable to train on the track most of last winter due to a foot injury and is only now getting back to full fitness after a busy schedule on the Highland Games circuit in July.

Matthew comfortably won the 800 metres in a tactical race in one minute 54.4 seconds, taking the lead

40 metres from the line to win ahead of Gary Smith of Falkirk Victoria Harriers and Gary Grieve of Law & District AC. Matthew won his first Scottish title back in 2004 winning the Schools Indoor 800 metres in the under-16 age group and since then has gone on to be Scottish 800 metres champion in both the Under-17 and Under-20 age groups. Matthew is now a student at Strathclyde University and is a member of Glasgow club Shettleston Harriers.



Matthew Turner won the 800 metres at the Under-23 Track and Field Championships.



Taynuilt top three in open competition

Golf

THE TOP three places in the handicap competition at this year's Taynuilt Golf Club Gents Open went to local golfers.

The open took place over the Taynuilt course last Sunday, with Rob Graham taking the Handicap Trophy with a score of 57 (13). Second and third places were

in 3rd place with a 68.

Rob Graham was also the winner of the Seniors (50 and over) Trophy. The Longest Drive at the 1st/10th was won by Graham MacColl (Glencruitten), the Nearest the Pin at the 2nd/11th by Alan Hill (Dalmally) and at the 8th/17th by Iain MacCalman (Clobber).

Good turnout contests William Hay Trophy at Oban Bowling Club

THERE was a good turnout on the Oban Bowling Club green on Saturday.

Despite the rain, the William Hay Trophy was

declared as success, as 50 bowlers took part. The eventual winners, Neal MacDougal from Oban and Tom Robertson from Mintlaw, defeated Margaret and Duncan MacAlpine in an entertaining final.

Lochgilphead Open attracts Argyll golfers

Golf

THE GOOD weather gods smiled on Lochgilphead Golf course on Sunday for Lochgilphead Golf Club's annual Ladies Open competition.

Competitors travelled from Arran, Tarbert, Taynuilt, Dalmally and Oban to play with local members.

With the sun shining and the course in excellent condition, it was surprising that only one person played to her handicap and she, Kathleen Young of Lochgilphead, deservedly won the Open Trophy with 36 Stableford points.

Glencruitten's Diane Colewell was second with 32 points and Norma Ross from Lochgilphead was third with 30 points (BIH).

Diane Colewell also won the over-50s senior trophy and the beautiful crystal Scratch trophy was won by youngster Lucy McNulty from Dalmally with a score of 72. Second was Ruth Ross from Glencruitten.