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& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 7956

Thursday, August 20, 2009

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WHISKY WEEK 09



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Ferry crew rescues yacht

A BOAT which broke its mooring in West Loch Tarbert and began drifting out to sea was rescued by the crew of the Caledonian MacBrayne's Islay ferry.

The small yacht 'Breeze' broke free during stormy weather on Saturday night and was found bobbing in the sea on Sunday morning.

But as the boat's owners, Jane and Angus Stewart, began hunting for their precious 14ft yacht, the crew of the 'Isle of Arran' were towing it safely back to Kennacraig.

The ferry was on route to Islay at 9am when it was alerted by the coastguard to the straying boat.

Skipper Roddy MacLeod and his crew then deployed the fast rescue craft (FRC) to bring the boat to safety.

Susan Robb, port assistant at Kennacraig, said: 'The crew of the Isle of Arran really went above the call of duty. They were heading to Islay, so it put the ferry back by around an hour, but we were happy to play a part in the rescue of the boat.'

The stricken boat's owner, Jane, said: 'My husband had checked the boat late on Saturday night and although it was pretty stormy it seemed fine.'

'We are so grateful to the crew and everyone involved in rescuing our boat.'

Pipe band in top form

INVERARAY Pipe Band is literally on top of the world after winning the Grade 2 section of the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow.

• Full story page 13.



Robert Kennedy, seated next to mum Maisie, big brother Daniel and dad Stevie is back home after surgery for a rare tumour. 06_a34kenn01

Choking on apple saves life of three-year-old boy

CHOKING on an apple has saved the life of a three-year-old boy.

Robert Kennedy, from Kilmartin near Lochgilphead, was rushed to the Mid Argyll Hospital and then transferred to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley before finally being referred to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Yorkhill, Glasgow after swallowing a piece of

the fruit. The tiny tot began coughing up blood after choking on the apple, but tests revealed Robert had a rare tumour growing in his windpipe.

For more than a year Robert had staff at the Mid Argyll Hospital and his parents, Maisie and Stevie, baffled by a persistent cough.

But now Robert is back home playing with his toys after undergoing

surgery to remove the growth.

Robert was diagnosed with an inflammatory myofibroblastic tumour which was removed using a laser to burn it from his throat.

Fortunate

Yorkhill surgeon Haythum Kubba, who carried out the operation along with cardiothoracic surgeon Mark Danton, said: 'We were fortunate the

tumour was quite small. Had we not spotted it at this early stage it might have grown undetected and could have killed Robert. Choking on the apple turned out to be a stroke of good fortune for him.'

Maisie said: 'We've been told that it's highly unlikely the tumour will return. We are so grateful to the surgeons involved.'

Drugs courier mum of five jailed for a year

AN OBAN woman who acted as a courier for an underground Glasgow gang has been sentenced to 12 months in prison.

Donna Duffy, aged 34, of 2 McDougall Court, admitted concealing almost £4,000 worth of drugs during a train

journey between Glasgow and Oban on May 8 and 9 - and a being involved in supplying diamorphine.

Oban Sheriff Court heard defence lawyer Duncan Durbin claim that Duffy was in debt by £1,000 to drug dealers in Glasgow, who had

already assaulted her, when they came up with a plan to rid her of her debt.

Searched

But the mother of five did not know that police were aware of her dealings. Officers boarded the train at Taynuilt before she reached

Oban and searched her.

Officers were unable to find any drugs on her, so Duffy was subjected to a medical examination by a police surgeon whereupon the drugs were found concealed inside her.

Sentencing her to 12

months' imprisonment, Sheriff Douglas Small told Duffy: 'You are what we call a drug's mule - carrying drugs into Oban.'

'This court has made it perfectly clear that people who deal in drugs can expect a custodial sentence.'

Rain causes 18 road crashes in week

HEAVY rain turned north Argyll into an accident blackspot last week with six people injured in a total of 18 road traffic accidents.

Six road crashes in North Argyll at the weekend alone followed 12 crashes the preceding week. Two of the injured people required helicopter airlifts to Glasgow's Southern General Hospital.

This week police are urging drivers to take care on the roads after the spate of accidents which they say were caused by the heavy rain.

Last Saturday a road crash at Loch Awe involving four cars resulted in a 21-year-old woman from Dunkeld being flown to the Southern General by the emergency medical retrieval service (EMRS).

Two men, who were travelling in the Renault Clio car with the woman, escaped with minor injuries. One person has been reported to the procurator fiscal following the incident.

The traffic tailback on the east side of Lochawe reached as far back as Dalmally.

The previous day the EMRS flew to Cladich on the A819, four miles south

of Dalmally, to help another female Clio driver suffering from head, neck and back injuries after her car had left the road.

In both cases the road was closed for up to an hour for the helicopter to land.

A 32-year-old woman and her 13-year-old daughter were taken to Lorn and Islands Hospital with minor injuries after their car left the road at Pennyfuir, near Oban, last Friday and rolled down the embankment.

The A85 was closed in both directions for a short time.

Another driver crashed at the notorious Muckairn corner, near Taynuilt, over the weekend after losing control on the slippery road surface. The 30-year-old male driver was not injured.

A spokesman for Oban Police said drivers should take care.

He said: 'What is happening is that if there's heavy rain after a long dry spell then an emulsion is formed on the surface of the road which then becomes extremely slippery and results in the type of incident we have seen this week with vehicles skidding and leaving the carriageway.'

'We would advise drivers to take great care in these types of conditions.'

MacGillivray's ~ Seafood ~

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Full of Life!

IN A COUP for the newest magazine from *The Oban Times* - Mull and Iona Life has managed to get world famous artist Jolomo between its pages.

The bi-monthly island-interest magazine asked John Lowrie Morrison (Jolomo) to paint a picture for readers. One of Scotland's leading contemporary landscape colourists, he agreed to paint a view of the islands for a competition.

Louise Lee of Mull and Iona Life said: 'For a wee magazine costing 55p we have got bags of ambition.'

For a chance of winning the picture readers must collect three tokens over the next few editions. Copies can be purchased from outlets on Mull and through *The Oban Times* offices on 01631 568000.

'Balcony push' man in court



A police officer guards the entrance to the Combie Street flat. 07_l34com01

AN OBAN man who allegedly pushed another man off a balcony in Combie Street, Oban, has appeared at Oban Sheriff Court.

Daniel Rudd Guy, aged 35, was charged with assaulting a 20-year-old man to danger of life in the early hours of last Thursday morning by pushing him from the balcony, 20 feet above the ground.

The man was taken to Lorn and Islands District General Hospital in the town for treatment.

The block of flats where the incident is alleged to have taken place was cordoned off on Friday morning and manned by police officers while CID officers carried out their investigation.

In court on Monday, Guy made no plea or declaration and was released on bail.

GLENLOCH VIEW

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Beachd Ailein

Nach iongantach gur ann cha mhòr air an latha a bha Co-Chomhairleachadh air Dreachd Bhìle Ath-Leasachadh Croitearachd (Alba) gu bhith a' crìochnachadh a nochd am fiosrachadh ann an aithisg bho Riaghaltas Lunnainn mun chunnart a tha romhainn a thaobh gainnead bidh ri linn blàthachadh na cruinne.

A-rèir na h-aithisg bidh naodh bìlleann sluaigh air an t-saoghal mun bhliadhna 2050, agus iarraidh sin seachdadh sa cheud a bharrachd de bhìad. Aig an aon àm tha ùghdair na h-aithisg a' rabhadh gum bi tiormachd, àrdachadh mara a' cur barrachd talaimh fo uisge, agus tinneasann sprèidh a' bagairt leasachadh toraidh àiteachais.

Ann an ro-ràdh na h-aithisg thuir Rùnaire na h-Arainneachd Hilary Benn gum faodadh Breatann mòran a chur ri tèarainteachd stòras bidh an t-saoghail le ìre toraidh àrdachadh agus talamh bàn a chur gu feum. Tha seo glè choltach ris an sèorsa teachdaireachd a bha an dùthaich a' faotainn aig àm a' Chìad 's an Dàrna Cogaidh, ged is e an sgrìob uabhasach a bha na bàtaichean-aigeinn a' dèanamh a' cur fodha shoitichean bathair a bha a' cur stòras bidh na dùthcha an cunnart aig na h-amannan sin.

Fìu 's aig àm an dàrna cogaidh cha robh croitearan air an uidheamachadh gus mòran a chur ri stòras bidh Bhreatainn seach na rinn iad gus iad fhèin a bhithadh, ach an diugh dh' fhaodadh an uidheamachadh sin a bhith gu math eadar-dhealichte. Tha sgilean a-measg chroitearan, agus tha uidheamachd de gach sèorsa ann a-nise a tha a' ciallachadh gun gabh obair cur air adhart gu soirbheachail air croitean beaga agus cuideachd air monaidhean is machraichean cùl-cinn. Agus tha talamh ann, na mìltean de dh' acraichean talmhainn gun cha mhòr creutair orra, agus tha cothrom beòshlaint agus leasachaidh an sin!

Ach nam biodh leithid sin dol a thachairt dh' fheumadh Riaghaltas na h-Alba sealltainn romhpa mar nach eil iad air a' bhith a' dèanamh fhathast a thaobh croitearachd, agus feumaidh iad luach nan coimhearsnachd sin a thuigsinn ceart agus am misneachadh a dh' ionnsaigh adhartais. Tha ceistean eile ann cuideachd, leithid ath-ghluilachd ginteil bidh, a dh' fheumar a sgrùdadh as ùr mu choinneimh an t-saoghail romhainn, agus feumaidh luchd poiliteigs uile cuimhneachadh gum bheil an cuid dleastanais dha cor an t-sluaigh nas treasa na feallsanachd poiliteigeach sam bith!

Publication of the Westminster government's report on threats to future food security could not have been better timed from the perspective of crofters.

The projected requirement for a 70 per cent increase in production by 2050, coupled with challenges of drought, rising seas, and animal disease, should all emphasise the potential contribution which crofters could be making to UK food stocks.

Crofters have skills and experience, and there are millions of acres of moorland with little or no stock on them. What is now required are incentives from Scottish government to encourage and motivate crofters to develop their output, and assistance for their unique produce to be marketed in a way that will make it less vulnerable to world market forces.

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

Apprentice appointed to look after Uist machair

FOR the first time the fragile machair ecosystem in the Uists has a full-time worker to ensure its protection.

Kieren Jones has been appointed 'machair apprentice', a 15-month position created by the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) under its Natural Talent scheme to encourage young people to become skilled in different aspects of rural conservation.

Mr Jones, aged 24 and originally

from Larbert, will be primarily working with crofters to encourage and help them join good practice schemes to protect the biodiversity of pastures on the island's western seaboard.

The machair of the Outer Hebrides is a habitat now almost unique in Europe and depends on traditional crofting methods to help maintain conditions suitable for its rich flora and fauna.

Kieren readily admits that his first few weeks will be a steep learning curve with local experts to become fully acquainted with the machair habitat and its management by crofters.

He said: 'The work will be very varied. Before the summer finishes, I'll be giving machair walks to the public and undertaking various surveys such as looking at cutting dates which are vital to the survival

of birds like the corncrake.

'I'll be visiting crofters at home to see if they're interested in taking up schemes like the corncrake management scheme and the RSPB's arable stack scheme to encourage corn bunting.'

'Discussing things like cutting dates will be very much a two-way process with crofters. Without them, the machair would just be barren. This job is very much hand

in hand with RSPB, and if crofters are interested in the conservation schemes we'll go out and do the surveys, type up the reports and help them get the grants.'

John McFarlane of BTCV said: 'Kieren has risen through the ranks of BTCV, starting as a volunteer, and we have every confidence that he will champion the cause of protecting and enhancing the machair on the Uists.'

Lifeboat rescues yacht

PORTREE RNLI Lifeboat was called out on Monday morning just after 9am to assist the yacht Caol no Mara, registered in Ullapool, adrift in the Sound of Raasay.

Coxswain David Urquhart said: 'This was a routine call to a yacht with engine problems and requested a tow into Portree Harbour.'

The yacht, with two people on board, was taken on tow to Portree Harbour and secured to the pontoon for repair. Those on board thanked the RNLI Portree crew for their swift assistance.

The weather at the time was force 3/4 southwesterly and the sea state was moderate to rough.

• Do you have a story? Call The Oban Times on 01631-568000

Poisoned pup saved by South Uist vet is show winner



Cyber with her owner Linda Goold at the North Uist Show.

Curious pet recovers to win at North Uist Show

A CUTE husky beat stiff opposition paws-down to win best-looking dog at the North Uist show – but only after a dramatic race to save its life a year earlier.

Dr John Goold and his wife Linda from Collieston, Aberdeenshire holiday every year on North Uist, bringing their family pets with them. Last year they brought their new dog, Cyber the Husky, at that time only a few weeks old.

And one evening, being a curious pup, Cyber found her way into an old cupboard. Dr Goold said: 'I noticed the cupboard door was open and when I went to shut it I saw her in there troughing away on blue pellets. I had a very bad feeling about it. We both thought it was rat poison.'

The Goolds managed to get the number of the Southern Isles Veterinary practice in South Uist. Mrs

Goold said: 'The surgery said if we could get there within the hour they would get one of the partners to come out. The vet was Geert Donkers. He was in the middle of taking his kids to band practice, but he rushed out to meet us with the kids in the back of his van. If he hadn't dropped everything to come over, the poison would have absorbed into her system and she would have had a terrible death from internal bleeding.'

'He gave her an injection to make her vomit, and then later Vitamin K which is the antidote to the warfarin in rat poison, and she made a full recovery.'

Mrs Goold added: 'We brought Cyber back this year, and now she's a prize-winner at the show. We just want to say a heartfelt thank you to Geert as without his dedication she would not be here.'

Skye police urge support to combat poaching gangs

POLICE in Skye are patrolling rivers after being tipped off that salmon poaching gangs were busy on the island.

Reports suggest criminals are focusing on the Snizort, Staffin and Lealt and have already netted fish.

Chairman of the Skye District Salmon Fisheries board, Peter Kinloch, said:

'This is a crucial period of time in the salmon breeding cycle and the consequences of the salmon not making it to their spawning beds will have a disastrous effect on the already fragile salmon population. This could have a knock-on effect on the local economy which benefits from several million pounds generated

from the salmon fishing and associated tourism.'

Police urge members of the public to report any suspicious activity and vehicles to their local police station. Detective constable Jamie Stewart said:

'Net fishing for salmon on rivers and buying or selling of illegally caught salmon is an offence and anyone caught

committing these offences will be arrested. Their equipment and vehicles will be seized and if convicted can face up to three months in prison and large fines.'

Portree Police Station number is 01478 612888 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Flares off Lismore spark lifeboat search

OBAN lifeboat was again called out after reports of flares being fired on the Argyll coast.

The Mora Edith MacDonald launched just before midnight on Thursday, August 13 in answer to reports of red flares in the Port Ramsay area of the Island of Lismore.

A spokesman for Oban Lifeboat Station said that despite a thorough search of the area and a circumnavigation of the island nothing was found. The lifeboat returned to station at 1.45am.

RWE npower renewables



Raera Wind Farm Public Exhibition Dates

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008

Notice of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) to be published under regulation 7(2)

RWE Npower Renewables Ltd hereby gives notice of a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) to be undertaken in advance of the submission of a planning application to Argyll and Bute Council for a prospective development comprising a wind farm of up to 23 turbines at Raera Forest, 8km south of Oban, Argyll and Bute.

Public exhibitions will be held at :

Kilmelford Village Hall on Friday 28 August 2-8pm and Saturday 29 August from 10am-4pm.

Seil Island Village Hall, Seil, on Tuesday 8 September from 2-8pm.

The public exhibition will include information boards showing the prospective development, details of environmental studies undertaken to date and photomontages and will offer people the opportunity to speak to both the developer and environmental consultants.

Any persons wishing to submit comments can do so either in writing or by e-mail to: Raera Wind Farm, RWE Npower Renewables Ltd, North Range East Lodge, Mill Road, Stanley Mills, Perthshire PH11 4QE Email: Raera@npower-renewables.com Tel: 01738 825110

The closing date for submission of comments is by 30th September 2009.

Persons submitting comments in response to Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) are advised that comments submitted to RWE Npower Renewables Ltd at this time are not representations to the planning authority; in the event that RWE Npower Renewables Ltd submits a formal application for planning permission then there would be an opportunity to submit representations to Argyll and Bute Council as the planning authority at that time.

For further information E-mail raera@npower-renewables.com Website www.npower-renewables.com/raera

International clan representatives pictured at the Maclaine of Lochbuie clan dinner on Mull, from left: Peter Maclaine (Sweden), John MacDonald (Dubai), Mike Maclaine (Czech Republic) Angus Maclaine of Lochbuie the Younger (London), Lorne Maclaine of Lochbuie (South Africa), Bob Cassie (Dubai), and Ronnie Bambray (Linlithgow).



Clan Maclaine gathers on Mull

THE CLAN Maclaine of Lochbuie held its first gathering of the 21st century on Mull at Lochbuie between July 27-29.

The gathering's first event was a clan dinner at the Isle of Mull Hotel, Craignure, attended by 60 people, followed by the main gathering at Lochbuie the next day.

On the final day, the two youngest grandchildren of the clan chief, Lorne Maclaine, were christened at St Kilda's Church, Lochbuie, before the clan moved on to Iona. Clansmen and clanwomen from across five continents attended, as did representatives of the principle clan septs – namely Macfadyen and MacCormack.

A few days earlier, the Maclaine contingent, led by the Red Rose of Lochbuie Pipe Band from the Netherlands, had taken part in the gathering march from Holyrood Park to Edinburgh Castle.

Three-day emigration conference for Harris

EMIGRATION is the theme of a major conference to be held next month in Harris.

Hosted by the Islands Book Trust and supported by Homecoming Scotland, the three-day conference, from Thursday September 10 to Saturday September 12, will bring together speakers and delegates from around the world to share their knowledge of emigration from the Outer Hebrides.

Keynote address
Professor Tom Devine of Edinburgh University will give the keynote address and there will be talks from top speakers on emigration to the mainland, Canada, Australia and the US, and also emigration from the west of Ireland.

Scottish government culture minister Michael Russell will give the closing address.

The conference will be based in Leverburgh, but there will also be sessions in Rodel and Northton.

Local people, particularly those with family experience of emigration, are urged to join delegates from near and far to take part in the conference.

Counselling Skills Course 1 (COSCA validated)

Lochaber
12 week course:
Classes start on Tuesday 15 September 2009 at the Nevis Centre Fort William from 10 to 12.30

Isle of Skye
11 week course:
Classes start on Wednesday 16 September at An Tuirrean, Portree from 6 to 9 pm

This programme of courses will help you:

- Develop good interpersonal and communication skills
- Learn to support and empower others
- Gain reflection and self awareness
- Develop counselling and knowledge

The course is a starting point to train as a counsellor or psychotherapist or simply to develop advanced communication skills. You can study part time and use your ILA to part fund the course – a fee waiver may be available. The only entry qualification is an interest in counselling.

For further information contact:
Telephone: Barbara Foad on (01224) 272445
Email: counselling@abdn.ac.uk
Visit: www.abdn.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/courses



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Argyll house prices buck the trend

THE NUMBER of homes sold in Argyll and Bute between April and June this year was nearly half that of the same quarter last year.

However, the average house price fell by just 0.6 per cent from £145,364 to £144,487, a marginal decrease compared to other parts of the West Highlands.

A total of 261 homes were sold in Argyll and Bute compared to 489 in the same period last year.

The value of sales for the second quarter in the year in Argyll and Bute was £37.7 million, an increase on the first quarter of this year, when the figure was £28 million.

In the Western Isles, the number of properties sold in April to June fell from 98 in the same period last year to just 54 but the average house price also fell from £101,916 to £87,772.

The value of sales in the second quarter of this year in the Western Isles fell to £4.7 million from £9.9 million in April-June 2008.

In the rest of the Highlands, sales fell by 39.6 per cent from 1,207 to 729, the average house price fell from £160,583 to £152,226 and value of sales fell from £193.8 million to £110.9 million.

The volume of sales decreased across Scotland by 47.8 per cent compared to the same quarter last year; and the average house price went down by 6.5 per cent to £145,553.

Lifeboat rescues diver

OBAN lifeboat was called out last Saturday to a diver suspected of having the 'bends'.

Around 6.30pm the lifeboat was launched to Loch Aline where the diver was picked up and taken to the re-compression chamber at Dunstaffnage Marine Laboratory for treatment.

The lifeboat was also called out last Thursday just before midnight after reports of red flares in the Port Ramsay area of Lismore.

However, after an extensive search of the area, nothing was found and the lifeboat returned to its berth at 1.45am.

Spitfire among Islay show stars

ICONIC aircraft will be on show on Islay this Saturday for the 12th annual air show and open day at the island's airport.

Among the line-up will be a Spitfire, a YAK 52, a Messerschmitt and a World War I bi-plane.

Visitors will also be able to see a aerobatic displays and the Strathallan Parachute Display Team.

Proceeds from the event will go towards the Islay Museum of Life.

Man accused of serious sexual assault

A 54-YEAR-old man has been accused of a serious sexual assault against a 21-year-old Oban woman.

The alleged incident occurred at an address in McCaig Road, Oban on August 7.

Appeal over attempted break-in

POLICE are seeking witnesses to a suspected attempted break-in at The Studio, Port Appin, between 8am on August 7 and 9am on August 13.

No items were taken from the house.

Beauty of Arrochar woodland 'under threat by holiday chalets'

A HISTORIC Argyll woodland, once admired by Sir Walter Scott, is under threat from building and development, according to the family which once owned it.

Arrochar near Arrochar was owned for 500 years by the Campbells of Strachur.

In the late 19th century it was sold as an amenity for the people of Glasgow and the land is now part of the Scotland's only national park.

Now David Campbell of Barbreck House is so concerned that the mature parkland nurtured by his family is being lost that he has written to the National Parks Authority, demanding it takes steps to protect it.

He said: 'This attractive strip of 18th century parkland sticking out into Loch Long was greatly admired by Sir Walter Scott who stayed at Arrochar regularly in the early 19th century and has I suspect given pleasure to many visitors to Argyll.'

Mr Campbell said he was not against sensitive use of the site, for example building in the shelter of the trees to preserve the dramatic views of the loch and mountains.

Timber But planning permission was given last year by both Argyll and Bute Council and the parks authority for 28 new timber holiday chalets on the land jutting out into the loch.

Arrochar has long been a holiday destination, with the old Ardgartan House serving as a youth hostel until 2002 and a caravan park.

Gordon Watson, in charge of planning and rural development for the National Parks Authority, responded that the recent addition of wooden lodges complemented the caravan park. In a letter to Mr Campbell, he stated: 'The holiday lodges are seen as introducing high standard holiday accommodation within this existing holiday site and a positive contribution to the local tourism economy.'

'Significant efforts went into the careful siting of the lodges and the design of landscape treatments in order to enhance the setting.'

Vandalism shames Oban



A council worker takes away one of the vandalised benches. 16_t34bench01

Three new benches are destroyed within days

By DAVID WALKER

THREE benches placed in Oban town centre by a group formed to promote Oban as an attractive destination have been vandalised just days after being put on the street.

The benches were among ten placed in George Street, Oban by the Oban Forward group, set up by local businessmen and councillors to ensure the town is a 'smart, successful place to visit and do business'.

Another collapsed under the weight of too many people - leaving just six of the original ten benches.

The seats are part of an initial push by the group to improve the fabric and appearance of the town and were paid for out of £10,000 it raised itself and a further £3,000 grant from Argyll and Bute Council's Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee.

The group plans to spend around £20,000 on Oban town centre erecting bunting and penants, improving lighting and signage at McCaig's Tower and erecting new flagpoles and flags and hanging baskets.

Group member councillor Neil MacKay said that he was very disappointed, especially as the money had come from local companies, personal donations and public grants.

Mr MacKay said: 'The group has done a lot of work to advance the town, and the benches were part of that. Anything that detracts from that, especially vandalism, is very disappointing. In the present economic climate we are very grateful for the donations we received.'

Mr MacKay said the benches had not been secured to the pavement, as the group were trying to find the 'perfect' position for them.

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'The benches were sourced, purchased and placed around the town centre by the Oban Forward group.'

'We understand that consideration was given to securing these benches, but it was agreed to trial various locations first before going forward and permanently fixing them. Securing them, of course, would sadly not have prevented this act of mindless vandalism.'

Inspector Neil Wallace of Oban Police said that police enquiries into the matter were continuing.

He said: 'This is something that we will certainly be keeping an eye on. If anyone saw anything suspicious please inform us.'

Fisherman fined over threat

AN OBAN fisherman who admitting committing a breach of the peace while on bail has been fined £450.

Anthony McAllister, aged 18, of Room 8, Kerrera Lodge, Oban was on a day off on February 3 when he approached a man in Tesco's car park. McAllister alleged that the man had threatened his friend.

Procurator fiscal Craig Harris told Oban Sheriff Court: 'The accused followed the victim to the entrance of the supermarket and threatened to kill him if he approached his friend again. It was witnessed by a number of people who were going about their everyday business.'

Defence agent David Watt said that McAllister had drunk too much. 'The victim had allegedly made threats against McAllister's friend who lived in the same block of flats. McAllister intervened to stop the threats.'

Pole in Oban Bay is a 'hazard' to boats

A POLE marking a Scottish Water outfall pipe in Oban Bay has been condemned as a hazard to boats.

The pole near the mouth of the Black Lynn Burn has been sitting at an angle for the last few months after being struck by a boat - unfortunately this means it is no longer visible when the tide is in but is not far under the surface.

Visiting sailor Dave Allison told *The Oban Times* he had watched a small dinghy just miss the spot where it lurks under the water during West Yachting Highland Week.

'A rubber dinghy with three people in it just missed it and they didn't even know it was there,' he said.

'It needs a buoy on it to mark it otherwise you are going to have deaths in Oban harbour,' he added.

He said that he had brought it to the attention of the authorities but claimed they had not been interested as 'everyone knew it was there'.

Mr Allison, from Muir of Ord, pointed out that he had not known it was there when he started sailing out of Kerrera regularly earlier this year but had spotted it at low tide.

'Yes, the local sea cruise ships and fishermen know about it but you have many tourists sailing in and out of the harbour.'

A spokesman for Scottish Water said on Monday this week: 'The pole, which marks where there is an outfall, has been damaged.'

'We will remove it within the next few days and carry out further investigations.'



The offending pole which it is maintained is a hazard to boats. 15_t34spike01

Drug dealer jailed for nine months

AN OBAN drug dealer who has come to the 'end of the line' will spend the next nine months in jail.

Martin McLeod, aged 27, of 4 Royal Bank Buildings, admitted being concerned in the supply of diamorphine, a Class A drug, after police searched his house on April 28 of this year.

Oban Sheriff Court heard that during the raid police found drugs with a street value of up to £600 and £390 in cash.

Defence agent David Watt said: 'Mr McLeod is a drug addict. His family have made available a substantial sum of money to allow him to undertake a five-day detox programme in England.'

'I hope the court will let McLeod undertake this programme and then allow him to come back to the court to find out if he has complied or not.'

Sheriff Douglas Small told McLeod: 'It is perfectly clear you can expect to receive a custodial sentence if you are involved in drugs in the town.'

'You have had every form of support from the court to help you with your drug habit. We have reached the end of the line.'

Oldest eagle found dead

THE UK's oldest known wild golden eagle has been found dead on the Isle of Jura.

However, experts have taken heart from the bird's longevity, having died at the age of 22 - the oldest wild golden eagle ever recorded.

RSPB Scotland's Roger Broad said: 'By the time we got to the eagle, it was too far gone to do a post mortem, but there are no records of bird of prey persecution on Jura.'



Schoolmistress Freda MacGregor kept the youngsters in check at the Appin Historical Society's old schoolhouse. 08_t33app06

'Back to school' for history lesson

WITH the new school term approaching, youngsters at Appin Show had a flavour of the schoolhouse of the past.

Appin Historical Society brought the lessons, games, craft and costumes of the past to life,

under the watchful eye of Freda MacGregor, former teacher on the Isle of Lismore.

They created a 19th century schoolroom in the showfield, providing welcome shelter from the rain for the pupils enrolled for the day and their watching parents. Despite the laughs, the students will be glad they are returning to the comforts of 21st century classrooms this week rather than the hard benches of old Highland school.

Oban man frightened his ex-girlfriend

AN OBAN man who committed a breach of the peace has been told to be of good behaviour after frightening his ex-girlfriend.

Anthony Howlett, aged 38, of 10 Sinclair Drive admitted disorderly conduct and a breach of the peace on June 18 at Longdale Terrace, Oban.

Procurator fiscal Craig Harris told Oban Sheriff Court: 'When his ex-girlfriend arrived home the accused was waiting and shouted at her demanding the return of his belongings.'

'The woman was frightened for her safety.' Defence agent Edward Thornton said: 'Mr Howlett was deeply distressed by the break-up of his relationship with his partner - which happened a few months prior to this incident.'

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'It seems to me that there are mitigating factors in this situation. I am going to defer sentence for 12 months for you to be of good behaviour.'

business gateway

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Christopher is twenty-three. He's an alcoholic and for the past few years hasn't had much luck in life. He used to be happy, no trouble to anyone, **but** then his parents died. That **is** when **he** started to go off the rails. He was seen harassing an **innocent** woman when he was drunk. He didn't harm her and he felt **guilty** afterwards. When he discovered that she claimed he took her bag, he denied it. It's her story against his. You could fine him, give him a sentence **or** let him go. But then he may harm **someone** next time, **who** knows? We do know it **needs** a decision. Your task is to use your judgement to **help**. It's Christopher's future on the line. Can you decide which way it should go?

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Closing date for applications is 30th October 2009.

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Dental practice officially opened

MP CHARLES Kennedy officially opened one of Scotland's biggest dental practices in Fort William on Friday.

M&S Dental Care moved from its High Street base last month to custom-built premises in Nevis Place next to Lochaber Leisure Centre.

The new eight-dentist centre, which includes an equipment sterilisation unit to prevent cross contamination, will handle both NHS and private patients in 10 state-of-the-art surgeries.

The new dental centre will transform dental waiting times, taking Lochaber from one of Scotland's worst areas to one of the best, M&S partner Gregor Muir told *The Oban Times*.

NHS waiting lists will be eliminated at the practice, which also provides private dental care, Mr Muir said.

Newsdesk
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Capital show! The cast of Lochaber Onstage! assembles outside the Greenside Church venue just before taking the stage for their final performance.

Lochaber Onstage! wow Edinburgh Fringe

AROUND 30 young actors and singers are back in Lochaber this week after wowing audiences at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Lochaber Onstage! took their production of *Burke and Hare - A Musical Play* to the capital for its world premiere in a five-day run at Greenside Church, just off Leith Walk, winning wide critical acclaim.

The show, written and produced by Lochaber High School teacher George Young, sold out for all five performances.

The cast and support crew gathered in the sun for a capital photocall for *The Oban Times* before Saturday evening's final performance.

After the final cheers had died down, George told *The Oban Times* the week had been 'an excellent all round experience' for the children.

'It was a chance for them to perform and a chance to be the audience as well, because we took them to all kinds of shows that were on at the fringe,' he said. 'It been a very exciting week and one which will stay with them for the

rest of their lives. They were all very tearful at the end of their performance on the final night. We got five stars in the fringe review and two stars from the Scotsman critic, who is notorious as a hard man to please, but even being reviewed by a 'grown up' paper, that's the most important thing.'

George and fellow Lochaber High School teacher Iain Welsh are co-writing another play for Lochaber Onstage! based on the life of Mary Queen of Scots, which they aim to premiere at The Fringe in 2011.

Road closure plan hits wrong note with Mod

By STEPHEN NORRIS

TRANSPORT Scotland (TS) has admitted it was unaware of the upcoming Royal National Mod in Oban when drawing up plans to close the A82 at Fort William.

The news has staggered local politicians already furious at the prospect of having the A82 closed overnight for three weeks for major repairs.

As exclusively reported in *The Oban Times* last week, TS plan to shut the A82 overnight for resurfacing and carriageway repair work on a 3km stretch from Seafield Gardens on Achintore Road south to Heron Bay.

Transport Scotland says contractors Scotland TransServ only found about the Mod at a meeting with Highland Council members and officials on Tuesday morning and no mention of the Mod was made when TransServ requested local authorities to provide updates for its local events diary on August 7. TransServ uses the diary to help it schedule major roadworks to minimise traffic disruption.

TS proposed closing the road from 8pm to 6.30am, except Friday and Saturday, with work starting on September 27. Highland Council say that is unacceptable and want work pushed back to October 26 and an overnight closure of 10pm to 6am. Early indications suggest the 10pm start is possible.

Councillor Donald Cameron told *The Oban Times* a road closure during the Mod would mean horrendous problems for thousands of people from the islands expected to attend the October 9 to 17 event.

He said: 'The Royal National Mod is one of the flagship events for the Scottish Government in the Year of Homecoming.'

'Transport Scotland are acting on behalf on the government yet they plan to close the road at that time. More worryingly is that on their official calendar of events that they take into account when they come to time road closures is that they had no idea the Royal National Mod was on.'

'You will have people coming from Lewis

and Harris across on the ferry to Uig on Skye, who instead of going to Invergarry and Spean Bridge will have to divert via Dalwhinnie down to Perth and across to Crianlarich just to get to Oban.'

'Also, Oban is fully booked, so many people will consider staying in Fort William and driving up and down to Oban for the Mod - but that will be impossible now.'

Transport Scotland are really not grasping the economic impact of what they are planning.'

Councillor Bren Gormley said: 'Elected members are disappointed they have not heeded public opinion here in Fort William. Now is the time for the community to express its outrage at what the consequences of this closure will be if it goes ahead on September 27.'

Councillor Brian Murphy, chairman of the A82 Partnership, said: 'For Transport Scotland to even propose a closure starting at 8pm in September beggars belief and shows just how out of touch this organisation is with the Lochaber community.'

'The huge financial impact on our key industries of fish processing, tourism and transport have to be weighed against any additional costs arising from a solution which would negate the closure.'

Steve Bracken of Marine Harvest said: 'We question the legality of closing a trunk road for this length of time. Why can't a convoy system be put in place as was done recently at Onich?'

A Transport Scotland spokeswoman confirmed the timing was 'unacceptable' to the council and that Scotland Transerv had been asked to examine whether starting work in October was feasible.

She said: 'Once this assessment is complete, including investigations into the possible impact on the Mod, we will begin stakeholder consultations.'

'Advance information will include letter drops to all affected properties supplemented by newspaper and radio advertising.'

South Uist landowners fail to win over crofters on golf course

EXCLUSIVE By STEPHEN NORRIS
ATTEMPTS by community landowners Stòras Uibhist to win over crofters to accepting a new golf course on their grazings have stalled at the final hurdle, *The Oban Times* can reveal.

Ten out of eleven crofting shareholders on Askernish machair, South Uist, have already signed a management agreement with Stòras on reconciling Askernish Golf Club's controversial 18-hole course with grazing sheep and cattle.

But it has emerged the remaining crofter resolutely refuses to sign, because it is felt the agreement erodes

crofters' legal land rights. Ironically, the crofting family now holding out were strong supporters of the golf course - but Stòras' attempts to secure a signature appear only to have hardened resolve.

The Oban Times understands chief executive Huw Francis 'doorstepped' the household on two occasions, the second being last Thursday, to try to get the crofter to sign. Mr Francis 'did not give any ground at all' on key points and left without the signature, a crofting source said.

Sticking points included the absence of proper insurance safeguards in the agreement regarding

liability should a golfer be injured by livestock or livestock by flying golf balls. A second, that Askernish Golf Club pays a 50p ex-gratia payment per golfer green fee up to a maximum of £1,000 per annum, or £90 per crofter, was described as 'derisive'. That cash would not go to crofters, but to a proposed new body without any legal standing, the 'management liaison committee', say critics. Crofters stress Askernish grazings committee has jurisdiction over the machair under Scots law.

A proposal that a 'mediator' appointed by the Dean of the Faculty of Advocates should resolve any disputes was

also regarded with suspicion, seen as an attempt to bully crofters into remaining submissive on the grounds of cost.

Asked whether personal visits to the non-signing shareholder's home was the best way of procuring a signature, Mr Francis said: 'We have always maintained a dialogue with all the crofting shareholders on Askernish to reach an agreement that suits both parties and we will continue to do that.'

He added: 'It will be for the Scottish Land Court to decide what to do.'

Seven Askernish crofters contested a long and costly legal battle with Stòras to

decide if the golf course was permissible under crofting law. Scottish Land Court hearings had been scheduled at the Polochar Inn and Daliburgh Community Hall but the seven, facing massive legal costs if they lost, signed the agreement. Three more shareholders signed later.

The case has been sisted (suspended) until August 31.

Askernish Golf Club course opened last year with the promise of jobs for South Uist.

Built under a 1922 clause on the land title allowing golf on the machair, the course, crofters claimed, was imposed on them without consultation.

Tiree residents say lunch club closure is loss of a lifeline

A LIFELINE lunch club on Tiree has had its funding withdrawn at a week's notice.

But Argyll and Bute Council says it was never a lunch club but a day care service which has been transferred, along with the funding, to the residential care home Tigh-a-Rudha.

The club which met three times a week at the Argyll and Bute Council-owned resource centre in Crossapol was a lifeline to more than a dozen people scattered across the island.

Kathryn MacCallum whose mother attends the lunch club said the first anyone knew about it was when a senior member of the social work service, on the island for interviews, mentioned in passing its funding was being withdrawn.

'Then everyone received a

By MARIAN MILLER

letter saying it was closing within a week,' she said.

A public meeting was organised last week, attended by 30 islanders, where it was decided to write to the council and try to keep the club going on a Monday and Friday.

Club member Maureen McMullen, aged 61, who feels the isolation in Hynish of not being able to drive, said: 'I have been coming here about 10 years. It is a lifeline. Some days I don't even want to put my clothes on but this is something to get up for three days a week.'

'It isn't just a lunch club, it's the meeting with other people and the social aspect of it that's important.'

Transport, previously supplied by a care worker

using the council's Tigh-a-Rudha care home's mini bus, will have to be found from volunteers and the meals, originally supplied via the residential care home, will have to be made by volunteers too.

'No reason has been given as to why it has been cut,' added Maureen, pointing out that the members paid for their meals.

Three day care places have been offered at the care home but two residents from the care home also attended the lunch club.

Volunteer Margaret Goreman from Balephetrish, who does not drive, organises arts and crafts at the lunch club.

'I was quite upset. I am on my own quite a bit during the day and it gets me out. I think the club would be missed if we don't keep it going,' she said.

Kathryn said: 'We lost the social worker; they never replaced the community manager and now they want to withdraw funding from the lunch club.'

'We don't have a good public transport system, so it is difficult for people to meet and this is one place they can.'

A spokeswoman for the council said: 'This is a day care service registered with the Care Commission, rather than a lunch club. Following a recent review, it was found that only three of the people who attended actually required day care.'

'As the facilities which were being used were not ideal for these three individuals, the day care service has now been moved to Tigh-a-Rudha, with the Care Commission's approval.'

Kintyre tenants vote for transfer

TENANTS in Campbeltown and Tarbert have voted to transfer their tenancies to a local housing association.

Residents of ten houses at Pensioners Row in Campbeltown and 11 at John Smith Place in Tarbert

voted for the move after Margaret Blackwood Housing Association (MBHA) decided to pull out of Kintyre altogether.

Both developments include properties designed especially for disabled people.

Speaking at a handover ceremony last week Peter Mountford-Smith of MBHA said that as Kintyre was some distance from its other housing stock it had decided to concentrate its efforts in other areas.

He said: 'Fyne Homes have been involved in the discussions from an early stage and have made a compelling case to our tenants, who have voted overwhelmingly in favour of this transfer.'

Colin Renfrew, depute

director of Fyne Homes, said: 'Fyne Homes are delighted to have acquired these properties in Campbeltown and Tarbert.'

'We already have stock in both these areas and our locally based housing and maintenance staff, who work from the nearby Campbeltown and Lochgilphead offices, service them.'

'We aim to provide the tenants with a first class service and will be using, where possible, Argyll and Bute based contractors.'



John Logan with his cactus which he is entering into horticultural shows this month. 07_134ae01

John's cactus is ready to spike rivals' hopes

GARDENER John Logan has a shock in store for horticultural shows across Argyll - a 25-kilogram cactus, which he believes will take the top prizes.

John, who works at Dunlossit Estate on Islay, has been growing the cactus for five years but has only decided to show it for the first time this year.

John said: 'In my 30 years of

competing in shows I have never seen a cactus this big and this is the first time I have ever shown one.'

'I didn't expect it to grow so big this quickly and the pot it is in is starting to crack.'

Dry
'It needs to stay dry so I don't water it and it has to be kept covered up. That is why few people have seen it.'

John regularly donates money to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI) by whatever means he can and visitors to his garden donated a total of £60 to the charity.

He donated vegetables to the charity, which were sold for a further £160.

John's brother, Jim, donated a bag of peat, which was sold for £250 in aid of the RNLI.

Navy will hold nuclear accident response exercise

A ONE-day nuclear accident response exercise is to take place at HM Naval Base Clyde on Wednesday, September 2.

Members of the public are being warned to expect base alarms and emergency service and other activity but are being assured that

no radioactive contaminants will be used.

Exercise Short Sermon is designed to test the base's on-site and Argyll and Bute Council's off-site emergency plans for dealing with an accident involving the reactor of a nuclear-powered submarine while

berthed at the naval base.

Organisations taking part include the Ministry of Defence, royal navy, Scottish Executive, Strathclyde Police, Argyll and Bute Council, NHS Highland, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service and the Scottish Ambulance Service.

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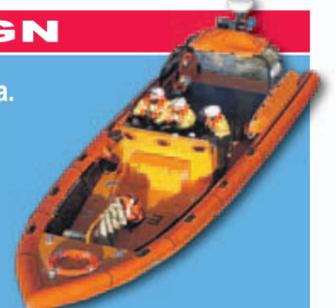
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The Oban Times is pleased to promote and support fundraising efforts in a bid to purchase a safety boat to serve the local area.

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

THE MOST successful Gaelic singers Argyll has produced over the years will come together under one roof for a special concert.

The first Argyll Gold concert for more than 20 years will be held in the Corran Halls on August 27, the day of the Argyllshire Gathering. Fourteen former Mod gold medallists from the area have agreed to sing and others will take their place among the audience. Musical interludes will be provided by Fraser McGlynn, Lochgilphead, and Oban's Maurice Duncan, originally from Campbeltown. Highland dancer Eilidh MacInnes will also perform.

□□□

A PORTSONACHAN woman has raised nearly £600 for Breast Cancer Care by hosting a Strawberry Tea from her own home.

Rena MacPherson sold baking and ran a raffle and quiz to raise a total of £585.80. She said: 'It costs money to use a village hall, or a similar venue, so I used my house. It wasn't just me though - my thanks to Morag MacIntyre and Carol Russell for their help.'

□□□

Bean-an Taighe at an excellent ceilidh in Taynuilt Hall was Joy Dunlop who kept the evening running like clockwork.

Donnie Files opened the proceedings with a bagpipe selection and went on to play for the Isla Sinclair dancers Jakki Watt, Anna and Keira Smith who delighted the audience with a wide variety of Highland dances. Sarah Hill sang prettily in Gaelic and English accompanied on keyboard by her sister Becky, who also sang and accompanied herself on clarsach.

Donnie Files played accordion selections and Anne Maclean sang in Gaelic some lovely songs as did Riona MacInnes who also treated the company to some English songs.

A vote of thanks was given by Moira Dunlop and the evening closed with Auld Lang Syne.

□ □ □



Argyll's Dr Lorn Macintyre and Councillor Duncan MacIntyre are pictured with the Macintyre of Glenoe banner at the Clan MacIntyre Trust reception and dinner. The evening was held recently at The Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh, as part of the World Clans Gathering this year.

□ □ □

OBAN'S Oxfam shop is joining its sister shops across the UK in being the first outlets in the UK to sell the Arctic Monkeys' new single.

The limited edition single Crying Lightening is the first from the band's new album Humbug. All proceeds from the sale will go towards Oxfam's work across the world.

Olwen Rowlands, manager of the Oban shop, said: 'Music fans from all over Oban love to dig through our collections of donated music to find hidden treasures and they'll be delighted that they can now pick up something as exciting and exclusive as this from their local Oxfam shop.'

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Woman guilty of racial attack in chip shop

AN OBAN fish and chip shop was the scene of a racial attack after an Oban woman took exception to being served by a Polish worker.

During a trial at Oban Sheriff Court last week, a Polish national and employee at the George Street Fish and Chip Shop told the court that when Lisa Marie McCuish, aged 28, had heard his colleague's European accent she had start to shout and swear about Polish people.

Remark

McCuish, of Ross House, Breadalbane Street, denied breaching the peace by making a racist remark and assaulting a man in the shop at the southern end of George Street on July 11 this year.

The witness, who spoke through an interpreter, said: 'She shouted, "Are you going to hit a woman, are you going to hit a woman?" and she hit him first.'

Another Polish witness, who McCuish's remarks were aimed at, did not understand enough English to know the swear words and didn't hear the Polish swear word but did recognise the word 'Polish'.

A man who was having an argument with McCuish also appeared as a witness but said because he was drunk he did not remember anything about it.

He conceded he would

have told the truth in his police statement, in which he said he heard McCuish saying she didn't want to be served by a Polish person.

He had also said she was 'out of order' and 'she started going mental at me'.

Sheriff Ian Fleming found McCuish guilty of breach of the peace but not proven on the assault charge.

McCuish had already pleaded guilty to a breach of the peace in Stevenson Street after she objected to her then boyfriend Cameron Longridge, c/o 5B High Street, Oban, being arrested. Longridge, aged 25, pleaded guilty to stealing a bottle of vodka from Albany Stores, Albany Street earlier the same evening.

He also admitted breaching the peace by brandishing a broken bottle, which the court heard he had broken on the pavement to defend McCuish, who he thought was being attacked by the witness in the fish and chip shop.

Fleming admonished Longridge for stealing the bottle of vodka and jailed him for 80 days for breaching the peace, backdated to July 13 when he was remanded in custody.

McCuish had her sentence deferred until May 11 next year for her to be of good behaviour and was released on bail.



MV Aida Cara from Little Ganavan, one of three cruise ships in Oban. 15_133aid03

Huge cruise ship visits Oban

OBAN saw three cruise ships drop anchor off Oban Bay last week, including the largest one to visit the town this summer.

While some passengers chose to take bus trips to other areas of Argyll including Inveraray, Mull, Iona, Easdale and Kilmartin many of the passengers and crew chose to come ashore and stay in Oban, making last week one of the busiest the town has seen this summer.

The first to drop anchor off Maiden Island, at the mouth of Oban Bay, was MV Discovery on Sunday, which carries up to 650 passengers and was on a cruise around the UK, stopping off at Liverpool, Dublin,

Oban, Invergordon and Dundee along the way.

The second ship the 634-foot MV Aida Cara can carry more than 1,000 passengers and has a crew of 370. She was seen in the Firth of Lorne on Tuesday.

German

On Thursday the MV Mona Lisa, chartered by a German tour company Lord Nelson Seereisen, called in at Oban.

The Mona Lisa was the cruise ship which went aground on a sandbank on May 2008 in the Irbe Strait leaving Riga in Latvia.

The ship carries 790 passengers and around 400 crew members.

Pensioner caught speeding

A PENSIONER was caught speeding at 95mph on his motorcycle, Oban Sheriff Court heard last week.

Robert Lynn, aged 65, was driving along the A83 at Glen Kinglas on April 25 at around 1.30pm when he was clocked by a police patrol car following him.

Lynn, of 307 Eaglesham Road, Glasgow, who had been visiting a friend in Minard, told the court: 'The police stopped me, which was quite fortunate because I was leaking oil and if I had continued on my way I would almost certainly have had an accident.'

Lynn was fined £160 and had four points put on his licence.

Pulpit Rock response

ARGYLL and Bute's MSP has hit back at criticisms by the area's MP on the lack of improvements to the A82 trunk road.

MP Alan Reid had written to the transport minister in the Scottish government demanding an explanation for delays announced in the work to improve the temporary traffic lights on the A82 at Pulpit Rock, which have been put back to the next financial year.

But Argyll and Bute MSP Jim Mather, also a member of the Scottish cabinet, said the delay was because of 'complex' ground investigations found conditions were not as expected.

'This upgrade is in an area where the road, railway and loch shore are closely confined and it is all important that the technology and the engineering are fit for purpose,' he said pointing out that after a wait of 30 years, the work was only a few months behind schedule.'

Focus put on webcam's purpose

AN INTERNET camera which was installed to provide a place for tourists to wave to friends and family back home while on holiday may be closed down due to lack of use.

The webcam, which is run by Oban and Lorn Tourism Association (OLTA) and based in an 'exhibition area' in Oban Tourist Information Centre (TIC), has been criticised for showing just an empty room and may now be moved elsewhere in the town.

One internet user from California, who uses web cameras to keep in touch with Scotland, said that the camera was poorly placed.

Stewart Farquhar, a 64-year-old screenwriter originally from Ballachulish, said: 'As a native Scot in a foreign land I value the varied connections to my homeland via webcams and appreciate the effort.'

'But it has all the charm of eavesdropping on a poorly placed security camera. Without compromising anyone's privacy surely the agency could do a wee bit better about showing what Oban has to offer the world other than a vacant desk.'

The association, however, say that the webcam was installed not to show views of Oban but to provide somewhere for people to see their friends and relations back home while on holiday if the weather was inclement.

Chairwoman of OLTA Linda Battison said: 'OLTA is aware that the webcam in the TIC can occasionally show an empty room as it is situated in the exhibition area at the back of the building.'

'Its purpose is to provide visitors with a 'web wave' point to say hello to friends and family back home. We have other webcams that show Oban's glorious scenery.'

'The committee will have to make a decision on the value of the TIC webcam, and if it is not being used regularly then we may be able to reposition it elsewhere in town.'

'It's worth noting that the webcams are the most visited pages on the oban.org website and drive a huge amount of traffic to the website.'



A still from the Oban webcam last week.

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Aoradh Charolais is Islay Show leader

A CALF from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) farm at Aoradh was supreme champion at this year's Islay Show - but it was also a special day for two of the show's best-known families.

The April-born cross Charolais calf by Allanfauld Amazon, was overall beef champion and is to be sold at the winter sale on the island. The first calf off the sire was sold last year for £2,100.

It was also a good day all round for the MacMillans of Ardbeg and G and M Porter, Carrabus, who took home a host of trophies.

Messrs MacMillan won the highly competitive Blackface championship for the fifth time in succession with a ewe lamb by a Midlock sire, on its first show outing.

And one of the youngest competitors on the day, eight-year-old Eilidh MacMillan, who was competing at the Islay Show for the first time, won the prime lamb class.

Carrabus took the Galloway championship with Burnhide Larna of Nether Cleugh, sired by Penninghame Icarus and carrying her third calf. Carrabus also won the Kinnibus Tray for the best home-bred Galloway with the home-bred Carrabus Mary.

The fold followed up its victory in the Highland championship at Mid Argyll Show last weekend with a repeat result on Islay. The Highland champion, Kayren of Achterneed, which was also reserve overall cattle champion, was sired by

Tommy of Achterneed and out of Morag Dubh of Shenavalle.

A Charollais two-shear ewe from Craigens, Gruinart, was the pick of the sheep on the day, beating a Texel gimmer from Dunlossit to the overall sheep championship.

The Charollais is home bred, as was its dam, with a sire from Southam. She was first in class as a shearing last year.

Reserve in the supreme championship and horse and pony champion was a Highland Pony, Rinns Point Domnhull Hendie, shown by Alasdair and Angela MacLeod.

The three-year-old pony is home bred and off the stallion Sunny of Runivraid.

Winner of the dog show, a 10-year-old Pointer named Kip, came in for high praise and was shown by six-year-old Angus Drynan from Ormsary. Kip was champion at Lorn Show in 2004.

A well-attended and organised show came to a close with the traditional parade of champions but the crowd had been well entertained throughout the day; the pick of the sideshows coming from motorcycle stuntman Jes Avery.

Show president John Findlay said: 'The quality of animals was excellent today and we had to bring the umpire in to determine quite a few of the winners.'

'However, we have tried to bring in more entertainment, especially for the children, and encouraged more trade stands to take part.'



Overall Supreme Champion at Islay Show from RSPB Aoradh 7-4346805



Reserve Supreme Champion from Alasdair and Angela MacLeod 7-4346804



Eight-year old Eilidh MacMillan with her pen of prize winning prime lambs 7-4346808



Overall sheep champion was a Charollais two-shear ewe from Craigens, Gruinart 7-4346810



Blackface champion was a ewe lamb by a Midlock sire from Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg 7-4346807



Angus Drynan from Ormsary with his 10-year old Pointer Kip won the dog show 7-4346811



Reserve to the sheep champion was a Texel gimmer from Dunlossit Estates 7-4346809

Ben Lawers' Limousin is Killin champion

Benmore shepherd receives 31-year-long service award

AN OUTSTANDING Limousin-cross calf was declared champion of champions at Killin Show on Saturday - but only after much deliberation by the judges.

Cattle judge, Peter Drysdale of Dunkeld with blackface judge Ian Malcolm from Callander and cross sheep judge John Guthrie from Muthill took their time before deciding on the champion shown by Hamish McDiarmid of Ben Lawers, Loch Tayside.

The calf was by the Limousin sire Superb from Branenton in Sandbach and was out of a Limousin-cross Aberdeen-Angus dam.

Reserve cattle champion was a Limousin-cross bullock sired by Goldie's Oblivion and out of a Limousin-cross cow shown by Robert Waugh, Croftingyan, Lawers.

Cross breed sheep champion was a home bred pedigree Texel by Donna MacKenzie with the reserve a home-bred Texel cross gimmer by Peter McDiarmid of Shenlarig, Lawers, brother of Hamish, who provided the overall show champion.

Blackface champion was shown by 19-year old shepherd Fulton Ronald with a four-crop ewe out of a home-bred ewe. Fulton is shepherd at the family unit at Keilator, Crianlarich.

The show also saw the presentation of a long-service award to shepherd Jimmy Elliot of Benmore Farm, Crianlarich.

Jimmy was given the award for 31 years of service, holding up a proud family tradition - his grandfather was the recipient of the same award around half a century ago.



A Limousin cross calf from Hamish McDiarmid, Ben Lawers was overall champion at Killin 16-4346801



A home-bred four-crop ewe from Keilator, Crianlarich was Blackface champion at Killin 16-4346802

Points in Gymkhana Events
L Mitchell
The Ellister Cup presented by Mrs J Dawson Ellister for Best Young Rider under 16 years of age
J Fletcher, Persabus
The Hardie Memorial Trophy for Best Young Rider 12 years or under
S McKinsdray
Dawson Perpetual Cup for Best Horse or Pony shown In Hand
A & A MacLeod, Portmahaven
The McGibbon Cup - Perpetual Challenge Cup presented by J Ross McGibbon, Glasgow Overall Pointage Championship in Section I - XI
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
The James MacKillop Perpetual Challenge Cup for Crofter/Smallholder having the largest number of points over sheep, cattle and horse sections.
K Wiggins, Lorgbaw Croft
John McGillivray Memorial Trophy for Best Stockperson with 6 months full-time employment prior to the Show
A Porter, East Carrabus
Jim Kerr Memorial Trophy for Reserve Overall Show Champion
A & A MacLeod, Portmahaven
Glasgow Islay Association Cup for Champion Animal at Show
RSPB, Aoradh
Iain Martin Crawford Memorial Trophy
Champion Horse/Pony in Show
A & A MacLeod, Portmahaven
Flower and Vegetable Section
The Seumas MacKillop Perpetual Challenge Cup for Best Hand Bouquet of Flowers grown or made up by Exhibitor
L Cuninghame, Neriby
Islay & Jura Gardeners Club Trophy for Best Lady's Spray - Class 104
M Carmichael, Bridgend
The James T Christie Memorial Cup for Sweet Peas
J Stewart, Bowmore
Logan Shield for Best Shallots
B Paget, Port Charlotte
Logan Shield for Best Carrots
H Stewart, Port Ellen
The Silver Cup presented by the remaining Members of Islay Horticultural Society for the competitor gaining largest pointage throughout the Section.
M Carmichael, Bridgend
Logan Shield for Best Onions
M Carmichael, Bridgend
The Thomas Shaw Memorial Cup for Best Exhibit in Show
A & P McEachern, Keills
The John McNeill Memorial Trophy For most points in Vegetable Section
D McCormick, Blackrock
Dugald MacTaggart Perpetual Cup for Dahlias
J & J Campbell, Port Ellen
Rose Bowl in Memory of Flora McLellan presented by her family for Winner of Class 123 - Four Roses
J Stewart, Bowmore
Finlay MacMillan Memorial Cup for Best Exhibit in Class 130
A & P McEachern, Keills
A & P McEachern Trophy presented to Winner of Puppy Section (local puppy)
E Bignal, Smaladh
A & J Waterworth Cup for Best Junior Handler
M Mather, Port Charlotte
Keills Cup for Best Junior Exhibitor
M Mather, Port Charlotte
Islay Book Festival for best adult exhibitor
F Drynan



Highland cattle leader from G and M Porter 7-4346802

2009 Winners
BLACKFACE SHEEP
Ewe in Milk - Open: Messrs MacMillan Ardbeg
Ewe in Milk - Crofter: J Roy, Port Charlotte
2-Year Old in Milk - Open: K Wiggins, Lorgbaw Croft
2-Year Old in Milk - Crofter: K Wiggins, Lorgbaw Croft
Gimmer - Open: J Roy, Port Charlotte
Gimmer - Crofters: J Roy, Port Charlotte
Ewe Lamb - Open: Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg
Ewe Lamb - Crofters: K Wiggins, Lorgbaw Croft
Tup Lamb - Open: Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg
Tup Lamb - Crofters: J Roy, Port Charlotte
Shearing/Tup - K Wiggins, Lorgbaw Croft
Tup - 2-shear and above
Dunlossit Estate, Lossit
Ewe with lamb/lambs (up or ewe) at foot Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg
Group of 3 from Classes 1-5 (Crofters only) - K Wiggins, Lorgbaw Croft
BORDER LEICESTER SHEEP
Tup, 2 shear and above R W Smith & A MacGill, Coille
Shearing/Tup JD McKeirrell, Island Farm
Tup Lamb JD McKeirrell, Island Farm
Ewe in Milk R W Smith & A MacGill
Gimmer JD McKeirrell, Island Farm
Ewe Lamb R W Smith & A MacGill
Best Group JD McKeirrell, Island Farm
TEXEL & BELTEX CROSS
Tup 2 shear & over D McCormick, Blackrock
Shearing/Tup Dunlossit Estate, Lossit
Tup Lamb R Cuninghame, Neriby

Ewe D McCormick, Blackrock
Gimmer Dunlossit Estate, Lossit
Ewe Lamb R Anderson, Mulindry
Pair of Ewe Lambs
A Torrance Mulindry
ANY OTHER BREED OR CROSS BREED OF SHEEP
Ram, 2 shear and over, G & M Porter, West Carrabus
Shearing/Tup
G & J Archibald, Craigens
Tup Lamb G & J Archibald, Craigens
Ewe G & J Archibald, Craigens
Gimmer
G & J Archibald, Craigens
Ewe Lamb G & J Archibald, Craigens
Pair of Ewe Lambs RSPB, Aoradh
PRIME LAMBS
Pen of 3 Continental Cross Lambs
E MacMillan, Ardbeg
Pen of 3 Prime B-F Wedder or Ewe Lambs
J Roy, Port Charlotte
Pen of 3 Prime Suffolk x Lambs
D McCormick, Blackrock
Pen of 3 Prime Lambs
Wedder or Ewe other than above
R W Smith & A MacGill, Coille
HIGHLAND LIVESTOCK
For competitor under 21 yrs of age for Best Animal, Cattle or Sheep, entered in show in own name:
F A Fletcher, Ballygrant
BEEF CATTLE
Galloway
Galloway Cow in calf or calf at foot
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
Galloway Bulling Heifer
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
Galloway Calf
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
Highland
Highland Cow Any Age
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
Highland Heifer, 3 yrs old
E & J Brown, Cruach Fold
Highland Heifer, 2 yrs old

Dunlossit Estate, Ceannacroic
Highland Heifer, 1 yr old
Dunlossit Estate, Ceannacroic
Highland Calf
Dunlossit Estate, Ceannacroic
Commercial
Beef Cow, any breed or cross breed
N MacDonald, Bunnhabhain
Heifer for breeding
A Porter, East Carrabus
Beef Heifer A Porter, East Carrabus
Suckled Calf, sired by a native bull
G & J Archibald, Craigens
Suckled Bullock Calf, born on or after 1st Feb sired by Limousin
R Cuninghame, Neriby
Suckled Female Calf, born February sired by a Limousin Bull
Firm of T Epps, Ardnave
Suckled Bullock Calf, born on or after 1st Feb sired by any other bull
RSPB Aoradh
Suckled Female Calf, born on or after 1st Feb sired by any other bull
RSPB Aoradh
Suckled Female Calf, born between 1st July last year and 31st January this year, sired by Limousin J MacKellar
Suckled Bullock Calf, born between 1st July last year and 31st January this year, sired by any other breed other than a Limousin
G McCormick, Claggan
Extra Stock
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
Best Pair Calves, same sex
RSPB Aoradh
HIGHLAND AND OTHER PONIES SHOWN IN HAND
Mare with foal at foot
D & J Bonar, Bowmore
Colt or Filly Foal
D & J Bonar, Bowmore
Colt, Gelding or Female up to 3 yrs old
A & A MacLeod, Portmahaven
OTHER PONIES
Colt Yearling or 2 yr old on 1 January,
Filly or gelding yearling, 2, 3 or 4 yrs old on 1 January
D & J Bonar, Bowmore
In hand mare or gelding over 4 yrs old
E Logan, Port Charlotte
Small Ridden Pony under 13 hands 4 years old or over on 1 January
J Monaghan, Port Ellen
Small Ridden Pony 13 hands and up to 14.2 hands, 4 years old or over on 1 January
C MacMillan, Ardbeg
Riding horse, cross native breed over 14.2 hands, 4 years old or over on 1 Jan
F H & H A Roxburgh, Ballivacar
Riding horse over 14.2 hands, 4 years old or over on 1 January excluding those eligible for Class 93
J Monaghan, Port Ellen
RIDING COMPETITIONS
Best Young Rider on leading Rein, 12 yrs or under
S McKinstay
Best Young Rider under 16 yrs
J Fletcher, Persabus
Gymkhana Event
L Mitchell
2009 - TROPHY WINNERS
James MacTaggart Perpetual Challenge Cup Awarded by the MacTaggart Family, Kintra Champion Sheep in Crofters Classes
K Wiggins, Lorgbaw Croft
Crofters Cup for Winner of Group of 3 Crofters Only (Class 9)
K Wiggins, Lorgbaw Croft
Dunseid Challenge Cup - Champion Blackface
Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg
The Sir John MacTaggart Perpetual Challenge Cup - Champion Blackface Sheep bred by Exhibitor
Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg
The Campbell of Jura Perpetual Challenge Cup Champion Blackface Female bred by Exhibitor
Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg
The Small Perpetual Challenge Cup
In memory of the late Messrs A & W McEachern, for Best Male Blackface Sheep
Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg
The Anderson Perpetual Challenge Cup Presented by the Anderson Family in memory of father & grandfather Moss Anderson - Best Blackface Gimmer
J Roy, Port Charlotte
The Rhinns of Islay Cup - Best Ewe With lamb/lambs at foot
Messrs MacMillan, Ardbeg
The AB Grant Cup Champion Leicester R W Smith & A MacGill, Coille
The Royal Bank of Scotland Cup for Best Suffolk Sheep
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
The Kichoman Cup - presented by the Late Iain Campbell for Best Pen of Prime Lambs - Any Breed
E MacMillan, Ardbeg
Foreland Perpetual Cup presented by D Doyle Foreland Estate for Best Sheep other than Blackface, Suffolk or B/L
G & J Archibald, Craigens
Wilson's Fuels Ltd Trophy for Champion Sheep Overall
G & J Archibald, Craigens
Kinnabus Tray - presented by The Late Commander JRC Montgomery RNJP, Kinnabus for Best Galloway or First Cross Galloway bred by Exhibitor.
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
Schroder Cup presented by The Late HKB Schroder of Dunlossit
G & M Porter, West Carrabus
Gaimmore Cup presented by JAW Morrison for Best Beef Animal
RSPB, Aoradh
Jim R Calder Memorial Trophy - Most points in Beef Section
RSPB, Aoradh
Kilchiaran Cup presented by the late Neil McLellan for the Best Heifer

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The Oban Times the newspaper with the big reach

Climber falls in Cuillins

A NINETEEN-year-old climber has been airlifted to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow for treatment to a head injury after a fall in the Loch Coruisk area of the Cuillins on the Isle of Skye.

The man, who was walking with a friend on Monday afternoon, fell a short distance and his companion raised the alarm.

Skye Mountain Rescue Team was called out along with Stornoway Coastguard's Rescue 100 helicopter.

The man was taken to Broadford Hospital before being transferred to Glasgow where his condition was described as serious.

Speed cameras to watch A82 crash sites

MOBILE speed cameras are to be placed on the A82 in Lochaber at accident and speeding blackspots.

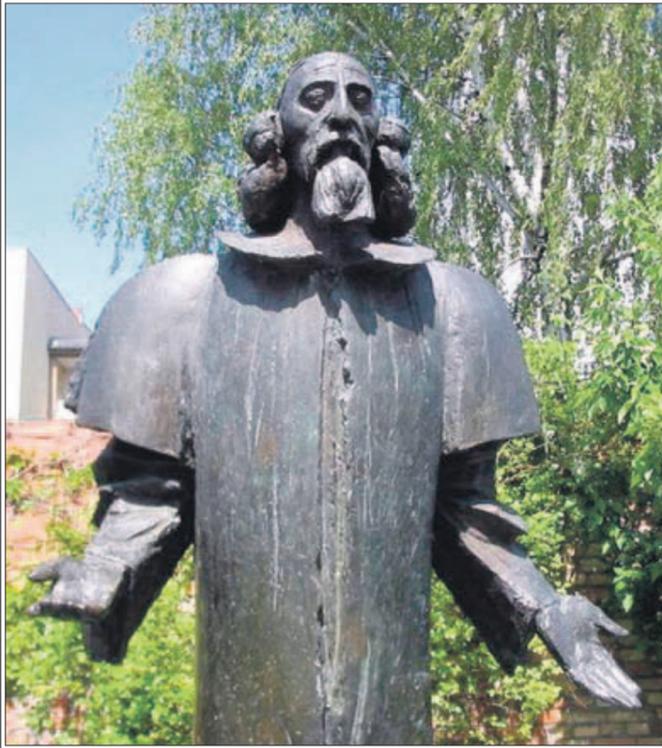
The devices will be operating for one week from August 24 at the White Corries at Rannoch Moor and at the Kingshouse Hotel, Glencoe.

Police say cameras may also be used at other potential troublespots, such as roadworks.

Earlier this week the Northern Safety Camera Partnership also began a speed awareness campaign aimed specifically at new and young drivers reminding them of the dangers of speeding. The campaign, consisting of posters and beer mats, will run in around 50 bars, hotels and clubs across the Highlands.

Northern Safety Camera Partnership Manager Inspector John Smith said: 'Our aim with this campaign is to make all drivers, and particularly new drivers, aware of the risks that they take when they drive at excessive speeds. We want to encourage them to keep within the speed limits.'

Armistice Day unveiling for Arisaig memorial



The Comenius monument in Berlin-Neukolln in Germany by Josef Vajce, who is currently working on the Arisaig memorial.

By DAVID WALKER

A MEMORIAL sculpture to 250 Czech freedom fighters who trained at Arisaig during the Second World War is hoped to be unveiled the day before Armistice Day.

Traigh House in Arisaig was requisitioned by the Special Operations Executive (SOE) and was used to train elite soldiers from all the Allied countries including a 250-strong Czech contingent, many of whom were killed by Nazi forces during daring actions in occupied Europe to help liberate their country.

Now 12 survivors and their fallen comrades are to be remembered in the £50,000 project, which is funded by The Czech-Scottish Charity with full backing from the Czech Consulate in Scotland.

The nine-foot high memorial, by world-famous Czech sculptor Josef Vajce, will depict a fallen paratrooper with a trailing chute and is the brainchild of Dr Paul Millar, Scotland's Czech consul general for the past 10 years.

Josef Vajce has sculptures in Prague and elsewhere in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Russia, the United States, Italy, The Vatican, Germany and Belgium.

The sculptor and Dr Millar visited Arisaig

for a public meeting last month, with the outcome that a planning application has now been submitted to Highland Council.

Dr Paul Millar said: 'My personal impression is that the meeting went very well. I have explained the historic connections and implications, and the sculptor told them all about the creative process.'

'All the previous fears or apprehensions may have disappeared.'

'We took all villagers' opinions on board, including the size and shape of the memorial. In fact, the sculptor came specifically on purpose to tune the size and appearance to the environment. The stone has already gone to the stonemasons near Prague where the work commenced under the supervision of the sculptor. Myself and some members of the charity committee asked for a meeting with Arisaig Community Council to explain the concept to them and alleviate any possible misgivings regarding the size, appearance, modernity or whatever.'

Dr Millar added that the sculptor had joined him on the trip to 'blend' the final appearance of the memorial with its surroundings. As a result, the sculpture will be one foot below the top line of surrounding greenery to preserve the existing skyline.

Police investigate assault at Lochy Bridge

POLICE in Lochaber are looking for information on an assault involving a female and a young child outside a supermarket in Lochy Bridge, Fort William.

The incident took place around 2.30pm on Monday August 3.

Anyone with information relating to the incident is asked to contact police in Fort William.

SOMETIME between 2pm on Friday August 7 and 9am on Saturday August 8 a gate, rail and garden fence post were damaged in Corpach.

ON SUNDAY August 9 between 8.50pm and 9.10pm a new BMX bike was stolen from the Glen Nevis area.

AT 10.10PM on Thursday August 14 a shop window at Airds Crossing, Fort William, was damaged.

SOMETIME between Sunday July 26 and Wednesday August 12 a caravan and contents were stolen from Caolasnacon Campsite in the Glencoe area.

Anyone with knowledge of these incidents is asked to contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702361, the confidential line on 01397 702000 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Is Eigg Village of the Year?

JUDGES ran the rule over the Isle of Eigg's bid to become Scottish Calor Village of the Year yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon.

Should Eigg get the verdict, the islanders would win a further £7,000 for community investment.

Eigg, which is up against Forth in South Lanarkshire and Arrochar and Tarbet in Argyll in the final, has already won the north of Scotland title and £2,000.

Exhibition looks back at life in Glendale

THE GLENDALE Trust on the Isle of Skye opened a two-week exhibition on Glendale Life at Borrodale School, Glendale, on Monday.

Trust chairman Ian Blackford said: 'Glendale played an important part in the fight for land reform in the 19th century not least from the well documented activities of John MacPherson and the Glendale Martyrs.'

Highlands MSP Rob Gibson will be presenting slides and other memorabilia of a students' crofting scheme in the 1970s, which depict the battle against the then lairds, Horace Martin and Ollaus Martin.

The heritage exhibition is open from August 17 to 29 from 10am to 4pm every day except Sunday.

Funds flow into petrol pump appeal

MORVERN is on the brink of raising the minimum £10,000 needed to save its ageing petrol station - less than four weeks after the campaign began.

Morvern Community Council and Morvern Community Development Company (MCDC) launched their bid effort to replace outdated pumps next to Lochaline village shop at the local Highland games on July 18.

Encouraged by the £540 they took on that first day, volunteers stepped up their efforts. Twenty hardy souls swam a kilometre across Loch Arianas to net more

than £200 and soup lunches in Lochaline village hall every Monday brought in more than £600.

Private donations flooded in as the community pulled together, ranging from £50 to £1,000. Campaigner Douglas Watt, from Lochaline, told *The Oban Times* the campaign had raised a staggering £6,441.90 so far - with a further £2,100 in pledges.

Every penny would be needed even if the target is overshoot, said Mr Watt, because the estimate of £7,500 - £8,000 to replace the pumps was likely to be revised

upwards. Fuel storage tanks would also need to be cleaned out, which would add to the expenditure, he said.

The campaign has had other unexpected spinoffs as local people rallied round to support the campaign to retain the vital local facility.

'Nothing I have known has brought this community together to such an extent as this crisis has,' Mr Watt told *The Oban Times*.

'The atmosphere has been super. For the soup lunches the response has been incredible. 'People are saying 'once this is

finished will you still go on with them?'

'The whole thing has had a tremendously positive effect on the community.'

'The effort has been quite remarkable. 'All of us who have been involved are very tired, but we are euphoric.'

Morvern Community Council Chairman Iain Thornber said the station, owned by MCDC and leased to the shop, was operating 'on a wing and a prayer'.

Nearest alternative fuel supplies were at Strontian 20 miles away, he said.



Crofters' Olympics bring community together

SATURDAY'S Crofters' Olympics organised by Camuscross and Duisdale Initiative was another successful event.

The day began with a tractor parade from Isleornsay Pier up to the field, where events included a tattie and spoon race and a sprint

with a pail of milk. James MacInnes from Ardsvar won the men's hill race.

James' wife Fiona made it a family double by winning the women's hill race.

Ardsvar took the honours again in the welly

throwing competition when James Mitchell won the Golden Welly Trophy for the longest throw.

In the tug-o'-war, Camuscross swept the boards, winning the

junior, women's and

men's competitions. Winning women's team was Aileen Logan, Mairi MacKay, Mary Logan, Sharon Campbell, Shona Hunter, Gwen Culbertson, Morag MacFadyen and Claire Hannah.

The triumphant men

were Calum MacDonald, David Campbell, John MacDonald, Charles Culbertson, James Robertson, Iain Hamilton, Neil MacKenzie and Norman MacKinnon.

A ceilidh dance was held in Duisdale Hall.

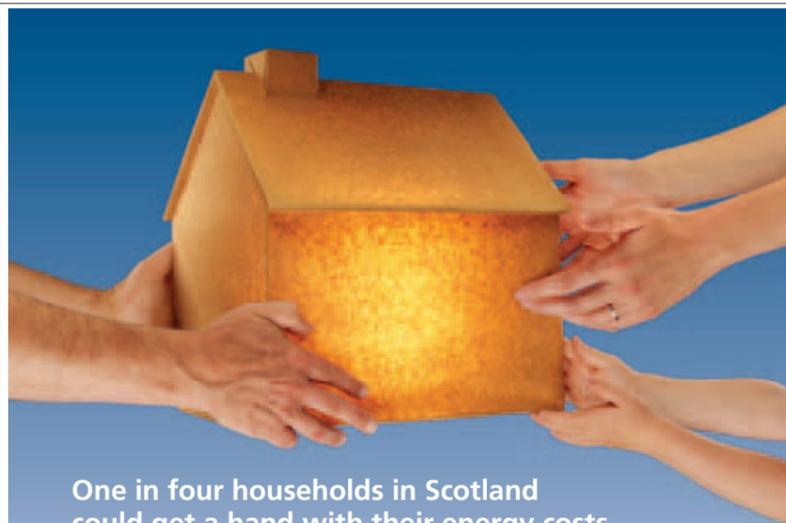
Rock fall shuts Glendoe hydro scheme

THE GIANT Glendoe hydro electric scheme near Fort Augustus has been shut down after a rock fall in a tunnel above Loch Ness.

The tunnel, which carries water from a mountain reservoir to the turbine, has been pumped dry to allow specialist teams to assess the damage.

A spokesman for operator Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) said it would not know when power would be produced again until detailed investigations were complete.

The closure is a blow to the flagship project, which opened earlier this year billed as Scotland's biggest hydro scheme in half a century. SSE chief executive Ian Marchant said: 'Extreme care will be taken with the investigation and repairs to make sure the scheme emerges from this difficulty in a strong position to operate successfully over the long term.'



One in four households in Scotland could get a hand with their energy costs

If you find it hard to pay for the energy you use, here's some good news. The Energy Assistance Package from the Scottish Government could be just the thing you need. You could save money on gas and electricity, get insulation for your home - or even a whole new heating system. We're talking about real help to bring down the cost of the energy you use. Pass the news on to your friends and neighbours who might need a hand too.

Find out more about the Energy Assistance Package. Call the free advice line and speak to your local advisor

0800 512 012*



* Please note that calls to this number are free from a land line but calls from a mobile will be charged at your network supplier's rate. You can call us Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm.

SEEKING ANGEL OF THE ISLES

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project trust



About Project Trust:
Project Trust was founded in 1967 and is an educational charity based on the Isle of Coll. Since then we have sent nearly 6000 volunteers overseas. Project Trust sends over two hundred volunteers to twenty-five countries annually and is widely respected as one of the most experienced and professional gap year organisations in Britain.

and working in a school in southern Chile. Hard work and determination meant that Clare improved her Spanish to a level where she was able to really involve herself in the local community as well as setting up extra curricular clubs at school.

Our main philosophy is to provide young people with an opportunity to understand a community overseas by immersing themselves in it; living and working there for a considerable length of time.

Clare wrote from Chile: "The more time I spend with the girls in the boarding house, the more I get attached to them. I really love to spend time with them, helping them with their homework and talking with them. My art club is still going strong, having made all sorts from fluffy chickens to painting with rice."

Case Study:
Clare Shepherd, from Kinlochell, spent a year living

Clare returned to the UK in August 2008 and is now studying physiotherapy in Aberdeen.



ballet west goes from strength to strength

Dance has been found to help children improve their co-ordination and strength while giving them a great opportunity to make friends in an active, challenging, supportive and safe environment.

Ballet West has a long tradition of providing high quality dance training by qualified, experienced and accomplished teachers. It now has over 30 part-time classes which

are delivered in Argyll and Highland Region as well as teaching an HND and a new degree course. Students have the opportunity to study for Royal Academy of Dance ballet exams.

Brand new part-time classes in children's ballet are about to begin at Craignure Village Hall on the Isle of Mull. Elsewhere, there are classes in ballet, jazz, hip-hop, adult ballet and

body conditioning. Another exciting development for Ballet West is the new partnership with Energie Fitness in Oban. The classes on offer will include children's and adult's classes in ballet as well as highland dancing and jazz.

In June every year, a show by part-time students takes place at the Corran Halls, Oban, giving them the opportunity to perform in front of an audience. It is a culmination of all they have learned over the year as well as an opportunity to celebrate and enjoy dance with the friends they have made.

To find out more, please contact Ballet West on 01866 822641.



Ballet West Classes

in Ballet, Jazz & Body Conditioning at Oban, Connel, Taynuilt & Isle of Mull

Classes to suit all ages and levels. New students are always welcome.

To find out more, contact us on: Tel: 01866 822641 or E-mail us at: balletwest@btconnect.com

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At Energie Fitness, we have a passion for amazing results and we can help you achieve the goals that you desire. You will only achieve success through a full understanding of what

you are trying to do. With structured support from our team and consistent, positive goal setting programmes to interest and motivate you, we will keep finding new and creative ways for you to achieve your goals.

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Salen Show is a record breaker

'A record entry through the gate and exceptional entries of cattle and sheep from throughout Mull, Iona and areas of Morvern'

THIS year's Salen Show on the Isle of Mull proved a record breaker with more people attending, more trade stands and record entries in both the working sheepdog and pet dog classes.

In the livestock show rings, numbers may have been lacking in some sections but there was plenty of quality for the judges to ponder.

Champion of champions
Champion of Champions went to the leader from the horse ring, with Amanda Fergusson, Lochaline showing the nine-year old Welsh Section A pony Durris Fairwind to full advantage. The pony, with nine-year old Lewis Fergusson on board, had earlier been awarded the top award from a well supported horse and pony section.

The overall cattle champion came from the lines of the Highland cattle with a well-known Mull farmer taking another title - but this time with a very different breed. Bert Leitch, Lagganulva, one-time breeder of high-quality Limousin cattle, was back among the silverware. His leader, a yellow, three-year old home-bred heifer Proiseag Bhuidhe 1st of Dunmor, by Brogach of Garrowsmill and out of a Finnart dam.

The commercial cattle title went to a four-year old home-bred Luing cow by a Ben Challum bull from brothers D and L MacLean, Knock Farm while the top dairy

cattle award went to Gareth Reade, Scriob Ruadh, Tobermory.

In a busy Blackface ring, the overall breed champion was a three-shear ewe from Tom Nelson, Glengorm. A powerful and stylish ewe by a Dyke loan, she showed plenty of both character and carcass to go on to take the overall sheep championship, although it took an umpire's decision to settle this one.

The Blackface reserve champion and male champion was a home-bred tup lamb by a Dyke sire and out of a home-bred ewe by a Dyke sire, from Messrs MacNeil, Tirraghoil, Bunessan, while the overall champion gimmer was a Texel by Cambwell Mont Blanc from Angus MacColl, Croft 2, Fanmore, which saw off a strong challenge from the Blackface gimmer champion from D and L MacLean, Knock.

The cross sheep champion, and reserve overall sheep champion, was an outstanding home-bred Cheviot tup by a Saval Beg sire and out of a home-bred ewe by a Saval Beg sire, from Alan MacKenzie, Tobermory.

Debutant show secretary Greg Marsh said: We had wonderful weather and a wonderful crowd.

'A record entry through the gate and exceptional entries of cattle and sheep from throughout Mull, Iona and areas of Morvern.'

'Our thanks must go to everyone for making it a wonderful day.'



Champion of champions at Salen Show was the overall horse and pony champion, the Welsh Section A pony Durris Fairwind from Amanda Fergusson, Lochaline 17-434a02



Blackface and overall sheep champion was a ewe from Tom Nelson, Glengorm 17-434a03



Overall reserve sheep champion was a Cheviot from Alan MacKenzie, Tobermory 17-434a01



Overall cattle champion was a three-year old in-calf heifer from Bert Leitch, Lagganulva 17-434a05



Overall gimmer champion was a Texel from Angus MacColl, Croft 2, Fanmore 17-434a07



Best Young Handler in the cattle classes was Kerrie MacGillivray with her calf called Nico 17-434a06



Blackface male champion was a tup lamb from Messrs MacNeil, Tirraghoil, Bunessan 17-434a04



For results from Salen Show see Page 14

Left: Top dog at Salen Show this year was a 21-month old black and white working collie called Meg from Fiona Boa, Dervaig. Meg was bought as a pup from sheepdog trial specialist Ian McConnell 17-434a09



Best Young Handler in the sheep classes was Calum MacDougall, Tobermory with this ewe lamb 17-434a12

Islay

Your correspondent is Susan Campbell: 01496 850215

Islay Show

THE 163RD annual Islay, Jura and Colonsay Agricultural Show is being held today (Thursday) at the Show Field, Bridgend.

Good luck to all competitors and have fun at tonight's show dance in Portmahaven Hall with *Skerryvore*.

Islay Energy Trust

LOCAL community-owned renewable energy group Islay Energy Trust (IET) will be at Islay Show again this year.

Committee members, including chairman Philip Maxwell, will be available to answer questions and give information on current IET projects and the trust's collaboration with Scottish Power Renewables which is bringing the Sound of Islay Tidal Energy Initiative forward.

Phoneybook launch

THE 2009 edition of Islay and Jura's Phoneybook for local phone numbers and services will be on sale from today, Thursday August 13.

Copies will be on sale at Islay Show and from the usual outlets.

The Phoneybook was prepared with help from Islay High School's Borneo/Palau World Challenge expedition team, as part of the students' fund-raising efforts prior to their successful trip this summer.

People's Postcode Trust

THE PEOPLE'S Postcode Trust is an independent charity which provides financial support for small organisations, bodies and community groups across the country.

The People's Postcode



Islay 5K race raises £2,000

More than £2,000 was raised at this year's Islay 5K race. There were 134 entrants, including children, who turned out to raise money for Cancer Research. Race winner was islander Marcus Covell with a time of 19.28 and Hannah Barnes was the first woman home in 22 minutes. Pictured is one of the younger entrants, Orla Wilson.

Trust aims to make Scotland a better place for both people and nature. The trust achieves its objectives through funds received from the People's Postcode Lottery. Funding will be available for individual projects ranging from £500 up to £10,000. The People's Postcode Trust is currently accepting applications for funding through its website www.postcodetrust.org.uk.

Coll senior citizens visit Tobermory

FIFTEEN members of Coll Senior Citizens Group recently gathered at Coll middle pier eager to embark on their first day trip to Tobermory.

With no inter-island transport available for locals or tourists, Mull can normally only be reached via Oban. Despite gloomy weather forecasts, the morning had turned out to be warm and dry.

The two-hour sailing in the hired boat was blissfully calm with time to relax, chat, have a laugh and enjoy the wonderful scenery.

As the boat entered the bay, the colourful spectacle of Tobermory was both enticing and welcoming. A bustle of assorted yachts and pleasure boats glistened in the sun. The new marina provided a convenient landing place and everyone was soon safely ashore.

With sun hats and shopping bags secure, the group set off to have lunch and explore the delights of this lovely town.

A few residents admitted to never having visited Coll, likewise a few of the Coll group was visiting Tobermory for the first time.

Potential, here, perhaps for someone to offer a regular service between islands?

Several members of the group were spotted later on in the afternoon tucking in to fish and chips from the van at the sea front. Others were seen dashing from shop to shop. No trip would be complete without a good shopping spree for essentials and other sundry items. Purchases made on this particular trip included four watering cans, nuts and bolts, hinges, brackets, lots of chocolate and two goldfish!

All too soon it was time to depart. Arriving back at Coll, a low water level required some skilful manoeuvring to line the boat up against the pier steps, but passengers and shopping were soon safely delivered on land. No sooner had the boat departed



Dancers step out at Bunessan Show

Five dancers from the Sherryl Peter School of Dance competed at this year's Bunessan Show. They are, from left: Poppy Roth-Strachan, Beatrice Eadle, Charlie Roth-Strachan, Holly MacLean and Cara Morrison.

than it was discovered that a handbag had been left behind. A quick thinking driver was soon heading along the road with lights flashing and horn sounding to alert the crew. Following an unscheduled stop for the boat at the main pier, the bag was safely recovered. An exciting end to a wonderful trip!

Scalpay
Your correspondent is Donald Morrison: 01859 540217

More visitors
THERE have been more visitors to Scalpay recently than in previous weeks. Fortunately, warm, sunny weather has greeted holidaymakers and those visiting families and friends.

Fishing
ON THE east side of Harris there are no sandy beaches for shellfish to thrive. The shores here are rocky and shellfish don't mature as well.

Again pollock has been hooked by a one-man crew on a local boat at the outer home sea rocks - quite an interesting haul for household or domestic use.

There is also saithe to be fished for creel bait. So often has the scarcity of herring been mentioned in this column but it is the same again for the moment.

Lobsters are still scarce in home waters but it is believed they could be more plentiful at the west side of the Hebrides.

Prawn is the most sought

after just now but catches of shellfish, in general, are low.

Otter
YEARS ago a pet otter used to call at fishing boats at Scalpay landing stage.

The otter would go on board after the crew left and find that fish had been left on the deck for her to eat.

This carried on until one day the otter refrained from calling. What happened? Who knows? But the fishermen said they missed their 'pet' otter.

Yachts
YACHTS are beginning to call into our harbours, as has been the norm for this time of year in days gone by.

Electric lines
MAINTENANCE work on electric lines will soon be carried out by engineers.

Islanders are grateful to the workers who will have the job completed in a matter of weeks so that the poles and lines can stand up to the harsh winter weather.

Less birds
WE ARE sure the bird population on the island has decreased with the singing birds and seabirds not so obvious by our shores.

The reason for this may be a lack of fry in the sea and not enough food in general, such as sand eels, cuddies and herring.

Golf
ONE TIME on Scalpay a primitive form of golf was played on a soft shingle beach with batons made by shinty players.

The ball was a cork - a similar cork to that used on a drift net of a herring vessel.

Killin
Your correspondent is Judy Forster 01597 820298

Killin and Crianlarich Nursery
KILLIN and Crianlarich Nursery have had some staff changes over the last few months.

Debbie McAllister is on secondment to Arnprior.

Alex Tigwell has taken over Jeanette Weir's group in Killin and Sandra Campbell Taylor has Alex's group in Crianlarich.

Becky Millen is back from maternity leave and Jackie McKenna and Kate Cousins are part of the team.

The pre-school children are prepared for their transition to school and have had many visits to school and teachers from Killin, Crianlarich, Strathrye and Kenmore primaries visited the nurseries.

The children going to Strathrye primary had two successful visits to school investigating the fantastic

playground. They also had a Teddy Bears Picnic which had to take place indoors as a result of bad weather.

The staff and children have been getting out and about. Natalie and the children from Crianlarich visited Dobbie's Garden Centre.

The children raised enough money through the enterprise group to buy plants, seeds and ornaments for their fairy garden and vegetable garden.

Wendy, Alex, Becky, Kate and the children from the three to five room have spent time drawing pictures at the park duck pond.

Nicky and Sandra are keeping the under three's in Crianlarich busy by planting seeds in the garden.

They also plan to sow vegetable seeds and plant fruit trees to make their own snacks.

Maggie and Jackie and the under three's in Killin have been investigating light using the light box, and have found it very interesting.

McLaren High School

MCLAREN High School under 14 football team played in the Forth Valley Cup final against Denny

high at Firs Park Falkirk. The game was decided on penalties which Denny won 4-3.

Dance competition

THE FORTH Valley Schools Dance Competition took place in the MacRobert Centre, Stirling.

There were 13 high schools taking part. The three senior dance teams from McLaren high performed well and the team made up of fourth year girls gained third place.

Killin Primary School Glencoe trip

THANKS go to Mr Lunan, Mrs Macaskill and Miss MacIntosh for their care and enthusiasm looking after primary six and seven pupils at Glencoe Outdoor Centre.

The children got the opportunity to try archery, orienteering, teambuilding/problem solving games, rock climbing, abseiling, hill walking, canoeing and sailing in a longboat.

Evening activities included team games and evening walks in and around Glencoe.

Burger stall cash boost

A FUND-RAISING group held a successful burger stall at Kilmore Games on July 25 which raised £800 for games funds.

The following Saturday, at the Lorn Show, the group held another burger stall which raised £850 for Kilmore Hall funds.

Thanks go to Grants the Butcher at Taynuilt for the supply of excellent venison and beef burgers, to the volunteers who worked very hard and to everyone for supporting both events.

The August 100 Club winner was S Fothergill.

Argyll youngster has the power

FRESH from competing in the recent European Piping Championships, an Argyll youngster is turning stereotypes on their head as she competes across the country with Scottish Power's pipe band.

Iona MacLeod from Dunoon is no stranger to musical success and helped the band take fifth place at the recent event in Greenock.

The 19-year-old student discovered her talent for drumming at 14 when she played with Dunoon Grammar School Pipe Band with a few friends.

'My love for the music grew from there and now I'm lucky enough to play with one of the top 10 bands in the world,' said Iona.

'I'm one of only two girls in a group of 35 men, and one of the youngest, but it doesn't bother me as we are part of a team and work hard together.'

'Some people have an outdated view of traditional Scottish music, but the truth is there are more and more females and young people taking up the hobby. For anyone out there thinking of trying it out I'd say go for it, it's a lot of fun!'

Heather McDonald of ScottishPower said: 'The members are great ambassadors for the country, promoting Scotland as a modern, vibrant place.'

'Their huge success is boosted by the young, talented musicians it attracts and we will continue to support and nurture this talent.'



Iona MacLeod with the Scottish Power Pipe Band.



Lochnell Primary School prize winners for 2008-09 display their silverware after the end of year prize giving ceremony.

Homecoming event hits all the right notes

DESPITE an early wet Lochaber start the skies cleared and allowed locals and visitors to enjoy an afternoon of outstanding music, song and dance.

The colourful march along the High Street, led by Lochaber Senior Pipe Band followed by Provost Allan Henderson, Coisir og Lochabair and dancers and singers from Mallaig and Acharacle schools, set the mood for the afternoon.

Provost Henderson's presence demonstrated his loyal support towards efforts to openly promote Gaelic culture in Lochaber. It was encouraging and much appreciated.

On the parade itself, decorated with appropriate banners, the varied combination of Gaelic and Gaelic music was tastefully distilled with songs in English.

The close musical affinity between outstanding performers from Donegal and Lochaber was evident to everyone who stood to listen.

Lochaber Ceilidh Band added a true west coast swing to the occasion drawing some visitors on to the stage to dance.

The nimble enthusiasm of the Mallaig dancers, the varied repertoire of the Acharacle school group and the blended voices of Coisir og Lochabair was proof that our culture is in the safe and capable hands of willing teachers.

Following the opening speech by Provost Henderson, fear-an-tighe John A MacIver kept the crowd in party mood with his anecdotes and observations on Gaelic life.

Mod Gold Medallists Margaret MacLellan and Donald Angie

Mathieson, with Eilidh Davies, Kaitlin Cameron and James Cameron, sang the songs of the Gael to a cheering audience.

Angus Grant, our own famous left handed fiddler, added much to the day with fine Highland tunes.

From Ireland, Noeleen ni Colla sang and let us know why she has been winning so much at national and international events.

Brona MacIntyre and Hannah Devlin combined to give us breathtaking examples of Irish Dancing. Paoraig O'Meanain, button box, Joe Diamond, Banjo, Malachy Duffin, guitar, Marcas O' Murchu, flute and Oisín MacDiarmada, fiddle, not only played their instruments superbly but sang the great songs of Erin along with some of our more famous Scottish ballads.

In the well-designed event programme, an excellent piece by local journalist Iain Abernethy on Patrick McGill, who had worked as a navy on the Blackwater Dam, Kinlochleven, and wrote the acclaimed book 'Children of the Dead End', was of much interest to the Irish performers, locals and visitors.

On the Saturday evening the show was repeated in the fine atmosphere of Glenuig Village Hall. For the evening the band was led by yet another emerging talent from Acharacle's noted accordion treadmill - the up and coming Euan Henderson and his Ceilidh Band.

This Homecoming 2009 event was supported by Bord na Gaidhlig, Colmille, and Comhairle na Gaidhealtachd. Allan MacColl.

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www.thehighlandtheatre.co.uk for full listings and future presentations
www.thehighlandtheatre.co.uk

Cinema The Highland Theatre
George Street, Oban, PA34 5NX - Box Office: 01631 562444

From Wednesday 19th August for 7 days

INGLORIOUS BASTERDS Cert 18 152 min
DAILY 5.30, 8.30
SAT/SUN MATINEE 1.30

LAND OF THE LOST Cert 12A 101min
DAILY 4.30
SAT/SUN MATINEE 1.00

THE PROPOSAL Cert 12A 105 min
FRI-WED 3.15, 6.30, 8.45
TUE 3.15, 6.30 WED 6.30, 8.45

ON THE DAY:
THE STORY OF THE SPIRIT OF SCOTLAND PIPE BAND
TUE 25th 8.30
Gala screening with special guests appearances by John McDonald (Director) and members of the band
ADDITIONAL SHOW WED 26th 3.15

From Wednesday 26th August
THE UGLY TRUTH - 12A • ALIENS IN THE ATTIC - PG

CINEMA LISTINGS

Inglorious Basterds Cert '18'
Lt. Aldo Raine (Brad Pitt) leads a group of Jewish-American soldiers on a mission to exact revenge on and spread fear among Nazi soldiers. A plan is hatched to unleash bloody retribution. A welcome return to form in this violent over the top merging of spaghetti western and war film, with the usual fast paced dialogue you'd expect from Quentin Tarantino.

Land Of The Lost Cert '12A'
Will Ferrell stars as has-been scientist Dr Rick Marshall who gets sucked into a space/time vortex and shot back through time. Marshall has no weapons, few skills and questionable smarts to survive in an alternate universe full of marauding dinosaurs and fantastic creatures from beyond our world. A place of spectacular sights and super-scaled comedy.

The Proposal Cert '12A'
Romantic comedy in which a hard driving,

work-a-holic book editor (Sandra Bullock) is forced to marry her male assistant (Ryan Reynolds) in order to stay in the country. When they travel to Alaska to meet his family, the new couple has to fake their way through a surprise wedding thrown by his parents. Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds star. Anne ("27 DRESSES") Fletcher directs.

On The Day
It's the World Pipe Band Championships - 8000 musicians from 16 countries, all on one day. In 2008 a new group joins the battle of the bands. Calling themselves The Spirit of Scotland, the world's top solo players have come together for the first time to attempt the impossible, compete against legendary bands that have been around for decades. What are their chances after just six days of practice? Will they even qualify? In the end, all that matters is what happens on the day. Documentary featuring a who's who of world piping including local Angus MacColl.

Young Mull runner raises £500 for charity



Half marathon runner Barbara Matejske pictured with Sandra Owens and Margaret MacDougall at the MS Therapy Centre in Oban. 16_34run01

A YOUNG runner from the Isle of Mull has raised over £500 for charity after finishing second local in the island's half-marathon race. Barbara Matejske, who has lived on the island since 2005, donated the money to the MS Therapy Centre in Oban. The centre, in Glencruitten Road, has a hyperbaric oxygen chamber which helps to relieve the symptoms of Multiple Sclerosis, and massage and reiki therapists for patients and members of the public. Sandra Owens of the MS Centre said: 'We thank Barbara very much for her efforts. We really appreciate it and it benefits lots of people, including people from Mull.' Barbara, a hospitality worker on the island who is originally from Poland, said she did the run in memory of a friend who had multiple sclerosis. She said: 'I used to have a friend who suffered from MS but there was no treatment available to her at that time.'

Car seat safety checks

PARENTS and careers are being urged to go to one of five clinics across Argyll to ensure that they have correctly fitted car seats and seatbelts in their cars. The drop-in events are part of the Scottish In-Car Child Safety Campaign to raise awareness. Areas of concern include seats which are either too big or too small for children, which don't fit the cars they are used in, twisted or loose seat belts, buckles which are bent or resting on car seat frames and child harnesses which are twisted or not pulled tightly enough. Over the last seven years, road safety officers have checked almost 7,000 child seat and found faults with more than half. The clinics will all be held between 11am and 2pm on August 25, at the Corran Halls car park, Oban; August 26, Lorne Street car park, Lochgilhead; September 2, Coal Pier car park, Dunoon; September 3, outside Aqualibrium, Campbeltown; and September 8, Sinclair Street car park, Helensburgh.

Long-standing office bearers retire from Oban Music Society

TWO long-serving members of Oban Music Society retired at the recent annual general meeting. Grace Powell had been in the chair for the past four years and before that had served the committee since 1995 while Sheila Mitchell had been secretary and latterly treasurer since 1997. The success of the society is largely attributed to their commitment and energy during times when the future of the society looked in doubt. They have been described as a 'hard act to follow' and the new officers will continue to turn to them for advice and support.



Retiring secretary and treasurer, Sheila Mitchell, left and retiring chairwoman, Grace Powell, right.

Over the past season there were five concerts with an average attendance of 60. The programmes were varied from the Barbirolli Quartet playing Haydn and Berg to Graeme McNaught giving a piano recital with Fantasy as his theme. The majority of the performances are organised in conjunction with the Argyll and Bute Concert Tours with some sponsorship from the Scottish Arts Council via Enterprise Music Scotland. However the society has to raise some £3,000 a year from

ticket sales and membership subscriptions. The income is spent mainly on advertising, fees for musicians, all of whom are professional, their travel and accommodation. The new committee is anxious to continue promoting performances by professional artists particularly those living and working in Scotland and to make available to schools the advice and experience of professional musicians. The programme for the coming season starts with a song recital in St John's Cathedral on August 30. This a particularly

significant event and will appeal to many living in Argyll as Bishop Martin Shaw is retiring at the end of September and he has made such a contribution not only to the spiritual welfare of his flock but also to the musical appetite of the community. Although trained at the Royal College of Music in Oratorio and Song Recital he has had little opportunity in singing in opera since becoming an Anglican priest. However many heard him singing with the Oban Bach Choir, most recently in the title role of Mendelssohn's Elijah. His daughter Madeleine

has had a spectacular career as a professional singer, most recently with the English National Opera with whom she has sung in Salzburg, Berlin and Lucerne. She has just completed a very successful role as Elsa in Lohengrin at the Cheltenham Festival. The third member of the family contributing to the concert is Eamonn Mulhall, who also trained at the Royal College of Music and is in much demand internationally as a tenor both in Oratorio and Opera. The programme will be varied ranging from Brahms and Britten to Wagner and Weill.

ARGYLL ANIMAL AID

SNOWY
Nice wee female cat, around a year old. Is spayed. Very afraid of other cats and dogs. Possibly not suitable for a house with young children.
Please contact Pat on 01852 300362
aaa.rescueteam@btconnect.com
http://www.smallpaws.co.uk
Reg. charity SCO13211

Atlantis Leisure hosts Summer Sensations 09
Encouraging new friends from different schools
AROUND 75 youngsters enjoyed two days of activities at Atlantis Leisure and Oban High School as part of the Summer Sensations 09 programme. This is for pupils going into P7 in Oban, Lorn and the Isles and S1 at Oban High School at the start of this term. The idea is to encourage children to make friends with others from different schools as part of the transitional programme run by the schools and also to learn or improve in a number of activities. There was swimming, football, tennis, table tennis, badminton, squash, cricket, ballet, body pump, hockey, benchball, climbing, games and computer games, crafts and a barbecue and disco. The programme of activities was run between Active School's Atlantis Leisure, Community Learning and Regeneration and Oban Youth Café.

As well as sporting activities, there was jewellery making with help from Oban Youth Café youth workers.

gig argyll your essential guide to live music in argyll

Every night > Scottish Music Shows
Skipinnish Ceilidh House from 8pm

Every Thursday > Ceilidh Night
Skipinnish Ceilidh House Starts 10.30pm

Most Thursdays > Karaoke
The Woody

Every Friday > Party Fever
Skipinnish Ceilidh House with DJ Fergie & live ceilidh band Starts 10.30pm

Every Saturday > "Mixed" - Club Night
Skipinnish Ceilidh House with DJs Mark & Stuart Starts 11.00pm

Every Weekend > Live Music 9pm till 12
O'Donnell's

Thursday 20 August > Karaoke
The Woody

Friday 21 August > Brass Monkeys
The Woody

Saturday 22 August > Hercules Mandrin
O'Donnell's

Saturday 22 August > Alan Nimmo
Tight Line, Loch Awe Blues Guitarist

Saturday 29 August > Filthy Kinky
O'Donnell's

Friday 18 September > Phil Cunningham
Skipinnish Ceilidh House and Aly Bain

what's on

Various > Ballet, Jazz
Ballet West Classes Body conditioning
Tel: 01866 822641

Thu 6 - Thu 30 August > Childrens' Treasure Hunt
Inverawe Country Park
Tel: 01866 822808

August Mon-Sat > A Simulated Nocturnal
The Scottish Owl Centre Flying Display
2.30pm

Various > Kundalini Yoga
Energie Fitness
Tel: 01852 300174 for details

Thursday 20th August > Tony Cox
National Trust for Scotland Afternoon Performance
Visitor Centre, Glencoe

Thursday 20th August > Local Producers Market
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch

Corran Halls
Upcoming events

Roger Dean Sings
THE JOHNNY CASH STORY
Friday 18th September
RESERVED SEATING
Doors 7pm • Tickets Adult £16 Conc £14

Please note only photographic driver's licence or passport will be accepted as proof of age at our bar

Corran Halls, Oban
Box Office: 01631 567333

Top blues guitarist plays Lochawe bar
VISITORS to the Tight Line Bar, Lochawe this Saturday night will be in for a rare treat. Internationally acclaimed blues guitarist Alan Nimmo will be performing a solo acoustic set to help celebrate the landlords two-year anniversary of ownership. After a summer spent headlining blues festivals all over Europe with his band King King, Alan is paring it all down for a one-off performance before headlining the Shetland Blues Festival. Widely known across the UK and Europe for his pivotal role with the award-winning Nimmo Brothers, Alan draws his influences from legends like BB King and more contemporary artists such as John Mayer. His full-blooded style and impassioned vocals combine to hit all the right buttons. Playing to a small audience however is something that has been missed over the past few months. 'It's intimate and personal, you can interact with the audience and make it a relaxed show. 'Also from a musical point of view, it's nice to concentrate on singing and putting in some subtle things that sometimes get lost with the noise of a full band,' he said. Entry on Saturday is free and there will be a buffet and free prize draws on the night. For more information visit www.tightlinebar.co.uk or www.kingkingblues.co.uk or call The Tight Line on 01838 200 215.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

THE 7TH Annual Glencoe & District Flower Show
Sat 22nd August
At 1.30pm
Glencoe Village Hall
Exhibits to be handed in between 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Friday evening or between 8.45am - 10am Saturday.
Contact 01855 811 490

Car Boot Sale £5 per car
At Crianlarich Hall
If wet will be held in hall
Sat. 29th August
1 - 4pm
To Book Tel: 01838 300 253
All proceeds to Craft Class and senior citizens Xmas party

Spotlight Musical Theatre Group Table Top Sale
Saturday 22nd August
Guide Hall, Oban
10-4pm
To book a table please call 01631 563054

An Comunn Gaidhealach CRUACHAN BRANCH LAST SUMMER CEILIDH
Thursday 20 August 8pm
Taynuilt Village Hall
Admission £3
Members & Children (5-16 yrs) £2

Craft Fair Seil Island Hall
23rd August
11am - 4pm
Many Crafts
Home Baking * BBQ
Children's Activities for 5-12 year olds organised by Atlantis Leisure from 11am-1pm

Oban and Lorn Lions Club Bed Race Day
30 August 2009
Mossfield Park
1pm - 4pm
Children's Decorated Wheels Competition
Parade and judging 1.30pm
Info: 01631 565582

The Royal National Mod 2009 Local Committee The Year of Homecoming CONCERT
featuring Mod Gold Medallists from Argyll
Corran Hall, Oban
Thursday 27th August, 2009 7.30 p.m.

North Connel & District Horticultural Show 2009 Golden Jubilee Year ANNUAL SHOW
Saturday 22nd August
Victory Hall, Benderloch
Show opens 1.30pm
Tea & Home Baking
Local Art & Craft Exhibition
Raffle & Sale of Produce.
Adults £2 Children £1

Oban & Lorn Horticultural Society Annual Flower Show
Glencruitten Road Church Centre
Saturday 22nd August, 2009
Open to public from 12 noon
Teas, coffees and home baking
Plants for sale
Auction of produce 3.30pm
Proceeds in aid of charity.

Mod Golds for 'Argyll' concert

SEVENTEEN Mod Gold medal winners will make next week's special Homecoming Argyll Gold Concert a night to remember.

It is part of the Royal National Mod Oban 2009 local committee's programme for the Year of Homecoming and will be a star-studded event.

Between the spectacular singing, some of Argyll's talented musicians will be playing, including Ian Hurst on the pipes, Maurice Duncan on fiddle, the Fraser McGlynn Band and accompanist Neil Sinclair, with dancing by Eilidh MacInnes.

Chairing the event in the Corran Halls on Thursday August 27 will be Iain MacKinnon from Tobermory.

Similar concerts in 1981 and 1992 are still talked about and this one looks set to follow suit.

Taynuilt spotlights young talent

THE TAYNUILT ceilidh last Thursday was opened by some of the youngest performers of the night; Oban High School piper Cameron Bennett played with a swing and the Isla Sinclair Dancers Nicola and Kirsty MacLean and Rowan MacAskill showed nifty footwork.

Fear-an-Taigh Murdo Iain MacDonald kept the evening rolling along very professionally and Audrey Paterson was in top form singing in both Gaelic and English with her lovely voice.

Alisdair MacDonald on accordion got the feet tapping and the dancers twirling.

The Fynesiders Barber Shop Chorus entertained the audience to a variety of melancholy and amusing songs.

The Bennett Boys - father Dr. Neil Bennett on the pipes and sons Cameron and Finlay on the accordion and fiddle respectively, played a great selection of airs, much enjoyed by the company.

Dr. Bennett opened the second half of the ceilidh on his pipes and Tom Irvine kept the audience fascinated with his dramatic renderings of Scots songs.

Peter Henderson gave a vote of thanks and a wonderful evening finished with Auld Lang Syne.

'Come and try' - a clarsach

THE CLARSACH Society's Argyll branch is hosting a 'come and try' event for adults at Connel Village Hall.

The one-day free event is part of a weekend-long workshop with tutors Isobel Mieras and Calum MacLeod.

Bookings can be made with Moira Dunlop on 01631 710 565.

Benderloch folk

THE Victory Hall resounded to the sound of guitar, fiddle and song last Friday night.

Colin Gruber and Rachael Black led a mixture of locals and visitors in what would be best described as 'a wee session.'

In the second half Ruiraidh MacMeddes played some of his own songs and a cracking acoustic version of *Sultans of Swing* the Dire Straits hit. Colin and Rachael played a rare mixture of folk favourites to tapping feet from as far away as the USA who helped make up the successful event.

Organised by the local Arts and Culture in Ardoch (ACA) team who are responsible for the recent and forthcoming theatre evenings in the hall, the proceeds raised will go to help run more evenings in the hall.

Piping documentary gets special Argyllshire Gathering screening



World class piper Angus McColl

The story of the Spirit of Scotland Pipe Band - meet the director - meet the band

AMERICAN film director John McDonald will be screening his latest work, *On The Day*, at Oban's Highland Theatre in George Street next Tuesday night and Wednesday afternoon.

The 80-minute documentary follows the story of the Spirit of Scotland Pipe Band, a group assembled from the world's top solo bagpipers to compete in the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow.

Local world class piper Angus McColl was member of this unique band which included 11 gold medalists. He leads the Oban High School Pipe Band and appears regularly at the Skipinnish Ceilidh House, Oban.

McDonald, a piper himself as well as an Emmy-award winning filmmaker, has

passionately dedicated the past year to finishing the film. He arrived in Scotland two weeks ago as a member of California's Pasadena Scots to compete in the World Championships and three other highland games, winning sixth in the world's grade 4B and first place at North Berwick, Perth and Crieff.

Many of the pipers who appear in the movie will be in Oban for the Argyllshire Gathering, a yearly competition for piping's greatest prize, the gold medal.

After the screening, both McDonald and the band members will be available to answer questions and to autograph DVDs and movie posters.

Screening times: Tuesday, August 25, 8.30pm, Wednesday, August 26, 3.15pm

Oban Distillery to host Whisky Week event

Win tickets to attend the Oban Whisky experience courtesy of *The Oban Times* and Whisky Week

OBAN Distillery will take part in one of the whisky industry's biggest events this year as it represents the west coast region during Whisky Week.

Homecoming

Whisky Week, part of this year's Homecoming celebration, is the precursor to the annual international event, Whisky Live, on September 12.

During Whisky Week (September 6-12) a series of distillery tours and dinners will be held in six different

locations, each representing a region of Scotland.

Whisky Week is organised by Whisky Magazine and Scotland Magazine, each bringing their respective expertise to create a stunning week of whisky education and entertainment.

The Oban event will be held on September 10 and representatives from 14 other west Highland and island distilleries have been invited to attend.

Tickets for the Oban event cost £39, which includes a

whisky tasting (pre-dinner), where guests can explore the many whiskies from the region; the Whisky Dinner with the finest local Scottish food matched with the very best local whiskies, and also great speakers; the chance to visit the distillery of your choice and a meet and greet with distillers from the region.

Guests will also receive a complimentary copy of Whisky Magazine, Scotland Magazine and Great Whisky Bars of the World.

Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham head for Skipinnish Ceilidh House

TRANSATLANTIC fiddler and accordion duo Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham are making their way to Skipinnish Ceilidh House, Oban this September.

The one-off date, on Friday 18 September, is part of an international tour that takes the renowned traditional musicians all over the world.

And, not only has the duo chosen to come to Oban, but they have made a bee line for the town's traditional music venue.

According to tour manager Donna Macrae, Oban's upstairs ceilidh house is causing quite a stir on the Scottish music scene by the number of big names it can attract. It has become a must on the tour circuit for some of the most renowned musicians in Scotland.

The popular music duo of Cunningham and Bain are said to be looking forward to



Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham are heading for Oban

coming to the town. Donna Macrae said: 'Phil and Aly are always faithful to venues that attract serious musicians and interested listeners to come and hear them. They will get that at Skipinnish Ceilidh House.'

'Aly Bain is Scotland's supreme traditional style fiddler and Phil does not only has the fastest fingers in the West but some of the most sensitive ones, too.'

'The men have, in Scotland at least, made the accordion and fiddle respectable again.'

Attracting Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham is another tick on the 'celebrity' traditional music scene for Angus MacPhail and Andrew Stevenson of Skipinnish Ceilidh House. 'Bringing the top names in Scottish traditional music to Oban is why we invested in the ceilidh house venture and we will continue to keep that aim at the forefront of all our efforts,' Angus told *The Oban Times*.

Tickets for the Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham tour date in Oban on Friday, September 18 are selling out fast, and Angus advises that if you are interested in buying tickets, priced at £15, you should contact Skipinnish Ceilidh House on 01631 569599 very soon to avoid disappointment.

Primary schools can claim free Ordnance Survey maps

PRIMARY school children across Scotland have the chance to get their hands on free Ordnance Survey maps, after the national mapping agency launched the Free maps for 11-year-olds scheme this week.

The initiative offers every Primary 7 pupil in Scotland a free OS Explorer Map and has been an overwhelming success since its launch in 2002, with the five millionth map given away last year.

The scheme not only supports learning about geography and the environment but also helps encourage children and their families to get out and about and explore their local area. It has been praised by teachers, pupils and parents alike.

'Being able to understand the information on a map, whether it's on paper, the Internet or a hand-held gadget, and relate that to the world you see around you is a really important life skill,' said Elaine Owen, Ordnance Survey's Corporate Responsibility Manager.

'The Free maps for 11-year-olds scheme is helping children learn these skills and is open to every Primary 7 pupil in Scotland. All your school has to do is place their order on our website.'

As well as a free OS Explorer Map,

pupils are also being given the chance to win an all expenses paid day out with the Field Studies Council in Exmoor National Park. The 12 winners that can correctly complete the answers to five questions will have the chance to put their map-reading skills into practice and enjoy the many activities planned for the day.

To take advantage of the scheme, teachers must place their order by November 30 2009 on the Ordnance Survey free maps website: www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/freemapsfor11yearolds.

Further support for teachers is also available on Ordnance Survey's MapZone website - www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone - which offers a range of educational games. There is also the online explore portal, which allows users to plot, share and search for routes on Ordnance Survey mapping. Teachers are using the site, which is free to access, to highlight different map symbols to their pupils. Visit explore at www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/explore.

For more information call the free maps helpline on 0845 337 3133 or email freemapenquiries@ordnancesurvey.co.uk



Last year's bed race winners were Oban Lorne Rugby Football Club.

Mossfield to host Oban Bed Race

OBAN'S Mossfield Stadium has seen many memorable sporting occasions but a new sport will grace the turf on August 30 - bed racing.

Having previously taken place through the town centre, the annual Oban Bed Race is very much a 'spectator sport', according to the organisers, Oban and Lorn Lions.

Lions club member Jim Edge said: 'Mossfield has more space, and everyone can come to see the whole race.'

'It is also safer for the people involved because the town is getting busier every year, particularly during the summer months.'

This year's event will also have a Children's Decorated Wheels Competition and a collection of both classic and rally cars. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue and Strathclyde Police will also have stalls.

Any team that wants to enter a bed into the race can contact Jim on 01631 565 582.

TIMES FORUM
Have your say on the forum at WWW.OBANTIMES.CO.UK

WHISKY WEEK 09
6-12 September
Edinburgh | Glasgow | Inverness | Oban | Perth | Speyside

WIN a pair of tickets to the Whisky Experience Oban on Thursday 10th September - worth £78

Whisky Week, part of Homecoming Scotland 2009, is an exciting series of whisky events taking place throughout Scotland in early September, culminating in Whisky Live Glasgow (www.whiskylive.com) on Saturday 12th September.

Each evening from Sunday 6th to Friday 11th September there is a Whisky Experience somewhere in Scotland, with a superb whisky tasting followed by a food and whisky matched dinner, either in a luxury hotel or in a distillery itself. The Whisky Experience comes to Oban on Thursday 10th September at the splendid Oban Distillery, with a special three course dinner, distillery tour, whisky tasting and much more.

Ticket prices are £39 for the Oban Whisky Experience and to find out more or book tickets just visit www.whiskymag.com/whiskyweek

HOW TO WIN
Whisky Week has teamed up with The Oban Times to offer five pairs of tickets to the Whisky Experience Oban, worth £78 a pair. Just visit www.whiskymag.com/competitions/oban, confirm you would like to attend the Oban Whisky Experience, answer the question correctly and you could be on your way on Thursday 10th September.

Glasgow 2009
WHISKY LIVE

And if you are interested in Whisky Week then don't miss Whisky Live Glasgow which returns to the centre of town on Saturday 12th September at The Thistle Hotel, 36 Cambridge Street. Bringing all the best whiskies of the world together in one place, with expert advice, Masterclasses, live entertainment and food, Whisky Live Glasgow is an unforgettable day out. Tickets are just £22 each, with two sessions during the day. For more information just visit www.whiskylive.com

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
Open to over 18s only and offer is valid from 21st August 2009 until midnight on 29th August 2009. Winners will be informed on Monday 31st August 2009, and must be available for their selected Whisky Experience. Tickets are non-transferable and non-refundable.

Sponsored by
Argyll & Bute Council
Highland Council
Moray Council
Perth & Kinross Council

Local Producers Market
Thursday 20 August
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch, 1 mile along the Tralee road 10 am to 3 pm
LOTS TO EAT AND DO
Every First / Third Thursday
Interested Producers contact 01631 720223
Local Origins Rural Network www.lorn.org.uk

R.N.L.I. Lifeboat Fundraiser
T IN THE HALL
Port Appin Hall
Sat. 22nd August
2 - 4pm
Teas, coffee, home baking, Bric-a-brac, raffle, children's colouring competition.
All welcome

THE ARGYLLSHIRE GATHERING
OBAN HIGHLAND GAMES
Argyllshire Gathering World Premier Piping Competition Wednesday 26th August
March, Strathspey and Reel for former winners 5pm
Various events around Oban at 9pm - Entry £5
Oban Highland Games - Thursday 27th August
Highland Dancing, Heavy Events, Tug-o-war, Athletics, Piping
£10 adults, £8 concessions, £5 children
March leaves Station Square 10.30am

Our Featured Bands: Grade 2 World Champions 2009 Inveraray & District Pipe Band and Oban High School Pipe Band with Pipe Major Angus McColl
www.obangames.com

INVERAWE COUNTRY PARK
Children's Treasure Hunt
6th - 30th August
Follow the clues around the paths and trails at the country park, picking up the Treasure as you go. You'll be rewarded with some tasty treats!!
ONLY 20 mins from Oban just off A85 at Bridge of Awe Tel: 01866 822808
Inverawe Country Park, Taynuilt, Argyll

Tony Cox Afternoon Performances
National Trust For Scotland Visitor Centre, Glencoe
Thursday 20th August 2009
Full concert is three sets - drop in for one set, two sets or complete afternoon performance.
1pm to 1.45pm 2pm to 2.45pm 3pm to 3.45pm
Cost Each: Tickets at Door 1 set £5, 2 sets £7, all 3 sets £10
Concessions: Under 18's, over 60's half price
Traditional & World Music Workshops/ Session
National Trust For Scotland Visitor Centre, Glencoe
Sunday August 23rd 2009. Cost: Donations
Workshops 1pm to 2.30pm Open Session 2.30pm to 4pm

YOUR STARS WITH PATRICK ARUNDEL

ARIES Mar 21st - Apr 20th 090 6612 4520
This can be a great week for job hunting or professional prospects but you do need to avoid power battles, at home or in the world at large. Another bi-product may be that you become more aware of the lifestyle you would like but if you force changes, they may come back on you. The art of listening can lessen tensions. Sharp words will do little good. Call me for more astral advice...

TAURUS Apr 21st - May 21st 090 6612 4521
The Sun moves into the sunniest part of your solar horoscope and your mood should respond to this celestial Vitamin D. But there is more, because Mars is going to power up your communication sector. However, with Pluto lurking opposite, there may be one situation where staying as you are, simply is not an option. Will you dig your heels in? Call now for more news...

GEMINI May 22nd - Jun 21st 090 6612 4522
The desire side of your nature will be turned to max, which can make it harder to be disciplined - especially about what you eat or drink. There may also be a temptation to be extravagant at home, for example buying rather stylish new furniture or fittings. However, if you can stay within budget and increase the comfort factor you'll make the most of this. Call me for your financial forecast...

CANCER Jun 22nd - Jul 23rd 090 6612 4523
The last six weeks has seen Mars passing through one of the trickiest of your zodiac zones, now it emerges into the sunlight. If you've felt at a psychological disadvantage or been up and down in your moods, now you can fire back into life. But be aware someone may find your new found confidence hard to bear and a challenge may be possible. Call now for more news and advice...

LEO Jul 24th - Aug 23rd 090 6612 4524
Glamour planet Venus moves into Leo and is sure to give you even more lustre. Might you become more popular? Well, on the back of this change, very possibly - especially as Mercury speeds into a chatty, fun and bright minded zone. You can also find yourself wanting to refine your appearance with a new hairstyle or classy or fashionable clothing. Call now for more advice...

VRGO Aug 24th - Sep 23rd 090 6612 4525
Sound the bugle Virgo, for the Sun returns to your zodiac sign for the first time in nearly a year. With your ruler Mercury also relocating, this combination can add spark to any plans that have been on-going, and create extra impetus. You can become very determined to achieve your longer term aims, but a new beginning is also possible from now. Call now for your in-depth forecast...

LIBRA Sep 24th - Oct 23rd 090 6612 4526
Some weeks can be relatively uneventful in astrology whilst others can absolutely rock with activity, and this can be one of those. With the New Moon still radiating energy in your friendship sector, this is an excellent time to connect with those who are special and meaningful in your life, but do take the initiative. At work, your confidence blossoms. Call me now for more advice...

SCORPIO Oct 24th - Nov 22nd 090 6612 4527
Mars moves into a generally positive position for you now, but it faces the powerful Pluto. You can stand up for yourself well with this planetary angle, but you also have to cut people some slack as far as their views are concerned. Yet both the Sun and Venus are helpful to you Scorpio, and a job opportunity can come through someone you know or a friend. Call now for more advice...

SAGITTARIUS Nov 23rd - Dec 21st 090 6612 4528
Are you ever impulsive with money? Well, this side of your nature can surface now, but you are unlikely to welcome anyone interfering or criticising your decisions. Yet a 'might is right attitude' could cause strife in a close tie. Brightly, travel prospects are looking particularly blessed, and if you journey this week, it may be linked to business or property. Call for your financial forecast...

CAPRICORN Dec 22nd - Jan 20th 090 6612 4529
If it feels to you that someone has been leaving you hanging and lacking consideration for your feelings, you can show a very much more assertive streak. Equally, this strength and determination could see you break free of a situation which has become stale. You might need to take some responsibility for this, but a change can be as good as a rest. Call now for your in-depth forecast...

AQUARIUS Jan 21st - Feb 19th 090 6612 4530
If you are in business or you have a job which involves you weighing up opportunities, you can be in inspired form now. You have a nose for the truth in situations, and this will come in particularly handy Aquarius. Yet it is in love, where the most significant changes can unfold, something can reignite, get deeper or start afresh. An exciting week indeed! Call for your love scope in full...

PISCES Feb 20th - Mar 20th 090 6612 4531
Upping your physical activities can be good for both your body and soul but equally you can find challenges more stimulating - even if that means taking on your personal best time for a walk, swim or run. At work, there are two ways that you can take on an awkward colleague, either through direct confrontation or dazzling them with your personality. Call me for more advice...

SP: Pronto Ltd, PO Box 52785 EC1P 1TY
Calls cost 60p per minute from standard landline
For entertainment purposes only

The Oban Times

& West Highland Times

Drive within the limits

A SPATE of more than 20 road accidents throughout the west coast over recent days have resulted in tragic loss of life, severe injury, numerous minor bumps and bruises plus considerable damage to vehicles and third party property.

Yet, we have become almost blasé to reports of serious road accidents. We disregard or dilute the horrific consequences that such an incident can have – not only to those directly involved, but on those who have to pick up the pieces, physically or mentally – to focus on the disruption, the inconvenience that dare upset our busy life schedule.

Those who drive on blissfully ignorant of the conditions around them or press on regardless fuelled by an attitude of 'it won't happen to me' will find out that luck, like fuel, runs out rapidly.

Glasgow Letter

Edinburgh Tattoo in Glasgow

IF THE weather on the opening day of Glasgow's International Piping Festival Piping Live 2009 was rather damp it was nothing compared to the torrential rain which greeted visitors from Edinburgh when they performed in George Square.

Despite this, the seated areas on two sides of the square were well filled and the crowd was able to enjoy a taste of the international performances which feature this year at the Edinburgh Tattoo.

Later the same evening, the Strathclyde Suite was almost filled to capacity for the now well established invitational quartet piping competition.

It's like a mini version of the 'worlds' with six Grade 1 bands, each from a different country, playing a march, strathspey and reel in the first half of the programme, followed by a medley. Ten judges were seated throughout the hall and, as for the 2008 competition, they announced that Scottish Power, under Pipe Major Chris Armstrong, were again the winners.

It was a superb night of piping for both the experts and those who simply enjoy listening to excellent musicianship.

There are occasions when preparing this column that decisions have to be made and those who know me will be well aware that sport is likely to win on most occasions.

Imagine my dilemma when Scotland were to face up to Norway and Allan MacDonald and his guests were appearing in St Andrew's in the Square in the programme Battlelines to Barlines. What should I do?

Fortunately, or unfortunately in football terms, it was easy to switch off the television at half time and head off to what turned out to be a terrific evening of music.

Mind you I wasn't too optimistic when Allan MacDonald announced that it was to be an evening of pibroch but a quote from earlier in the week from Simon McKeller during his clans programme 'if you are not keen on pibroch this is for you' was an apt description of what was to follow.

This was no pibroch in the traditional sense but an illustration of how it could be enjoyed by the voice and by other instruments.

Joining Allan on stage

were the James Graham Trio - James together with pianist James Ross and cellist Neil Johnstone - Margaret Stewart, Bonnie Rideout from the USA, his brother Iain playing the flute and Roddie MacLeod who played the only full pibroch on the highland bagpipe.

What a selection of artistes and with interesting and humorous introductions from Allan the music of at least seven clans was dealt with. It was most interesting to hear the music of a pibroch first performed by the voice, then the fiddle and finally the pipes and when all participants played together the performance was breathtaking.

This was one event where one did not know fully what to expect but the end result was such that I am sure repeat performances will take place. If so, please go along and you will not be disappointed.

Diary dates

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, Otago Street, 10am. Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham, Queen's Hall, Dunoon, 7.30pm. Alastair MacDonald, Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh, 7.30pm.

Monday August 24: Grand ceildh, St Andrew's in the Square, 7.30pm. Neil McMillan ceildh band with Jock Murray and the Hebridean Peat Cutters, in aid of Paul O'Gorman Leukaemia Research Centre.

Tuesday August 25: Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham, Albert Halls, Stirling, 7.30pm.

Thursday August 27: Star Folk Club, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, North Sea Gas.

Friday August 28: Summer Sessions, Tolbooth, Stirling, 7pm.

Pub scene

GUNNA Sound will play on Saturday and Sunday in the Park Bar with Eriskay Lilt on Friday.

On Friday in the Islay Inn it will be Crooked Reels with Parting Glass on Saturday. **Neil Murray, Tel: 0141 954 8105. Email: neilmurray@yahoo.co.uk.**



Black Mount stalkers - late 19th century

Robin Fleming of Oxfordshire submitted this week's flashback photograph which shows Black Mount stalkers in the late 19th century. The photo was taken around 1870 and shows the stalkers standing in front of the head stalker's house, known now, incorrectly, as Forest Lodge. This will be familiar to anyone who has walked the West Highland Way. Robin points out that 'Plus Fours', worn by all stalkers these days, had obviously not come into fashion then as the stalkers are all wearing trousers. Black Mount Forest was owned in those days by Lord Breadalbane. 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
Fax: 01631 568001

Great memories of Glencruitten Hostel

Sir,
As former residents of Oban's Glencruitten Hostel we are angry at all the negative press given to the hostel in recent editions of *The Oban Times*, including articles and letters from people who do not wish to be named.

During our six years of living in the hostel the staff were always caring, helpful, kind and fun. The hostel consists of a mixed bunch of more than 80 children. What do you expect, them to all be perfect? The children are just the same as any other youngsters.

The criticism only refers to a minority of residents and not the majority who behave and make the most of their time in Oban.

We will always have great memories of the hostel and the people we met there. We have first hand experience of what it is really like and think it is about time the hard working staff were given some credit instead of constant criticism.

Zoe MacCallum, left 2009, and Jodi MacLeod, left 2008, Ross of Mull.

Unwelcome Ganavan development

Sir,
Born and brought up in Oban, I have revisited the area on many occasions over the years.

I have just spent a few days' enjoyable holiday in the town and it was pleasing to see Oban thriving and so busy with visitors. The setting and scenery are second to none.

What I was not prepared for was the sight that met me at Ganavan. It was not the new houses themselves, although they do not seem to meet any social need, but the complete lack of amenities for the public.

These have all been removed. There is nothing, not even a seat to relax on or picnic tables for families. The car park even charges on Sundays. There is one token swing for children, almost out of sight. Even the beach itself is covered with weeds. Despite the town itself being busy, visitors to Ganavan were thin on the ground.

I am challenging the council to tell me what planning gain has been brought about. Were the developers not obliged

to put something back in to make up for what has been lost? What benefit has this brought to the community or visitors. Is it just me or is the lack of provision the first step to the whole area being privatised for the benefit of new residents?

This was one part of the 'Homecoming' which had no welcome for me.
Anne F Symington, Gifford, East Lothian.

Encourage camper van tourists

Sir,
I write regarding the article in *The Oban Times* of July 30 about camper vans coming to the island of Tiree.

If there is environment damage caused by them it is through ignorance. Why do they not receive a leaflet on the boat with instructions on how to approach the beaches? Tiree was always welcoming to tourists. Has this changed? I hope not.

When I was growing up in Tiree I had to queue one Friday, the beginning of the Glasgow Fair, to get a loaf! The island was so busy and the islanders loved to see it that way.

There aren't enough self-catering homes to let everyone stay, which is one reason why so many camper vans come to Tiree.
Janet MacIntosh, Tiree.

Tiree should welcome motor homes

Sir,
I was surprised to read the comments made by the Argyll Estates factor on Tiree, particularly in relation to motor homes: 'RET should only be available to islanders and those doing business with the islands'.

I suspect Mr Montgomery may have missed the second aim of the Road Equivalent Tariff, which is to attract tourists to the island.

I have recently returned from a week's motor home holiday on Barra and the Uists and was particularly impressed with their motor home friendly outlook there. Surely Tiree should be able to capitalise on these visitors and see them as a valuable addition to the local economy?

Our trip to Barra was made much easier by well marked out camping spots on the side of the road, meaning there was little temptation to drive across the machair. I believe this is something that may be happening on Tiree.

People often accuse motor home users of making no contribution to the local economy and should not be able to take advantage of the reduced ferry fares under the RET. In a week we put more than £600 into the local economy, which I suspect is more than a local would spend during the same period. This consisted of meals out, groceries, fishing, petrol and goods from local producers and excluded ferry tickets.

Lauchlan MacLean-Bristol, Lytham.

McCaig's negativity a minority viewpoint

Sir,
I write to make my feelings clear about the partisan, negative and inaccurate column from McCaig in the edition of August 6.

He offers us, yet again, his subjective, negative assessments and inflicts on us a unionist bugle call to arms.

He then seeks to airbrush the First Minister, Michael Russell and myself out of our successful effort to help a young volunteer stay in Scotland.

He continues to denigrate Homecoming ignoring the huge effort and very positive results it has so far produced.

The good news is McCaig's negativity is a minority viewpoint and that we continue to encourage people to work together with a positive attitude. This certainly applies to my own work with all sectors of the local economy including the tourism brief. That work is ongoing and I will continue to involve all those of goodwill who want to make Argyll and Bute the outstanding success it will be.

Jim Mather MSP, 31 Combie Street, Oban.

Unwarranted attack

Sir,
McCaig really excelled himself last week in his 'View from the (Ivory) Tower' with his unprovoked and unwarranted attack on the uptake of further and higher education.

Is he really suggesting education is a bad thing? Is he suggesting that it is an alternative to unemployment? Is he suggesting that those who become mature students are workshy shirkers who are looking for an easy option and a state handout? All of the above suggestions appear

to be underlying McCaig's diatribe, and I could not believe that someone of his education could write such garbage.

Of course, why should anyone who has become unemployed have the temerity to think they should be able to retrain and open up new opportunities for themselves?

In the Highlands and Islands, the UHI Millennium Institute has opened up opportunities for many people of all ages to follow up their aspirations in a way that would not have been possible before. Does McCaig disapprove of this?

Of course, maybe McCaig would prefer education only to be available to a middle class elite and should be out of reach of the common herd. He should know that this is not the way ahead if we want to have a dynamic economy.

I completed a degree with the UHI in 2006, which took four years, and this year will be starting a Masters Degree. During all of this time I have been in employment and do not regard being a mature student and being employed as mutually exclusive. I therefore see these comments as a slur on the motives of those who wish to take up higher education, and views like this are unworthy of space in your newspaper.
Maurice M Duncan BSc Hons, 15 Nelson Road, Oban.

Water cruisers needed

Sir,
Your article on the 'next generation of small ferries' prompts me to suggest that another fleet of small craft is in need of development – a sheltered water tourist cruiser – about 50-60 passenger capacity.

With this type of craft on selected waterways the Victorian/Edwardian tourist experience could be revived.

With co-ordinated coach-tour scheduling, the lochsides stretches of the lochs and glens tours would be made seeing the lochs properly and not 'through a curtain of trees' with 50 per cent of the passengers being on the wrong side of the coach.

A spin-off from the cruising would be a reduction in lochsides road traffic and the spillage of tourists onto the roadway at odd paronomic intervals. The craft I visualise is a catamaran and a prefabricated single-level connecting deck. Are there adventurous naval architects and financiers out there?
Ian Gow, Furnace.

A VIEW FROM THE TOWER

By McCaig

Absurd plethora of Olympic sports

WHEN the original Olympics were held in Greece many centuries ago there were a handful of competitions compared to the absurd plethora which we have today.

Someone in the governing body will surely move that tiddly-winks will be included for the 2016 Games to be held in any country that will be daft enough to fork out for the alleged prestige of being the location of the most distinguished sports event in the world – alleged by those who are pouring hundreds of millions of sterling, dollars, yen or gold bolivars into them.

Leading British political figures are now freely admitting that had they known there was to be a recession in the western world in the years leading up to the Olympics and possibly the 2014 Commonwealth Games they would not have been assiduous in their pursuit of them.

All of us who live from the Shetland Isles to the White Cliffs of Dover are helping to foot the bill through our Income Tax whether we like it or not.

We had no say as to whether we should lash out the cash – at the expense of other worthwhile projects – and, apart from kicking the current government out of office at the next General Election, which will happen anyway, we have no way of making any expression of our displeasure known.

You may well argue that there will be income from television rights but just how many events are going to be televised and broadcast to the British Isles?

Yes, I know there will be hours of viewing of any event that might possibly produce a British flag on the podium.

Yes, there will be British fervour – just think what brouhaha there was when Torvill and Dean immortalised Maurice Ravel's 'Bolero'.

But what's the criteria for such sports being granted permission to become an Olympic event?

Who agreed to women's boxing being elevated to Olympic sport status? How many women boxers are there in the UK and how many of them could be in with a merest chance of gaining even the humblest placing?

This craze for doing every sport that a man can do is nonsense. Like it or not, there's not going to be cash to fund all these extravaganzas just for equality.

Men and women are not physiologically built the same and even the most ardent feminist is forced to agree to that fact.

More cash needed to buy a home

AN ARRANGEMENT whereby a top-class football

player can benefit from excellent performances when they play for their new teams is well known and quite lucrative for both player and the club which he or she has just left.

It seems that as part of an expensive deal the club selling the player can demand an agreement that the final price paid depends on how well he does for his new team and a consistency in winning benefits his new team as well as his old one.

Nothing really strange in this arrangement and, as long as both clubs are happy, it is a case of cash-rich all round.

But it seems that the same principle is now to be applied to idyllic properties.

Those dealing in property – at present deflated in value – have adopted this little ruse to get a share of what the owner really believes his newly restored cottage with tailored garden and a sea or loch to rave about to anyone who will listen is worth.

And that's what he wants his potential purchaser to do and accept all the ecstatic raving of the seller.

Once caught, the 'must-have' buyer will get a contract from the sellers' agent in which he will find clauses in the proposed deal that it won't happen unless the buyer agrees something like 25 per cent of any increased price if planning permission is granted on any part of the land on which the property is built.

Gone are the simple deal of days of yore: you pay your price and the deal is signed, sealed and delivered and you don't have any further interest in your former home and large garden.

Of course, your smart legal adviser may have stipulated that you, too, can have a share of the rich pickings if they come about.

The original buyer may be the last person to benefit after all the other previous owners have got their share.

Don't miss this year's Oban Games

A WEEK today, this year's Oban Games will take place at Mossfield Stadium and is one of the town's 'must attend' events.

For the secretary Neil Horne it is always a very busy time but he will be slightly relieved as he retires after he finishes all the detailing which goes into a successful games.

Perhaps the most awesome task he has to perform is to persuade the Almighty that games day doesn't need any further rain to cool the ardour of over-enthusiastic competitors as being clouted by a 56lb weight can be quite painful!

McCaig

Your letters

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

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Games hit bright spot amid the gloom

THE GLENFINNAN Gathering and Highland Games on Saturday escaped with a mostly dry day until the rains returned to interrupt proceedings late on.

Organisers struggled throughout Friday in monsoon-like conditions to prepare the field for the big day, which dawned cloudy but dry.

Glenfinnan Games chieftain Sir Malcolm MacGregor, chieftain of the Clan MacGregor, and Lady MacGregor led the march down to the field to open the games on the scenic field next to the Glenfinnan Monument commemorating the Jacobite rising of 1745-6.

Dancers, pipers and athletes enjoyed mostly clement conditions throughout and gave the crowd, perhaps slightly down on previous years, a fine day's competition.

Saturday's games were

Ronnie MacKellaig's 63rd as secretary, making him one of Scotland's longest-serving organisers on the country's Highland games circuit.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'Considering that Friday was the worst day of the year - it poured from morning to night - we had it dry for good long spells and the sun even came out for a while. But then it went back to pretty atrocious weather in late afternoon.'

'While the gate was not quite up to our usual, it was not far off it and we had lots of tourists, principally Americans and Europeans.'

'Thanks as ever to the local men for setting up everything in sometimes very bad conditions.'

Trophy winners:
Piping:
Cameron-Head Trophy for Piobearachd, Matt Pantaleoni (USA); Kennedy Trophy for Marches, Matt



Sir Malcolm MacGregor, centre, chieftain of the Clan MacGregor and chieftain of Glenfinnan Games heads the march to the field with his wife Lady MacGregor.

Pantaleoni; A M MacDonald Trophy for Strathspey and Reel, Duncan Grant; Oban Times Cup for Open Junior Piping, Seamus O'Baoighill (Sleat); Carmichael Cup for Junior Piobearachd, Seamus O'Baoighill.

Dancing:
MacKellaig Cup for Adult Dancing, Darra Wood; Mairi Rae Quaich for Adult Sword Dance, Darra Wood; Glenfinnan House Hotel Cup for Open Junior Dancing 12 to 16 years, Rhiannon MacPhee; Local Dancing winner, Morven Cameron; MacQuire Cup for Open Dancing 8 to 12 years, Aimee Snedden/Kelsey MacBeth; Vertue Cup for local dancing 8 to 12 years, Kelsey MacBeth.



Junior heavy Donald Livingston, from Inverloch, puts the shot.



Highland dance competitors put on a fine display at Glenfinnan Games.



Inveraray and District Pipe Band celebrates after being crowned World Champions in Grade Two.

Inveraray pipe band is on top of the world - yet again!

INVERARAY and District Pipe Band is literally on top of the world after winning the Grade 2 section of the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow.

Under medal-winning Pipe Major Stuart Liddell and Drum Corps leader Steven McWhirter, the band has risen with astonishing speed through the ranks in the past four years, culminating in their win on Saturday.

Last year they were junior champions and this year has seen the band sweep the boards with its sights now firmly set on the Cowal Games competition next week.

Pipe Major Stuart Liddell said: 'I am delighted and

immensely proud of what the band has achieved in such a short time. The result at the Worlds was emotional to say the least. I think we might be one of the youngest bands to be moved up to Grade One next year and maybe the quickest too.'

Following firmly in the footsteps of the Grade 2 band, the novice band under the careful eye of Pipe Major Robert Stewart reached a creditable fourth in the Novice section.

He was delighted with the result which he said was 'down to the commitment and hard work from everyone involved with the band, pipers, drummers, tutors and supporters'.

Kintyre Schools novice pipe band was sixth and Oban High School Pipe Band was seventh in the same section, while Kintyre Schools juvenile band reached fifth in the Juvenile section.

Argyll and Bute MSP Jim Mather added his congratulations to all the bands but particularly Inveraray and District.

Triumphal
'Apparently the 'homecoming' back to Inveraray was memorable for the members of both bands as they paraded up Main Street, played a triumphal set in front of the church and threaded their way in single file through The George Hotel to the delight and

astonishment of guests and locals,' said Mr Mather.

'Clearly there will be no shortage in the supply of band members in future years. I note that other pipe bands also did well in Glasgow, particularly the youngsters with Kintyre Schools and Oban High School closely following the pace set by Inveraray. The huge surge of interest in piping and drumming is a great encouragement and I am pleased to see Argyll and Bute to the fore.'

Sgoil Lionacleit Pipe Band from the Uists participated in the Novice Juvenile section, and although did not qualify, gave a very creditable performance.

Islay residents object to grain silos over safety fears

RESIDENTS living near Port Ellen Maltings on Islay are challenging drinks giant Diageo over a planning application to replace two silos that collapsed at the plant last November.

Six families had to be evacuated from their homes in Bay View after one silo collapsed, causing tonnes of grain to spill into their gardens. Diageo took down a second silo, which had been damaged in the incident.

Now an attempt by the drinks company to restore the silos in the same position is being contested by some of the Bay View residents and their landlord, Argyll Community Housing

Association (ACHA). A 98-signature petition against the planning application has also been submitted.

A spokeswoman for ACHA said: 'The association has lodged an objection to the planning application to replace the silos at The Maltings.'

'This objection has been lodged on safety grounds as when the last silo collapsed the grain came down into our tenants' gardens.'

Catastrophic
'Fortunately, on that occasion, none of our tenants or their families were injured but it could have had catastrophic consequences. 'The association does not

object to the silos being replaced in an alternate location at the site with adequate defensive structures to prevent a re-occurrence of the collapse and grain spilling across our properties.'

However, the application has been recommended for approval by Argyll and Bute Council planners and was due to go in front of the council's planning, protective services and licensing committee yesterday (Wednesday).

At the time of the incident, Islay-based Councillor Robin Currie said: 'If Diageo is going to replace the silos I would want to see them further from these houses.'

A spokeswoman for Diageo said: 'We are fully committed to the concerns of our neighbours in relation to the planning application, and have for some time been engaged in community meetings in order to explain our proposals for the site.'

Solution
'We are fully committed to delivering a solution, and have shared the detailed design work undertaken to demonstrate how we intend to resolve current issues.'

'Additionally, the replacement silos will be constructed from new materials which provide enhanced corrosion protection.'

Sheltered housing charges go ahead

NEW charges of £10 a week for pensioners living in sheltered housing came into effect on Monday, August 17, despite protests and threats by tenants not to pay. The Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) board approved

the charges last week. New tenants face charges of up to £70 on top of rent but they are capped at £10 for existing tenants.

ACHA says the charges are essential to cover the cost of wardens, common rooms and other facilities not included

in rent. Christine Johnston, director of housing and neighbour services, said they recognised the difficulties tenants faced.

Concern
She added: 'The board remained resolute in pursuing funding sources to support tenants as a result of the charges being introduced, recognising that benefit eligibility for charges remains a concern.'

A high-level meeting on the subject is scheduled to take place tomorrow (Friday) with ACHA, Scottish government and Argyll and Bute Council

representatives present.

Morag Lumsdan, who has lived in Tarbert's Lochgair Place, said the complex's warden service has recently been reduced even though new charges are being introduced. She said: 'It's a pop-in and pop-out service we're getting and I am refusing to pay this new charge.'

Meanwhile Alan Reid, Argyll and Bute MP, urged the Scottish government and Argyll and Bute Council to step in and stop the charge by restoring grants for sheltered housing.

Awards for class acts

TWENTY-THREE classroom assistants and additional support needs assistants working in Argyll and Bute Schools have received professional development awards (PDAs).

The staff have completed more than a year of accredited training involving attendance at training days, practical work in schools and personal study.

20 Years Ago

Those Were The Days
The Oban Times

Thursday August 17, 1989



New Motorail Service

A NEW Motorail service between Fort William and London is to be introduced by Intercity next May.

The service, which will see cars carried in covered vehicles attached to the rear of the scheduled overnight seating and sleeper service to London, will operate throughout the summer.

The new service was announced on Monday at the opening of the West Highland Line Centenary Exhibition by Col. Sir Colin D.H. Cameron of Lochail, chief of the Clan Cameron, who was accompanied by Mr John Cameron, chairman of the British Railways (Scottish) Board. It will provide Fort William with a valuable new tourist link to London and the south.

Pleas for lifeboat at Craobh stepped up

VILLAGERS at Barbreck campaigning to have a lifeboat stationed at Craobh Haven believe they are on the road to achieving their objective.

Mr A.G. Course of the RNLI Inspectorate at Edinburgh recently visited Craobh Haven to discuss the proposal with the local lifeboat appeal committee, and is

reported to have agreed in principle on the need for a lifeboat in this area.

He has suggested that the ideal size of craft to cope with operational needs along that part of the coastline would be an Atlantic 21, costing around £40,000.

Presenting their case, the appeal committee delegation pointed to the recent increase in commercial traffic stemming from the spread of fish farms as well as the huge growth in water sports.

Inquiry looks again at Oban site

PLANS for major developments on land at Glenshellach, Oban, are to be the subject of a reconvened public inquiry to be held in Oban's Corran Halls.

At an earlier sitting the inquiry looked at proposals which earmarked Glenshellach as a potential site for a new hospital for Oban, a new primary school, industrial units and housing.

Objectors to the scheme say the area could not cope with the heavy volume of traffic which would be generated by such a massive development.

Those against the project have sug-

gested that it would make more sense to consider developing ground at Pennyfuir between Oban and Dunbeg.

A traffic survey has indicated that at peak periods 231 cars and two buses an hour could be feeding into Glenshellach off the A816.

Next week's hearing will take evidence relating to water tables, routes of burns, flood control and traffic flow.

Call for new road to solve problems in Ardnamurchan

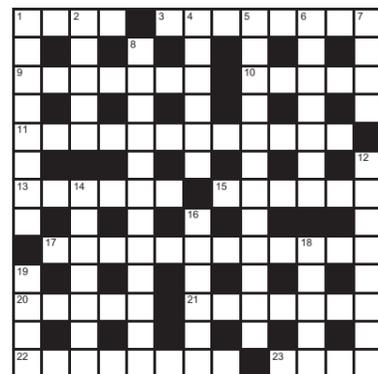
A MEETING to discuss a proposal to build a new road to serve Kilchoan is to be held at Glenborrodale School on Monday.

The cost of a new road - which would provide a circular route for Ardnamurchan - would be no more than the cost of carrying out improvements to the existing roads. The new route would allow development on the north coast of West Ardnamurchan.

Local views are being sought prior to a Highland Regional Council roads and transport committee visit to Glenborrodale later this month.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1 Extinguish (4) | 1 Wool holders (8) |
| 3 Washing area (8) | 2 Calculation (5) |
| 9 What one does at a table (3-4) (3-4) | 4 Chronicles (6) |
| 10 Engender (5) | 5 Turmoil (6-6) |
| 11 Put together in a row (8,4) (8,4) | 6 Dress material (7) |
| 13 Productive (6) | 7 Folklore (4) |
| 15 Subs (1-5) (1-5) | 8 Launch (12) |
| 17 Abolish (12) | 12 Of the lily family (8) |
| 20 Feudal lord (5) | 14 Fire breathing monster (7) |
| 21 Tied by family (7) | 16 Well-built (6) |
| 22 Songs of sailors (8) | 18 Foreword, for short (5) |
| 23 Be hopping mad (4) | 19 A group of legislators (4) |



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Dingwall lamb trade rises by £15.78 on year

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 8,040 store lambs at Dingwall last week when lambs were shown in excellent bloom, the sale average showed an increase of £15.78 in part, due to the quality of lambs. Sellers were more than happy with the increased trade.

Cheviot wether lambs averaged £47.54 and sold to £64 gross for a single from 27 Portgower, Helmsdale, while Cheviot ewe lambs averaged £45.76 (+£15.67) and sold to £69 for a pen of 15 from 91/92 Achviach, Dornoch.

Texel cross lambs averaged £51.02 (+£16.60) and sold to £63.50 for a single from Lower Arboll Tain while Suffolk cross lambs averaged £49.15 (+£15.53) and sold to £59.50 for a pen from Lower Gartally, Drumadrochit.

Cross lambs sold to £48.00 for a pen from 199 Lednabrighen, Dornoch.

Dornoch & Golspie: Cheviot wether lambs Knockglass, Dornoch, £59.50; Cheviot ewe lambs Knockglass, £62; TexX Bardachan, Dornoch, £62.50; SuffX Lednabrighen, Dornoch, £50; Cross Lednabrighen, £44; Brora: Cheviot wether lambs East Brora, (Murray), and 81 East Brora, (Sutherland), £61; Cheviot ewe lambs 86 Dalchalm, Brora, £61.50; TexX 145 Badnellan, Brora, £61.50; SuffX 192 The Doll, Brora, £50. Ardgay & Bonar Bridge: Cheviot wether lambs Doune, Ardgay, £55; Cheviot ewe lambs Doune, £52.50; Rogart: Cheviot wether lambs Achuillich, Rogart, £57.00; Cheviot ewe lambs Milton Muie, Rogart, £58; TexX 116 Knockarthur, Rogart, £54 Cross - Grumby, Rogart, £42.50. Laig, West & Ross: Cheviot wether lambs Balcham, Laig, £54.50; Cheviot ewe lambs 1 Balcham, £68. TexX Keppoch Farm, Dundonnell, £58. SuffX Lower Gartally, £49. Cross Ullinish & Balgowan Sheep Stock Club, Isle of Skye, £43 Helmsdale & North: Cheviot wether lambs Rhiail Farms, Strathnaver, £63.50; Cheviot ewe lambs Knockinnon, Dunbeath, £68. TexX Rhiail Farms, £55

Oban butcher judges Stirling lamb show

UNITED Auctions sold 6,511 prime sheep including 4753 lambs averaging 149.2p and 1758 ewes and rams at Stirling last Thursday.

The Scottish Texel Club and John Brown, Butcher, Buchlyvie sponsored the Texel prime lamb show and was judged by Samuel Jackson, Oban who awarded the champion pen to Blackford Farms at £74.

The reserve champion pen came from Easter Greenhill at £67.50.

Texel lambs from Cherryfield sold to £94, with Suffolks from Benthead to £71. Blackfaces from Rhynaclach sold to £56.

Texel ewes from Cherryfield sold to £98, with Suffolks from Muirside to £89 and Blackfaces from Hillhead to £53.



Ewan MacDonald, Old Inn, Tigharry with his North Uist Show overall champion a cross Limousin bullock out of a home-bred cow and by a Commission bull

Opening Oban lamb sale sees trade rise £15.89 on year

Texel cross lambs from Barguilean are show champions and sell to £68

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd conducted their opening show and sale of 1722 store lambs and feeding sheep at Oban Livestock Centre last Tuesday when the sale average rose by £15.89 on the year, to average at £53.66.

Leading a brisk lamb trade was a pen of Texel cross lambs from Barguilean which sold to £68, while Suffolk feeding ewes from Barcaldine Home Farm sold to £88.

The show held before the sale, again kindly sponsored by Reid and Robertson, was judged this year by Stanley Johnston, Perth - resulted in the following awards: Champion and top lamb price of the day

went to Derek Dempster, Barguilean, Taynuilt for a pen of 10 Texel cross lambs which fetched a £68 from the judge.

Reserve champion went to Gilbert Black, Torbhlaren for a pen of 25 Suffolk cross lambs, fetching a bid of £62 and purchased by Mr J Errington.

Other awards to island consignors included: 10 Suffolk cross lambs £65 1 Campbell, Strongorm; 10 Continental cross lambs £57.20 A McGillivray, Achuran, Lismore; 25 Suffolk cross lambs £56.20 I Campbell, Strongorm; 25 Continental lambs £63.80 D McCormick, Baligarve, Lismore, while from mainland consignors: 25 Texel cross lambs £52 from

J Cameron, Strontoiler. Prices outwith prize list: Suffolk cross - £65 Bonniwell; Suffolk - £64 Barguilean; Texel cross - £64.80 Poltalloch Farms; Texel - £64 Ardachy; Continental cross - £63.80 Tirtfuir (Lismore); Mule - £58.20 Poltalloch; Cross - £54 Achiaran. Blackface ewe lambs - £47.50 Lagganulva; Blackface wether lambs - £42 Aird; Riggs - £65 Bonniwell. Feeding ewes: Suffolk - £88 Barcaldine Home Farm; Texel - £79 Barcaldine Home Farm; Cheviot - £74 Dalvore; Cross - £54.50 Pine Lodge; Blackface - £36 Strongorm.

Ardachy Blackface takes overall Appin Show title

APPIN'S annual show attracted a larger than usual entry of cattle and sheep and with competition so fierce, an umpire had to be called in to decide three top titles.

As the judges were unable to pick between the finalists in the sheep, cattle and overall championship, Scottish Farmer deputy editor Ken Fletcher was invited to adjudicate.

The champion of champions was a two-shear Blackface tup from Messrs Troughton of Ardachy Farm, North Connel. He is by a £800 Crookston and bought for £900 at Dalmlaly last year.

Reserve overall was the Highland leader, a two-year-old heifer Una Ruadh 2nd from the Cladich fold of JM Strickland. The

home-bred heifer is by Alan of Glendalich and out of Una Ruadh 8th of Torloisk.

Cross-bred cattle champion was Ewen MacGilvray's spring-born calf from a home-bred Belgian Blue by Douglas McDonald, Tyree's bull Tweedside Upstanding.

It was a good show also for Port Appin ferryman Allan MacKellar, Seaview, Benderloch whose Bluefaced Leicester ewe Esmeralda Seaview Blue was pure bred champion and reserve overall sheep. She is by a Clennell sire out of a Barleas Elite ewe.

Brenda MacLeod, show secretary, said entries were up in most classes. 'All the judges were pleased with the quality and quantity of entries in their section.'

Old Inn Limousin is North Uist champion

NORTH Uist saw a buoyant agricultural show last week, with numbers of livestock up on last year and strong gate figures.

Visitors and locals flocked to the show, tempted by sunny skies and the promise of plenty of livestock.

Defying the bureaucratic burden of bringing cattle to the show, local famers showed 61 beasts, up from 51 last year. Sheep numbers were also up by five to 90 sheep.

Champion sheep was a four-crop Blackface ewe from 16-year old Archie MacVicar of 11, Lochport. The young crofter has 40 Blackface and Cheviot ewes and is no stranger to championships, winning show champion last year

with a Blackface gimmer. Sheep judge Sandy Lindsay of Glenshee said: 'It's a pleasure to judge a show of sheep like that.'

'It's as good a show of sheep as you'll see anywhere, and very competitive.'

'The organisers must have been working hard to persuade folk to come along.'

Cattle judge Donald Patullo of Logiealmond, Perthshire said he too was impressed by the stock on the island.

He said: 'There are a lot of well-bred calves, good quality of stock all round, not far behind mainland show cattle. Some of the suckler calves are excellent.'

'I think there are a lot of good stockpeople on the island.'

Cattle champion and also overall show champion was a Limousin cross bullock from Ewen Macdonald of Old Inn, Tigharry. Mr Patullo described the calf as 'a tremendous bullock with great motivation, a great hind-end on it, a great top and nice head. He walks well. A clear champion.'

Ewan Macdonald said: 'He's three-quarter Limousin, out of a home bred cow and a Commission Limousin bull. He was born at the end of January, and within a month I knew there was something about that calf. He'll be going to the local sale in Lochmaddy and will probably end his days in Ross-shire.'

North Uist agricultural society president Iain MacDonald of Illeray,

Baleshare said he was delighted with this year's show.

'It's been a great day and good to see so many entrants, considering how much time and effort it takes for people to bring animals to the show when crofters are part-time.'

'We also successfully reintroduced the junior stock-judging after many years, to see if we can encourage the younger lads and lasses to take an interest in the cattle show. About eight or nine competed in it, no girls, but we'll work on that for the future.'

'It's been encouraging too to see young folk beginning to show their own animals, especially in the sheep section. It's good that North Uist, a small island, can produce a show like this.'



Sheep judge Sandy Lindsay and North Uist Agricultural Society President Iain MacDonald



Young crofter Archie MacVicar, Lochport with his four-crop Blackface ewe champion



Top left: The overall Appin Show champion was the sheep champion, a Blackface tup from Ardachy Farm, North Connel 8-434app03

Bottom left: Highland cattle champion and reserve overall at Appin Show was the two-year old heifer Una Ruadh 2nd from JM Strickland, Cladich 8-434app01

Below: Reserve sheep champion was the pure-bred Bluefaced Leicester ewe Esmeralda Seaview Blue from Allan MacKellar, Seaview, Benderloch 8-434app05



Rob Wainwright starts the under 5's egg-and-spoon race at Coll Show



Children shine through at Isle of Coll Horticultural and Agricultural Show

THIS year's Isle of Coll Horticultural and Agricultural Show saw one particularly well-represented group - children.

'This year's fruit and veg sections were very good,' said show secretary Olvin Smith. 'But the most remarkable category was the kids' craft section, which seems to expand every year.'

'The show was one of our best-attended,' continued Olvin. 'Loads of people participated in the tug-of-war, the road race and the other sporting events.'

Margaret James has been contributing to the show for more than 50 years and is a regular prize winner. This year she became a judge in the home produce section.

'The number of entries was down this year, mostly because we changed the rules to allow only one entry per person. But despite this, the quality of home baking was good and it's fantastic to see the traditions being continued.'



Rob Wainwright starts the under 5's egg-and-spoon race at Coll Show

'The veg section certainly benefited from what's been a pretty good summer,' said Margaret, 'but flowers suffered from a recent bout of poor weather.'

'Coll Show, which has been going for 88 years, was a barometer for island life,' said Olvin.

Some aspects of the show - like the livestock entries - are resolutely maintained despite dwindling entries. 'These days there are just four or five farmers who compete for four trophies,' said Olvin.

There is no doubt that the show is a popular event which draws visitors to the island every year.

William Tunnel has visited the island since he was a boy. Now an Edinburgh architect, he encourages his children to enter arts and crafts in the show, just as he did. 'It's a great opportunity for them to be artistic,' he said.

Coll Show results: Livestock: Kenneth Cup Angus - John Smalley; Fiona Cup - Angus John Smalley; George Binney Shield - Rob Wainwright; Same tankard - Rob Wainwright. Children's: The Coll Children's Trophy - Poppy Young; Sports Trophy - Luisaidh Henderson; most points for visitor - Ellen Jackson. Home produce: Challenge Cup (most points) - Olvin Smith; Challenge Cup (most firsts) - Olvin Smith; Marion Walker Memorial Cup (jams and jellies) - Olvin Smith; Galbraith Cup (men's decorated cake) - Olvin Smith; scones and pancakes - Fay Anderson. Handicraft Cup - Margaret James. Horticultural Cup - Frank Anderson. Christina McFadyen Memorial Rose Bowl - Carole Evans and Margaret James. Alastair Oliphant Cup for Roses - Carole Evans. Neil Mackay Memorial Cup for Best Garden - Ian and Teri Mills. Flora McLennan Cup (house plants) - Margaret James and Susan Erskine.

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Salen Show trophy winners
MacDougall Challenge Trophy for best Dairy: Garth Reade; Collingridge Cup: High/cross Highland bred by exhibitor: Bert Leitch; Leroy Cup: cross-bred exotic calf: D & L MacLean; Eaton Cup: cross-beef animal bred by one with no regular labour: Norman MacPhail; Caledonian Mart Cup: Animal most likely make a butchers best: D & L MacLean; Killiechranon Cup: Champion beef animal (not bull): D & L MacLean; Tenga Cup:

Highland heifer: Bert Leitch; Original Glenaros Cup: Highland calf: Angus MacColl; Glenaros Cup: Champion Highland: Bert Leitch; Henderson Trophy: Herdsman producing champion Highland: I MacKay; Columba Cream Cup: cow w/calf at foot: Chris James; Treshnish Cup: Champion native cattle: Bert Leitch; Killiechranon (Mellis) Cup: Overall cattle champion: Bert Leitch; Johnnie MacQuarrie Memorial Trophy: Under 16 showing a calf: Kirsty MacGillivray; Johnnie Miller Memorial Trophy: Champion tup bred in show district:

Glenorm Estate; Duart Cup: Male Blackface bred by exhibitor: A MacNeill; Garmony Cup: Male Blackface not necessarily bred by exhibitor: A MacNeill; Galbraith Gimmer Cup: Champion Blackface gimmer: D & L MacLean; Pennygown Cup: Blackface ewe with lamb: Glenorm Estate; MacGill Cup: Female Blackface champion: Glenorm Estate; J M Sinclair Memorial Trophy: Champion Blackface lamb: A MacNeill; Glenforsa Cup: Blackface champ bred in show district: Glenorm Estate; Society's (Wilsons) Cup: Norman MacPhail;

Ulva Cup: Blackface group: D & L MacLean; Yeaman Rosebowl: Overall Blackface female champion: Glenorm Estate; Lochbuie Cup: Champion Cheviot: Allan MacKenzie; Torr Cup: Champion Cheviot male: Allan MacKenzie; Killiemor Plate: Reserve champ Cheviot: Robert MacDougall; Royal Bank Cup: Overall gimmer champion: Angus C MacColl; Clydesdale Bank Cup: Best non-Blackface female: Robert MacDougall; Penalbanach Cup: Overall non Blackface/champion (excluding Cheviots):

Angus C MacColl; Waugh Memorial Trophy: Overall non Blackface/champion: Allan MacKenzie; Torosay Cup: Overall sheep champion: Glenorm Estate; Torloisk Cup: Champ riding horse or pony: Connie MacDougall; MacDougall Cup: Champ Shetland pony: Emma MacDougall; Calgarry Cup: Champ high pony: Liz Moore; Best Rider under 12 yrs: Eilidh Crichton; Best Rider under 16yrs: Lily Reade; Maclean of Duart Cup: overall horse or pony: Amanda Fergusson; Poverty Cup: Tom Lines; Arle Tankard:

Champion dog show: Alice Fitzgibbon; Turner Challenge Cup: Collie best working condition owned/employee: Fiona Boa; MacLean Cup: Champion working sheepdog: Fiona Boa; Campbell Cup: Ch stick or crook maker: Lachlan MacLean; Garmony Cup: Handicrafts: Sheila Campbell; Society's Rosebowl: Baking: Elizabeth Jack; Margaret Brown Memorial Trophy: Jams and Chutneys: Sheila Campbell; Callachally Cup: Overall points under 16yrs: Sian Henderson; MacLean Cup: Overall points produce tent: Sheila

Campbell; Cunningham Cup (Rotating) Cattle: Bert Leitch; Highland Services Cup: Jnr showjumping: Louise Reade; O'Donnell Shield: Intermediate showjumping: Chloe Reade; Rockfield Cup: Open showjumping: Chloe Reade; Gometra Cup: Horse and hound stakes: Louise Reade; MacKechnie Tankard: overall points showjumping: Chloe and Louise Reade; Howard Duncan Memorial Trophy: Reserve show champion: Bert Leitch; Dr Anne Memorial Trophy: Supreme show champion: Amanda Fergusson

North Uist Show Results

Cattle
 Cross Highland or cross Luing cow in calf or milk
 1 & 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Cross Highland or cross Luing cow with own calf at foot
 1 & 3 Ewen MacDonald, Old Inn 2. Hugh MacDonald
 Shorthorn or Shorthorn cross cow in calf or milk
 1. Alastair MacDonald, 15 Tigharry 2 & 3 Hugh MacDonald
 Continental or Cross Continental cow in calf or in milk
 1 & 3 Ewen MacDonald 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Heifer stirk no broad teeth (native breed)
 1 Alastair MacDonald, 15 Tigharry 2 & 3 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Heifer stirk (continental breed)
 1 & 2 Alastair MacDonald, 15 Tigharry 3 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Two year old breeding heifer, Shorthorn or Shorthorn cross (not AA)
 1 Alastair MacDonald, 15 Tigharry
 Two year old heifer (continental cross)
 1 John A MacLellan 2 Ewen MacDonald 3 Alastair MacDonald, 15 Tigharry
 Two year old cross Highland or cross Luing heifer
 1 & 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Heifer carrying first calf (any beef breed, pure or cross)
 1 John A MacLellan 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore 3 Ewen MacDonald
 Beef type cow, cross or pure bred, other than pure Highland with own calf at foot (traditional breed)
 1 Hugh MacDonald 2 John A MacLellan 3 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Beef type cow, cross or pure bred, with own calf at foot (continental breed)
 1 & 3 Ewen MacDonald 2 John A MacLellan
 Bullock calf (beef type) born

after 1st November (native breed)
 1 & 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Bullock calf (beef type) born after 1st November (continental breed)
 1 & 3 Ewen MacDonald 2 Hugh MacDonald
 Heifer calf born after 1st November (native breed)
 1 & 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Heifer calf born after 1st November (continental breed)
 1 & 3 Ewen MacDonald 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Best animal in cattle section
 1 Ewen MacDonald, Old Inn



Plants and produce entries were strong at the year's North Uist show

Sheep
 BF tup lamb (bred by exhibitor)
 1 Archie MacVicar, Lochport
 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 3 Alistair MacQuarrie, Cl Baleshare
 BF shearing ram (Uist bred)
 1 Iain MacDonald, Illeray 2 John MacAulay, Malaglate 3 John MacDonald, Grimsay
 BF ram (2 yrs old and over)
 1 Alistair MacQuarrie 2 Iain MacDonald
 BF ewe hogg
 1 & 2 Archie MacVicar 3 Iain MacDonald
 BF ewe with own BF lamb
 1 Archie MacVicar 2 & 3 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 BF ewe with own cross lamb
 1 Alasdair MacDonald, Tigharry
 BF ewe lamb
 1 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 2 Archie MacVicar 3 Iain MacDonald, Illeray
 BF wedder lamb

1 Iain MacDonald 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Cheviot ram (2 yrs old and over)
 1 Archie MacVicar 2 Hugh MacDonald, Hosta
 Cheviot shearing ram
 1 Archie MacVicar 2 Joan MacKay, Grimsay
 Pure bred Cheviot ewe with own Cheviot lamb
 1 & 3 Hugh MacDonald 2 Joan MacKay 3 Hugh MacDonald
 Cheviot ewe hogg
 1 & 2 Hugh MacDonald
 Cross Cheviot ewe with Cheviot or Texel lamb
 1 Hugh MacDonald 2 Colin MacLean, Templeside,
 Carinish 3 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Cross Cheviot ewe with Suffolk lamb
 1 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 2 & 3 Alistair MacQuarrie
 Cross Cheviot ewe hogg
 1 Joan MacKay 2 Hugh MacDonald 3 Colin MacLean
 Cheviot cross lamb
 1 Joan MacKay 2 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore 3 Hugh MacDonald
 Texel ram
 1 Colin MacLean 2 & 3 Hugh MacDonald
 Cross Texel lamb
 1 Colin MacLean 2 & 3 Hugh MacDonald
 Swaledale ram
 1 John MacDonald, Grimsay
 Swaledale or cross Swaledale ewe with own lamb
 1 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Swaledale or cross Swaledale ewe hogg
 1 & 2 John MacAulay
 Suffolk ram
 1 Iain MacDonald, Illeray
 Suffolk cross lamb
 1 Archie MacVicar 2 & 3 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
 Ewe (any breed) with twin lambs
 1 & 2 Hugh MacDonald
 Three finished lambs of any breed or cross
 1 Alistair MacQuarrie 2 Colin MacLean 3 Hugh MacDonald
 Hebridean hogg
 1 & 2 Alasdair Ferguson, Hougharry 3 Fiona Morrison, Carinish
 Pet lamb (any breed)
 1 Kasia MacLellan, Fairhill, Tigharry 2- Kirsty MacLean, Kenneth MacLean, Carinish,
 Bethan MacLellan, Archie

MacLellan, 17 Hougharry
 Champion sheep
 1 Archie MacVicar with Blackface ewe
Trophy winners
 MacLean Cup
 Best Blackface ewe lamb or ram lamb - Uist bred (classes 1 & 8)
 Archie MacVicar, Lochport
 Best Blackface ewe hogg
 Archie MacVicar, Lochport
 Dr Lachlan MacLean Memorial cup
 Best Blackface ewe with own Blackface lamb
 Archie MacVicar, Lochport
 Donald Archie MacDonald Memorial Cup
 Best pure bred Cheviot ewe with own Cheviot lamb
 Hugh MacDonald, Hosta
 North Eastern Farmers Ltd Trophy
 Best Cheviot ewe hogg
 Hugh MacDonald, Hosta
 Dingwall Auctioneers Trophy
 Best lamb in classes 9, 17, 19 & 24
 Iain MacDonald, Illeray
 Hugh Murray Trophy
 Champion sheep
 Archie MacVicar, Lochport
 A&J MacDonald Crossroads Memorial Cup
 Competitor with the highest number of points in the sheep section
 Hugh MacDonald, Hosta
Cattle
 Norman Hugh MacAulay Memorial Trophy
 Best Shorthorn or Shorthorn cross cow in calf or milk
 A MacDonald, 15 Tigharry
 Norman MacDonald Blashival Memorial Cup
 Best heifer carrying first calf
 John Allan MacLellan, Hougharry
 Colonel Cator Cup
 Best beef type breeding cow, traditional or Continental with own calf at foot.
 Ewen MacDonald, Old Inn
 Westford Cup
 Best animal in cattle section
 Ewen MacDonald, Old Inn
 North Uist and Berneray Association Cup
 Highest aggregate in sections cattle and sheep
 Alistair MacDonald, Ahmore
Horses
 Southern Isles Veterinary Services Trophy
 Best animal in horse section
 Heather Morrison with Lucky

North Uist Riding Centre Trophy
 Best horse and rider under 16 years
 Fiona Morison with Molly
 Champion of Champions
 Cattle, sheep and horse sections, Sponsored by Harbro Ltd, (£75)
 Ewen MacDonald, Old Inn with calf
Junior stockjudging
 Under 25's cattle and sheep classes
 Angus Ferguson, Cl Kirkibost
 Kenny Barker Shield
 Best turned out tractor
 Iain MacAskill, Berneray
 Clachan Stores Trophy
 Best overall competitor - Dog Show
 Lisa Gill with Milly May
Kitchen Garden & Produce
 MacGillivray Cup
 Kitchen garden
 Jane Taylor, Berneray
Flowers & Plants
 Catherine MacGillivray Memorial Trophy
 Flower garden
 Athlene MacKenzie, Black Point, Grimsay
Home Industries
 North Uist and Berneray Association Cup
 Highest aggregate in home industries section
 Mary Ann MacDonald, Berneray
 Mrs G MacInnes Cup
 (Primary)
 Best handicraft
 Kasia MacLellan, Tigharry
 Mrs G MacInnes Cup (Secondary)
 Best woodwork
 Angus MacIntosh, Grenitote
 Hebridean Jewellery Trophy
 Best Metalwork - secondary
 Kayleigh Petric, Druim Dubh
Dairy, Home Baking etc
 Bank of Scotland Cup
 Highest aggregate in dairy, home baking, preserves and confectionery
 Flora MacDonald, Ahmore
 MacLean's Bakery Cup
 Best clootie dumpling
 Cathy MacDonald, 11 Carinish
 MacLennan Brothers Trophy
 Highest number of points in secondary baking
 Katy Smithyman, Cl Kirkibost
 Inverness Trophy Centre Shield
 Highest number of points in primary section
 Ben Shepherd, Paiblesgarry

Appin's 'dangerous' barriers removed

FOLLOWING a review of fencing on trunk roads in Argyll, a section of potentially dangerous wooden fencing has been removed at Appin on the A828.
 Former procurator fiscal and retired Oban solicitor Graeme Pagan had led a campaign in the 1970s to have similar fencing removed in other parts of Argyll after a number of fatal accidents where the fencing had contributed to the deaths. He resurrected his campaign last year and was successful in getting wooden barrier fencing removed that had appeared in parts of Mid Argyll.
 But he was horrified earlier this year when travelling on the A828 to see that Transport Scotland, the trunk roads authority, had allowed another section to be put up at Appin Home Farm and again lobbied the government and Transport Scotland.



The potentially dangerous wooden barriers at Appin

That section has also now been removed much to Mr Pagan's relief.
 'It was an absolute disgrace that the road authorities introduced the barrier in the first place and even more outrageous that it has taken five months, from the time the authorities' attention had been drawn to the danger, for them to do something about it,' said Mr Pagan.
 'Luckily, so far as I know, no-one was killed during those five months because of the barrier.'

Puffins breed on Tiree for first time

FOR the first time on record, puffins have bred on the Isle of Tiree.
 Small numbers of the birds have been seen on Tiree previously at the Ceann a' Mhara cliffs but this June was the first time a pair were seen showing nesting behaviour before a juvenile was spotted.
 John Bowler, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Scotland officer on the island, said: 'It was absolutely fantastic to see a pair of puffins actually attempting to nest at the cliffs and then seeing this juvenile on the sea below is a pretty definite sign that they've been successful.'
 'It's only one pair, so it's premature to break out the bubbly and say that puffins



are having a good year but even a small success for a bird that is such a localised breeder is definitely important.'
 Puffins are summer visitors to the UK, nesting in abandoned rabbit burrows or crevices rather than on the actual cliff face, feeding on fish and in particular sand eels.

Roving beaver found

A BEAVER that had strayed from the Scottish Beaver Trial site has been found and returned to the Knapdale loch where it was released in May.
 The adult male was captured near a fish farm at Port na Moine, Kilmartin last week and returned to Loch Creag Mor.
 However the creature is still on the move around the trial site. Staff re-tagged the animal and are monitoring its health and movements closely.
 A juvenile and adult female remain unaccounted for since gunshots were heard in the area in June.
 Simon Jones, beaver trial manager, said the male was likely to be searching for its missing mate.

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Mid Highland Community Health Partnership
Community Psychiatric Nurse - Band 5
 £20,710 - £26,839 pro rata, per annum Ref: ES1_09_69
 16.75 hours per week, Permanent
 Fort William Health Centre, Fort William
 An exciting opportunity has arisen for an RMN to join our team. You will be required to carry out assessments, care planning, care implementation and reviews and act as a care co-ordinator where appropriate as well as providing carer support. Able to demonstrate a range of clinical therapeutic work as well as being able to work both independently and within the multi-disciplinary team setting, you will enjoy working as part of an integrated, multi-disciplinary Health and Social team. In addition, you will be expected to form close links with statutory and voluntary organisations locally. Training and development is encouraged both individually and as a team. For all newly qualified nursing staff we offer the Flying Start programme to promote and develop your clinical skills in a supportive and structured manner.
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 Informal enquiries are welcomed by Debbie O'Hara, CMHS Manager on 01397 709630.
 Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded via our website www.nshighland.scot.nhs.uk alternatively, they are available from the Employment Services Section, Raigmore Hospital, Inverness IV2 3UJ, call 01463 705159 (24 hour answerphone) or email: recruitment@raigmore.scot.nhs.uk

Argyll & Bute Community Health Partnership
Oban, Lorn & Isles Locality
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 Application packs are available from HR Department, NHS Highland, Argyll & Bute CHP, Aros, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8LB, call 01546 606788 (24 hour answering service) or email: recruitment.lab@nhs.net
 Closing date for receipt of applications: 4 September 2009.

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Willowburn
 Clachan Seil, by Oban PA34 4TJ
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 A delightful detached house in an idyllic coastal situation located on the Isle of Seil (connected to the main land by the 'Bridge over the Atlantic') and is currently run as an income producing small hotel business, but with potential as a family home, bed and breakfast or guest house.
 Entrance vestibule, inner hallway, guest lounge with open fire, guest bar, utility/laundry room, 3 general purpose stores, owners bedroom with en suite bathroom, 7 further bedrooms with en suite facilities, dining room (20 covers), stainless steel commercial kitchen, office/hotel reception, ladies & gents toilets, linen stores. Productive vegetable and soft fruit garden, polytunnel, 2 garden sheds, gravel surface driveway, car parking area, lawns with duck pond leading to foreshore. Mooring located directly in front of Willowburn. About 1.5 acres.
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Building Plot
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 An unserviced building plot with development potential located in the heart of Taynuilt village and within easy distance of the local facilities and amenities. Services are available for connection close by. Bus and Rail links to Glasgow and beyond. Pleasant views. The site currently has no planning consents nor has any application been submitted. Interested parties should make their own enquiries to the Planning Office at Argyll & Bute Council.
Offers over £55,000

Prime Building Plot
Deer View, Taynuilt, Argyll
 A rare and unique opportunity to acquire a prime building plot in an excellent elevated position. Stunning rural location with fantastic mountain views towards Ben Cruachan and the surrounding countryside. Outline Planning Consent (Ref:06/00219/OUT) has been granted for the erection of a single dwelling house. Services available for connection close by. Shared access road.
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Truro House
School Brae, Taynuilt
 Well presented, substantial detached property in a popular residential area. Quiet location with glimpses of Loch Etive and the surrounding countryside. The well laid out accommodation over two floors comprises: Vestibule, hall, open plan kitchen/diner/lounge, 1 bedroom/playroom, 4 further bedrooms (Master with en suite), dressing room, utility room, family bathroom and W.C. Double glazing. Oil fired central heating. Easily maintained garden ground to the front, side and rear. Decking. Shed. Off street parking and turning area.
Offers in the region of £310,000

PRICE CHANGE
61 Nant Drive, Oban
 Extremely well presented three bedroom detached bungalow situated in a popular private residential area on the outskirts of the town. Within easy reach of the town centre and all facilities and amenities. The spacious and well laid out accommodation comprises: Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, 3 bedrooms and family bathroom. Double glazed. Night storage heating. Newly laid mono block driveway and off street parking. Easily maintained, attractive garden. Timber decking. Wooden shed.
Fixed Price £175,000

PRICE CHANGE
6A Angus Terrace, Oban
 Very well-presented ground floor apartment in walk-in condition. Popular central location to the town centre and amenities. The spacious accommodation comprises: Hall, lounge, kitchen, 3 bedrooms and shower room. Double glazed. Mains gas central heating. On street parking. Easily maintained and private garden ground to front. Shared drying green. Sizeable private garden to the rear which extends to approximately 265 sqm.
Fixed Price £135,000

Second Floor Flat
2 Central Buildings, Tweeddale Street, Oban
 Extremely well presented second floor apartment in a central area of Oban. Ideally located to take advantage of all amenities and facilities. The well laid-out accommodation comprises: Hall, kitchen, lounge, 3 bedrooms and shower room. Double glazing. Night storage heating. Sold fully furnished. On street permit parking. Secure door entry system.
Offers in the region of £115,000

Blair Villa North
Oban, Argyll
 Well presented and substantial stone built semi-detached Victorian villa. Close proximity to the town centre and local amenities. Views across Oban Bay to the Islands of Kerrera and Mull and enjoying excellent sunsets. Versatile and well laid out accommodation over two floors comprising: Ground floor - Vestibule, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, study, shower room, rear porch. First floor - 4 bedrooms and family bathroom. Mains gas central heating. Double glazing. Easily maintained garden ground to front and rear. Garden shed. Loft. On street parking.
Offers in the region of £265,000

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 Semi-detached Bungalow in good order throughout comprising lounge, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, garden and garage, double glazing, oil central heating & fitted carpets. Early date of entry can be given.
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Regional Press

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To Let - Tayvallich
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 Luxury fully furnished one bedroom flat in the centre of Lochgilphead available for long let.
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Apply in writing to Box Number 100, Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street Lochgilphead, PA31 8NB

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VOLKSWAGEN Hawco Caol, Fort William Tel. 01397 700900 www.hawco.volkswagen.co.uk	TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000

PUBLIC NOTICES

COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949
2 MOORINGS: LOCH LINNHE

Notice is hereby given that Neil Cameron has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by the section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, to install 2 moorings at Camusnagaul, Loch Linnhe.

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Moorings 1	56 49.747N	05 07.386W
Moorings 2	56 49.756N	05 07.432W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at **Roy Bridge Post Office**

Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Gordon Hastie, The Scottish Government, Ports and Harbours Branch, Area 2G North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference:

2SPC1215386

Neil Cameron
Sylvestris
Tulloch Farm
Roy Bridge
Inverness-shire

COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949
SINGLE MOORING; LOCH CRERAN

Notice is hereby given that Andrew McIntyre has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government under section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by the section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, to install a single mooring at the following location in Loch Creran, Argyll:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Moorings	56 31.152N	05 20.574W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the mooring may be inspected at Ledaig Post Office.

Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to:-

Gordon Hastie, The Scottish Government, Ports and Harbours Branch, Area 2G North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH 6QQ within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference **2SPC1215389**

Andrew McIntyre
Inchree
Barcaldine
Oban
Argyll

"WATER ENVIRONMENT AND WATER SERVICES (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003"

WATER ENVIRONMENT (CONTROLLED ACTIVITIES) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2005 ("the Regulations")

"Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Regulation 13 of the regulations, that an application has been made to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) by Lakeland Smolt Limited for authorisation to carry out a controlled activity, namely:

- A variation of existing CAR licence CAR/L/1000329 to include the discharge of the in-feed medication emamectin benzoate for the treatment of sea-lice infestations at Furnace Hatchery, Furnace, Argyll. The variation will also incorporate the conditions of existing CAR licence CAR/L/1000329.

"Any person affected or likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the application may make representations about the application to SEPA in writing within 28 days beginning with the date of this advertisement, at the following address, quoting the reference number CAR/L/1000329:

The Registry, SEPA, Graesser House, Fodderty Way, Dingwall, IV15 9XB

Alan Reid MP

Alan Reid will hold a surgery in Inveraray on **Tuesday 25 August 2009** at the **Argyll Hotel** between 4.45pm and 5.45pm.

To make an appointment, please phone Alan Reid's office **01369 704840**

ALIENERGY
Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency

Argyll Energy Information and Awareness Project

Launch Events at new Energy Advice Points

Bute Advice Centre at Bute Highland Games, 22 Aug

Campbell's Paint & Hardware Shop, Dunoon, 5 Sept

Re-JIG recycling headquarters, Islay, 12 Sept

Citizens Advice Bureau, Lochgilphead, 29 Sept

Mull, Balloch, Cairndow: opening soon

Free information on energy efficiency, renewables & grants

Come and meet our team

Refreshments provided

Prize Draw

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

James Stewart Adam trading as Oban Scallop Gear Ltd of Old Tweed Mill, Soroba Road, Oban Argyll PA34 4HQ is applying for licence to use Garron Farm, Ardfern, By Lochgilphead Argyll PA31 8QP as an operating centre for 2 goods vehicles and 3 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. Representatives 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.

To find out more about living and working in argyll & bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES: EDUCATION

Proposed Changes to the Delineated Areas of Park and Rockfield Primary Schools

The Executive Committee of Argyll and Bute Council has agreed in principle to changes to the delineated (catchment) areas of Park and Rockfield Primary Schools. In terms of the Education (Publication and Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 1981 as amended, the Council is now seeking views on the proposed changes from interested parties. This includes the parents of children attending either school and the parents of children who would be expected to attend either school within 2 or 3 years of the implementation of the changes.

Full details of the proposed changes can be obtained from Park or Rockfield Primary Schools and from Argyll and Bute Council, Argyll House, Alexandra Parade, Dunoon PA23 8AJ (Tel: 01369 70 8525).

Written comments should be made to the Director of Community Services, at the above address.

Comments must be received by 2 October 2009.

Douglas Hendry, Director of Community Services

CROFTERS COMMISSION
COMMISSIONERS NAIR CROFTERS

The following decrofting Directions have been granted:

Part Croft
14 Clovulin, Ardgour

Direction dated 12 August 2009 granted to Steven A MacLeod. Area ext to 0.122 ha.

Conditions: Purchase within 5 years. The land is used for a house site. Complete enclosure of the site with a stockproof fence or barrier within 4 months of completion of the proposed development.

Case Number: 4.86.17637

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.

CROFTERS COMMISSION
COMMISSIONERS NAIR CROFTERS

Father John Angus Macdonald is applying to decroft part of the croft at 9 Bohuntin, Kilmonivaig extending to 0.14 ha for the purpose of providing a site for a dwelling-house. Ref: 4.86.18909

If you consider the decrofting of this area will adversely affect your crofting interests or that of the local crofting community, please make written representations to the Crofters Commission, Castle Wynd, Inverness IV2 3EQ by 4 September 2009 quoting the above case number.

Representations will be copied to the applicant. Comments on any earlier applications cannot be taken into account.

To find out more about living and working in argyll & bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF LOCAL PLAN TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 ARGYLL AND BUTE LOCAL PLAN

On 6th August 2009 Argyll and Bute Council by resolution adopted the above named local plan.

Certified copies of the plan and of the resolution together with certified copies of the reports of all local inquiries held and of the councils statements prepared following the consideration of such reports have been deposited at Reception, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead.

The deposited documents are available for inspection free of charge, at the Councils offices at Kilmory between 09.00 and 17.00 hours Monday to Friday.

The plan became operative on 6th August 2009, but if any person aggrieved by the plan desires to question its validity on the ground that it is not within the powers conferred by Part II of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, or that any requirement of the said part II or of any regulations made thereunder has not been complied with in relation to the adoption of the plan, he may, within six weeks from 20th August 2009 make an application to the Court of Session under section 238 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

21 August 2009
Angus Gilmore, Head of Planning Services

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 the 10th September 2009 for the following list of application for planning permission.

- Ref No: 09/01146/PP
Applicant: Mr And Mrs MacGregor
Proposal: Erection of dwelling house
Site address: Land North Of Tourist Information Centre, Craignure, Isle Of Mull, Argyll And Bute
- Ref No: 09/01161/PPP
Applicant: Mr and Mrs A Smith
Proposal: Site for erection of dwelling house
Site address: Site at 10 Angus Terrace, Oban, Argyll And Bute, PA34 4EG
- Ref No: 09/01162/PPP
Applicant: Mr and Mrs K Pound
Proposal: Erection of 3no. dwelling houses
Site address Site East of Sonachan Farm, Portsonachan, Argyll and Bute
- Ref No: 09/01172/PP
Applicant: Mr and Mrs Richard
Proposal: Erection of dwellinghouse, garage and septic tank
Site address: Land South Of Seabank, Benderloch, Argyll and Bute
- Ref No: 09/01174/PP
Applicant: NPower Renewables Limited
Proposal: Erection of a temporary anemometry mast for a period of 36 months.
Site address: Raera Forest, Loch Melfort, Argyll and Bute
- Ref No: 09/01175/PP
Applicant: John F Kerr
Proposal: Proposed Hydro Electric Scheme
Site address: Arichastich, Glen Orchy, Argyll and Bute,
- Ref No: 09/01191/PP
Applicant: R And A Forrester Ltd
Proposal: Erection of dwelling house and garage
Site address: Ardmacross, Aros, Isle of Mull, Argyll and Bute, PA72 6JS
Site address Site East of Sonachan Farm, Portsonachan, Argyll and Bute

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 67 Chalmers Street, Ardriahga, PA30 8DX 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, 67 Chalmers Street, Ardriahga, PA30 8DX by the 10th September 2009 for the following list of application for planning permission.

- Ref No: 09/01060/DET
Applicant: Argyll Community Housing
Proposal: Removal of asbestos roofing and replacement with decra tiles
Site Address 11 Mansfield Road, Port Ellen, Isle of Islay, Argyll and Bute, PA42 7BH
- Ref No: 09/01163/PP
Applicant: Argyll Community Housing Association
Proposal: Removal and replacement of roof coverings
Site address 1 Daal Terrace, Port Charlotte, Isle of Islay, Argyll and Bute, PA48 7UA

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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.

UPM

UPM Tilhill invite expressions of interest from Contractors wishing to quote to build some 13km of Cat 1 Forest Road, in four sections, and to include 3 bridges, on North-West Mull.

Please supply details of similar work undertaken, plant available and references in the first instance to;

Iain Moody,
UPM Tilhill Harvesting, Claremont, Glencruitten, Oban PA34 4QA
by Friday, 28th August, 2009

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Head Office:
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Fax: Oban 568001
E-mail: editor@obantimes.co.uk

Branch Offices:
Fort William
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BIRTHS

CRUICKSHANK
Alasdair and Laura (née MacColl) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Morven Mary Janet, on August 5, 2009, at the RAH, Paisley. A wee sister for Fiona and Dugie and granddaughter for Anne and Gordon Cruickshank, and Margaret and the late Dugald MacColl, Benderloch. A special thanks to all at Oban Maternity Unit and RAH.

DUFFY - POPRAWA
Calum and Basi are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their son Sandy, on August 12, 2009, at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, a wee brother for Tommy.

MCCOLL - MURRAY
Steven, Morven and Duncan are delighted to announce the arrival of Ruby Alayne, born August 12, 2009. Special thanks to all midwives at Oban Maternity, especially June and Elaine for their amazing help at Ruby's homebirth.

SCOTT - To Kirsten (née Campbell) and Tavish at Simpson Maternity Unit, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on August 2, 2009, a son, Archie Thomas Campbell.

FLEMING - DAVIDSON
Both families are delighted to announce the engagement between Danica, youngest daughter of Brenda and Poacher, Dalintart Drive, to Chris, eldest son of Jean, Burnside Connel.

MACARTHUR - MACLEOD
At Portnahaven Parish Church on August 20, 1959, by Rev Archie Lamont, Catherine T MacArthur to Donald M MacLeod. Present address 1 Crown Street, Portnahaven, Islay.

GARDNER - COULTER
Rita to Bob at Calderhead Church, Shotts, on August 20, 1949. Presently of Taynuilt.

DEATHS

BOYD - Peacefully at Hairmyres Hospital, on August 14, 2009, Margaret (MacFadyen) aged 90 years. Beloved wife of the late Allen, dearly loved sister of Marjorie and a much loved aunt of Mhari. Connections in Bothwell and Treen. Funeral service takes place on Thursday, August 20, 2009, in South Lanarkshire Crematorium at 11.45 am to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

MACCOLL - Suddenly but peacefully at the Belford Hospital, Fort William on Sunday July 26, 2009, Jessie (née MacMillan), aged 74 years, beloved wife of the late Ewen MacColl, a dear sister, aunt and friend. She will be sadly missed by all.

MACDONALD - Peacefully on August 15, 2009, at his home, 6 Montrose Square, Inverloch, Fort William, Donald Angus Macdonald (Donnie) eldest son of the late Kenneth and Agnes Macdonald, dearly loved and devoted brother to Moira and the late John, a loving uncle and grand-uncle to his nieces and nephews and brother-in-law to Christine. A celebration of his life will take place at Duncansburgh/MacIntosh Church in Fort William at 2pm on Monday, August 24, 2009 to which all friends are respectfully invited followed by interment in Glen Nevis Cemetery. A ritual collection will be welcome at the church for those wishing to donate to Cancer Research.

MACINTYRE - After a long illness, borne with dignity, strength and courage, at home with her family, Rosa MacIntyre, aged 51 years, of 6 Finnish Houses, Ford, by Lochgilphead. Beloved wife of Iain and much loved mum of Emma and Ewen. Funeral service will be held in Kilmartin Parish Church today, Thursday, August 20, 2009, at 1.30pm, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Cancer Research.

MACKAY - Peacefully at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on August 12, 2009, Christine Catherine MacKay, of Ardluan, Achnacreebeag, North Connel and Kintraw, Barbreck. Dearly loved sister of Iain and the late Hew, beloved aunt of Margaret, Mary and Murray and a much loved great aunt and great-grand aunt. Funeral service at Cardross Crematorium today, Thursday, August 20, 2009, at 12.45pm and interment of ashes at Kilmartin Cemetery on Friday, August 21, 2009, 12.30pm. All friends are respectfully invited to attend.

MACKENZIE - Peacefully at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on August 15, 2009, aged 70, Duncan, beloved husband of Annette née Lothian, much loved father of Scott and Rhona and loving seanaid of Logan and Brodie. Sadly missed.

MACLEAN - Alister MacLean (Wheeky) of Tobermory, son of Grace and the late Duncan MacLean. Much loved and loving father of Duncan and Fraser, passed away very suddenly on Sunday, August 16, 2009. Funeral service to which all friends are invited, at Perth Crematorium on Tuesday, August 25, 2009, at 12.30pm. Family flowers only, donations may be given for the R.N.L.I.

MACPHEE - At Grahamston House Care Home, Falkirk, on August 13, 2009, Ethel, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and wife of John, formerly of Tighphuir, Glencoe, age 86. Sadly missed.

MORRISON - Peacefully after a short illness at Glenary Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead on August 13, 2009, Murdo Morrison, aged 68 years, of 6 Dochas Place, Lochgilphead and formerly of Tayvallich and Glasgow. Son of the late Murdo and Bessie Morrison and loving brother of John and Maureen. Cherished uncle to Calum, Peter and Simon. Treasured fiancé of Annie, dear cousin of Betty, Frank and all the family. Much loved friend of all at Lochgilphead Resource Centre. Funeral service was held at Tayvallich Church on Tuesday, August 18, followed by interment at Carsaig Cemetery. Sadly missed.

ROBB - Suddenly on August 14, 2009, in Stornoway on the Island of Lewis, Donald Shaw Robb, beloved son of Ann and the late Bill Robb, brother to Willie and Audrey, uncle to James, Christopher, Jordan and Mathew. Will be sadly missed and in our thoughts forever.

WHYTE - Peacefully at Argyll and Bute Hospital, Lochgilphead on August 15, 2009, in his 77th year, Alfie, beloved husband of Cita and dear father of Ralph. Sadly missed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GILL - The family of Ina Gill would like to thank all those who expressed their sympathy on the death of their mother. Grateful thanks also to North Argyll House for being such a wonderful home for Ina for over six years, also to Cruachan Ward and the Baptist Church fellowship. Rev Paul Brake, Rev James Beaton, Ian MacInnes of D and A Munn, taxi drivers Mary and Gibby, The Flower Basket and many other friends, there are so many who deserve thanks for support of varied kinds over the years. The funeral service was inspiring, over 130 attended, and the collection, still rising, reached over £300 for North Argyll House.

LANDALE - The family of the late Andrew Landale wish to extend their sincere thanks to friends and neighbours for the kind expressions of sympathy, and to those who paid their last respects at the funeral. Thanks to the Rev Dr. Roderick Campbell for his comforting service, the ladies of Appin for the lovely tea and Duncan Gunn for his efficient arrangements. A collection of £200 was donated to Alzheimer Scotland.

LIVINGSTONE - Mary, Gregor, Stuart and family would sincerely like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their expressions of sympathy, support, cards, letters, phone calls and flowers received following the sad loss of Duncan. Special thanks to the community nurses and hospital staff for their care and attention, Catriona and Hamish Hoey and sons for their kind and caring funeral arrangements, Rev Margaret Millar for her personal and sincere service, Dr Andy Henderson for his organ playing and the hospitality of the Taynuilt Hotel. We would also like to thank all who attended the church and graveside and generously donated £759.29 for ABCD.

MACGREGOR - The family of the late Alastair would like to thank everyone who has supported them following his passing. Special thanks to Canon Donald MacKay for a very comforting service. Thanks to Hamish Hoey and Sons for funeral arrangements and also the Falls of Lora Hotel. Particular thanks to nurse Katrina Flannigan for her professional care and support and also to staff and community nurses from the Lorn Medical Centre. We would like to thank all who paid their last respects at the church and graveside and generously donated £650 to the Breath Easy Group.

IN MEMORIAM

CAIRNS - In loving memory of my dear sister and our aunt, Christine, who died August 17, 2008. We often think of bygone days
When we were all together
The family chain is broken now
But memories last forever.
- Cathie and family, Caol, Corpach and Falkirk.

DOCHERTY - (Jimmy Texaco) In loving memory of a dear father who died August 23, 1995.
Always in our thoughts.
- Love Mary, Peter and family.

DONALD - Loving memories of Mary, much loved wife, mum and granny, passed away August 22, 2000.
- Inserted by the family in Kinlochleven.

MACALLISTER - In loving memory of Bessie MacAllister, Rockfield Road, Tobermory who died August 19, 2008.
- Rosemary, Fiona Alex and David.

MACLEAN - Mary (Bibs), treasured and loving memories of Bibs, a loving wife, who passed away August 25, 2008
My hand I placed in yours with pride
As you and I stood side by side
Then all around the sun did shine
I was yours and you were mine
Now through death we are apart
Taken with you is my heart
That's the way it will remain
Till God decides we meet again.
- Your loving husband, Billy.

MACLEAN - Bibs. In loving memory of a dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, who passed away August 25, 2008.
God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be
So he put his arms around you
And whispered come to me
With tearful eyes we watched you suffer
And saw you fade away
Although we loved you dearly
We could not make you stay

When days are sad and lonely
And everything goes wrong
We seem to hear you whisper
Cheer up and carry on.
Always in our hearts
- Julie, Dave and all the family.

MACLEAN - In loving memory of our dear sister and sister-in-law, Bibs, who died August 25, 2008. Happy thoughts of times together
Hold memories that last forever.
- Love Jeanette and Sandy.

McGRATH - Precious memories of our dear mum Margaret, Achaleven Farm, who died on August 23, 2006.
We think about you every day
We talk about you too
We sit and laugh about the Things you used to say and do
There's much in life that changes
There's much in life that's new
But never in a million years
Will there be another like you
Until we meet again Mum
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.
- Your loving daughter
Marie xxx.
I often lie awake at night
While the world is fast asleep
I think about the Mum I lost
With tears upon my cheeks
I can't get over losing you
No matter how I try
I will always keep you in my heart
Till the day I die.
- Love Caroline xxx.
God looked around his garden
And found an empty space
He then looked down upon the earth
And saw your tired face
He wrapped his arms around you
And lifted you to rest
God's garden must be beautiful
He only takes the best
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.
Love and miss you always Mum.
- Josephine and Kevin x x x.
God new that she was suffering
That those hills were hard to climb
So he closed her weary eyelids
And whispered peace be thine
Away in the beautiful hills of God
By the valley of rest so fair
Some day we no not when
We will meet our mum up there.
Your loving daughter
Denise x.
Its lonely here without you
I miss you more each day
For life is not the same to me
Since you were called away
If I could have one lifetime wish
One dream that could come true
I would pray to God with all my heart
For yesterday and you.
Your loving son Christopher x.

CHARITY DONATIONS

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CARING FOR THE FUTURE
Donations always gratefully accepted
Please contact
David Mudie (Treasurer)
Oban Hospice Ltd
The Croft
Kilmore

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Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer.
West of Scotland Fundraising Office
1st Floor, Erskine House
North Avenue, Clydebank
Business Park, Clydebank G81 2DR
Tel 0808 100 6000
In memory of Dawn Joyce

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Fighting Cancer on all fronts...
CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation
Commitment of over £15 million each year
Cancer Research UK Scotland
Suite 171, Unit 4 Blair Court
Clydebank Business Park
Clydebank, G81 2LA

FOR THE BLIND CHILDREN OF SCOTLAND'S ACADEMIC TUITION AT THE ROYAL SCHOOL IN EDINBURGH
Please give your financial support by donation, deed of covenant or legacy
Please send to Appeals Department, Highland Arts Effort, Royal Blind Asylum School, R.O. Box 500, Gillespie Crescent, Edinburgh, EH10 4HZ

ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN
Campbell Street Church
Sunday 23 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 23 August 2009
Trinity 11
St John's Cathedral, Oban
Holy Communion.....08.00
Sung Eucharist.....10.15
Sunday School and Creche
Loop System
Large Print Hymn Books
All Welcome
Norman MacCallum,
Provost
01631 562323

St James, Ardbreckknish, 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 23rd August
Skippinish Ceilidh
House
10am
All Welcome
Telephone
07876 735 794
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OBAN ELIM
Pentecostal Church
Worship Meeting
Saturdays 6.00pm
Guide Hall
Soroba Road
Oban
01631 570485
Everybody Welcome

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The Oban Times
A WEST HIGHLAND TIMES
Tel: 01631 568000
www.obantimes.co.uk

We'll love you until the rivers run still and the four winds we know blow away.
- Cathie and family, Morar and Fort William.

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Bishop Joseph Toal led the special Mass

Special Mass to honour Blessed Mary of the Cross MacKillop

ON SATURDAY August 8 people from all over Scotland and beyond came to a special Mass at St Mary's Church in Fort William to honour the centenary of the death of Blessed Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Mary was born in Melbourne on January 15 1842 and died in Sydney on August 8 1909.

Migrated
As a child, her father, Alexander MacKillop, lived in the Roy Bridge area. Her mother, Flora MacDonal, was born in Fort William. With their respective families they migrated to Australia and met and married in Melbourne in 1840.

Mary was the eldest of their eight children.

Though she described herself as 'an Australian', the young Mary grew up very much under the influence of Highland culture and values. She

was surrounded by extended family and friends who had left their native Lochaber to establish themselves in the young and developing country of Australia.

When she was 25 Mary co-founded the Religious Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart with the aim of bringing education particularly to the poor and those who lived in the vast isolated areas of Australia.

Mary's principle of 'never see a need without doing something about it' saw her newly-formed Congregation involved in finding creative ways of dealing with social issues.

In a short space of time she had opened schools all around Australia and New Zealand, had established orphanages and refuges for women and children - victims

of domestic violence, had regular visitation to prisons, cared for and established night school for servant girls. In short, wherever there were people in need, Mary did her best to find a practical answer to it.

Family connections
Present at the celebration at St Mary's were many Lochaber people who have direct family connections to Mary. Their presence gave a special significance to the occasion and in a sense brought Mary 'alive' among us.

The Mass was celebrated in a joyous yet reverent and reflective atmosphere. It was enhanced by the music of instrumental accompanists and the choir whose members came from local parishes as well as distant ones within the diocese of Argyll & the Isles.

Bishop Joseph Toal led the liturgy, joined by Bishop Ian Murray and many priests of the diocese and a visiting priest from Australia.

After the Mass a light lunch was served in St Andrew's Parish hall. This was followed by some wonderfully typical Highland entertainment of song and music and story telling.

It brought to conclusion a wonderful celebration of a great woman whose influence is being felt far beyond the land of her birth - a woman who had great pride in her Scottish/Highland heritage.

Srs Audrey Thomson and Therese McConway, the Sisters of St Joseph who live in Lochside Fort William, thank all those who helped to make Saturday's celebration such a memorable and joyous celebration

Dalmally charity boosted by Welsh Assembly

DALMALLY charity Mary's Meals, formerly known as Scottish International Relief, has been selected to be the Welsh Assembly's overseas staff charity for the coming year, which marks its 10th anniversary.

Nominated charities
Mary's Meals, which runs school feeding programmes for children in some of the world's poorest places, is currently operating in 15 countries and provides children with a daily meal in school for an average of £8.40 a year.

The announcement follows a vote by the 6,000 employees at the Welsh Assembly and means that Mary's Meals will be one of three nominated charities that staff can contribute to direct from their salaries, through a payroll-giving scheme.

Aber MacIntyre, lead fundraiser at Mary's Meals, said: 'For a small charity facing a huge task, this is a fantastic boost.'

'I'd like to thank all the Welsh Assembly staff who voted for us and assure them their donations will be put to good use.

'The children we feed and help educate rely entirely on the generosity of people like them.'



Craig McKinstry is installed as Oban's Salvation Army leader by the Divisional Commander, Major Martin Hill.

New Salvation Army leader finds full life in Oban

TIME flies when your having fun. I have been leading the Salvation Army here in Oban now for seven months and it continues to be a daily thrill and challenge.

I have had such a warm welcome since I arrived here and I want to thank you for making me feel at home.

By the time this article has gone to print I will have celebrated my daughter's first birthday. I can't believe she is one year old already, where has the time gone?

When I think back to those early days of helplessness when she was so reliant on her mum and me, and now I see her trying desperately to stand on her own two feet, I am amazed.

It reminds me that we are all God's children, that he loves and cares for each of us. However he doesn't want us to stay as spiritual babies, he longs for each one of us to grow in our faith, love and service and take a stand for him.

I hope in this past year

that you too have grown. Just as my daughter needs the right kind of foods in order to grow properly, so too we need the right kind of diet.

A healthy mix of spending time in prayer and reading God's word will help, as will meeting with other Christians and sharing together. This is a diet that actually works!

Try it for yourself.

In Christian love,
Craig McKinstry
Territorial Envoys

Shinty fixtures

Shinty

MacPhee and Partners Macaulay Cup Final
Inveraray v Kingussie
Colin MacDonald 2.10pm at Mossfield Stadium, Oban

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Kyles v Oban Camanachd
Charles Young
Bute v Lochaber
Graham Cameron
Fort William v Newtonmore
David Mitchell

Marine Harvest North Division One
Lovat v Kilmallie
Ron Kennedy
Caberfeidh v Inverness
John MacLeod
Beaully v Lochcarron
John Angus Gillies
Kinlochshiel v Strathglass
Deek Cameron

Marine Harvest North Division Two
Kinlochshiel v Newtonmore
Calum Duff 12noon
Fort William v Caberfeidh
Neil Ferguson 12noon
Lovat v Kilmallie
Donald MacRae 12 noon

Marine Harvest North Division Three
Lochaber v Boleskine
Laurie Skuodas
Inverness v Lochbroom
Russell Ross
Lochcarron v Aberdeen Uni
Daniel MacRae
Strathglass v Beaully
Jock Matheson

Marine Harvest South Division One
GMA v Inveraray
George O'Rourke

Marine Harvest South Division Two
Ballachulish v Glenorchy
Kyles Athletic v Bute
Aberdour v Strachur

Results

Shinty

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Semi Final
Bute 1 Fort William 4
Kingussie 4 Kyles 1
abandoned

Strathdearn Cup Semi Final
Ft William 2 Kingussie
Lovat 3 Newtonmore 2

Bullough Cup Semi Final
Kyles P Glenorchy P
Lochside 4 Aberdour 2

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Glenorchy P Inveraray P
Glenurquhart 1 Newtonmore 5
Lochaber 4 Oban Camanachd 1

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Caberfeidh 1 Beaully 0
Kinlochshiel P Inverness P
Lochcarron 1 Lovat 4
Strathglass 2 Skye 4

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Kilmory P GMA P
Oban Celtic P Inveraray P

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Glenurquhart 5 Caberfeidh 0
Skye 2 Kinlochshiel 1

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Beaully P Lochcarron P
Lochaber 8 Ardnamurchan 1

Marine Harvest South Division 2
GMA P Ballachulish P
Glenorchy P Strachur P
Col-Glen P Bute P

Innes is Fort's cup hat-trick hero

Second-half performance decides Scottish cup tie

GARY INNES was Fort William's Hat-trick hero on Saturday as he produced three of the four second-half goals that take Fort William to the Camanachd Cup Final in Oban in September.

The first 45 minutes at a rain-soaked Ballachulish has produced few real chances and no goals between Bute and Fort William - but that was all to change at the start of the second period.

Within five minutes of the re-start, Fort were awarded a penalty which Gary Innes coolly slotted behind Kevin Queen to break the deadlock. Three minutes later Innes struck again to give Bute a slippery mountain to climb.

However, after 72 minutes Innes scored a third goal that was fit to win any cup tie when he set off on a mazy run from the byeline

Shinty

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Semi-final
Fort William 4 Bute 1

which saw him ghost past four defenders before firing an unstoppable shot past Queen.

Hector Whitelaw drew a goal back as Bute tried manfully to get back into the tie but Bryan Simpson restored Fort's three-goal advantage with eight minutes left to play.

The result will restore confidence to a Fort team that had stuttered to find form in recent weeks and sends them into an interesting final few weeks of the season with both Scottish cup and Premier league titles still very much within reach.



Bute defender Iain MacDonald and Fort William's Gordie MacKinnon struggle for grip amid the mud and surface water at Ballachulish

Picture - John MacTavish

Ballachulish debacle for Kingussie and Kyles as cup tie abandoned

BOTH Kyles and Kingussie were furious after their Camanachd Cup Semi-final tie at Ballachulish was abandoned - not at the fact that the important cup tie was called to an early halt - but why it had ever started in the first place.

Kingussie, 4-1 ahead when time was called, claimed that the result should stand, but will have to do it all again in a replay.

Ballachulish had already hosted the tie between Fort William and Bute earlier in the day and had cut-up badly following heavy rain throughout Friday and most of Saturday. The second semi-final was to be switched to An Aird, Fort William but that park was declared unplayable and the Camanachd Association brought the cup tie back to Ballachulish.

James Perlich of Kyles said afterwards: 'The safety of all players must be the key consideration when judging if a playing surface is suitable for purpose. This park clearly wasn't in a condition that could be considered playable and perhaps I should have been stronger by not allowing my players to become involved in that farce.'

The view of the Kyles manager is one that more club officials will reflect on following several ties this season which have started when they shouldn't have.

Players and club officials on both sides claimed that Saturday's stand-in referee



There's a ball in there somewhere! Donald Irvine of Kyles amid the water at Ballachulish

Picture - John MacTavish

and suspected fractured cheekbone following an accidental clash involving Kingussie's Ronald Ross.

The semi-final tie will be replayed - but will have to wait at least two weeks as Kingussie are due to play the Macaulay Cup Final at Oban this coming Saturday.

The whole debacle at Ballachulish leaves the organisation behind such events in question.

'More beat the Drum

Shinty

Scottish Hydro Premier Division Glenurquhart 1 Newtonmore 5

NEWTONMORE joined Kingussie and Glenurquhart at the top of shinty's Premier Division after a 5-1 away win at Drumnadrochit on Saturday.

Lewis MacLennan had given the Glen 'the perfect opening when he scored from long range in the 10th minute and for 20 minutes the home side looked capable of controlling the tie.

However, as Newtonmore came increasingly into the game, Glen Mackintosh netted an equaliser - and then came the turning point of the match - Glenurquhart struck Ritchie's right hand post and Newtonmore quickly cleared the ball downfield where Paul MacArthur rifled the visitors into the lead.

Glenurquhart looked stunned and when they lost another to Glen Mackintosh on the stroke of half-time the heads clearly went down.

The second-half was almost all Newtonmore as the home side

were kept on the back foot resulting in Evan Menzies netting Newtonmore's fourth on the hour, with Mackintosh completing his hat-trick to take the final score to 1-5 with 17 minutes left to play.

Newtonmore could, and perhaps should, have increased their goal tally to draw level on goal difference with Kingussie, but they took their foot off the gas with the points safe.

Referee Deek Cameron handled the game with an open mind and common sense approach that is sadly lacking from many of this season's fixtures and he earned respect from both sets of players.

This Saturday, Glenurquhart are idle, while Newtonmore travel to Fort William knowing that who ever wins will be top of the league - for at least a week.

Shinty leagues

Premier Division

Kingussie	10 7 2 1 41 14	16
Newtonmore	10 6 4 0 39 13	16
Glenurquhart	15 7 2 6 28 29	16
Fort William	13 7 1 5 24 19	15
Kyles Athletic	13 6 3 4 34 30	15
Oban Camanachd	11 6 1 4 20 19	13
Lochaber	12 4 3 5 18 30	11
Inveraray	11 4 1 6 22 25	9
Bute	10 2 3 5 15 20	7
Glenorchy	15 0 2 13 9 51	2

North Division 1

Skye	14 9 1 4 34 20	19
Kilmallie	11 8 0 3 42 25	16
Caberfeidh	12 8 0 4 21 18	16
Lovat	8 5 2 1 20 7	12
Beaully	12 5 1 6 23 24	11
Strathglass	8 5 0 3 29 11	10
Kinlochshiel	8 3 1 4 18 20	7
Inverness	11 1 1 9 5 43	3
Lochcarron	10 0 0 10 5 29	0

South Division 1

Lochside Rovers	11 9 1 1 42 19	19
GMA	9 6 1 2 34 14	13
Kilmory	9 6 0 3 23 17	12
Oban Celtic	9 3 2 4 25 29	8
Inveraray	9 3 1 5 24 30	7
Ballachulish	11 2 1 8 23 35	5
Tayforth	10 2 0 8 17 44	0

North Division 2

Glenurquhart	14 12 2 0 56 11	26
Kingussie	15 11 1 3 57 24	23
Fort William	12 9 1 2 47 13	19
Lovat	13 7 0 6 37 33	14
Glenarry	13 5 2 6 29 30	12
Skye	15 5 2 8 32 46	12
Newtonmore	13 5 1 7 27 39	11
Kilmallie	12 3 0 9 15 40	6
Caberfeidh	13 2 0 11 24 60	4
Kinlochshiel	10 1 1 8 14 42	3

South Division 2

Taynuilt	11 11 0 0 54 12	22
Strachur	12 7 1 4 26 18	15
Kyles Athletic	8 6 1 1 26 8	13
Aberdour	13 6 0 7 34 40	12
ColGlen	13 5 2 6 23 32	12
Bute	11 4 1 6 23 21	9
GlasgowMid Argyll	12 3 3 6 27 38	9
Glenorchy	10 3 2 5 18 16	8
Ballachulish	12 1 0 11 13 59	2

North Division 3

Lochbroom	15 11 1 3 59 20	23
Beaully	14 11 0 3 59 13	22
Lochaber	16 11 0 5 76 34	22
Aberdeen U	16 10 2 4 56 27	22
Boleskine	13 6 1 6 30 26	13
Strathglass	12 6 0 6 47 42	12
Inverness	12 4 1 7 22 46	12
Lochcarron	11 4 0 7 18 36	8
Ardnamurchan	14 2 0 12 17 73	4
Kincraig	13 0 1 12 11 78	1

Lochaber move away from foot of the table

LOCHABER were well worthy of the two points which helps their fight to stay in shinty's Premier Division after Saturday's 4-2 win at Spean Bridge against Oban Camanachd.

'They were the better team over 90 minutes,' admitted Oban's Nigel Evan's after seeing his team lose the early form that, at one time, made them title contenders. 'I was disappointed with our performance - but even more disappointed with the referee's performance.'

However, other than shaking his head in disbelief, he refused to be drawn on the latter.

Shinty

Scottish Hydro Premier Division Lochaber 4 Oban Camanachd 1

After an even opening 10 minutes at a Spean Bridge park that was in excellent condition, the visitors appeared to have taken the lead when Daniel MacIntyre's free-hit found David MacInnes who fired the ball into the net from outside the penalty area. Both sets of players looked bewildered as referee Graham Cameron ruled the 'goal' offside.

Ten minutes later,

Lochaber took the lead amid more controversy. Oban Camanachd's defence stopped, claiming a foul, while Donald MacRae nipped in unchallenged to slot the ball behind Stobbart. With the home side now first to every ball, Ben Delaney blasted a 15 yard shot past Stobbart to give Lochaber a comfortable two-goal cushion at the interval.

Camanachd got back into the match when Scott MacMillan scored but MacMillan was then booked, and moments later was sent off.

The visitors were then undone by a fine

individualistic goal from Andy MacDonald, with the same player adding a fourth to ensure that Lochaber climbed the Premier table ahead of this week's difficult away league fixture away at Bute.

In the final minutes were awarded Lochaber a penalty which keeper Gavin Stobbart did well to save but Lochaber remained delighted to have rekindled some of the form they showed early in the campaign.

Oban Camanachd head for Tighnabruach this Saturday - not the venue you want to be going to when you need a confidence boosting win.

Spot the SHINTY BALL Competition



WIN £1350

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



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.

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:
B MacDonald, Alma Road, Fort William and M Toal, Inverroy, Roy Bridge

Club champion on top in Oban Open

OVER 150 competitors took part in this annual event held at Glencruitten with the course in a fantastic condition.

Gerry Carney (Isle of Eriska) posted a 72 less 14, fairly early in the proceedings, giving him a net 58 which proved too much of a stretch for the rest of the players in his handicap section.

David MacCuish, first out and in excellent current form, did not disappoint and returned a superb scratch 60, despite the difficult weather conditions that he met.

Craig Aitken, later in the day, came close with a scratch 62.

The scratch prize was yet to be decided when Ian MacCallman of Clobber Golf Club returned the exact same score as David (29/31). Only a better inward six separated the pair, with David coming



Pictured left to right are the three major prizewinners from the Oban Open; David MacCuish, Glencruitten GC; Ian MacCallman, Clobber GC and Gerry Carney, Isle of Eriska GC.

out on top and winning the scratch prize.

Prize
Ian's score ensured that he lifted the best prize he could – the handicap prize for scratch-12 section.

The firm greens withstood

up of the course, with many players finding it difficult to find their form with rain in the morning and breezy conditions in the afternoon.

Shots that were not kept on the short stuff were severely punished, often requiring penalty shots to be utilised to get them back on-course.

Results: The Wellpark Trophy (Handicaps 13-28) - 5th E. MacIntyre 63 net (better inward half) 4th D. MacLean 62 net; 3rd R. Grace 61 net; 2nd P. Dunn 61 net (b.i.h.); 1st G. Carney 58 net.

Chrysler-Sunbeam Trophy (Handicaps Scratch-12) - 5th R. Sinclair 63 net (b.i.h.); 4th M. Tait 62 net; 3rd A. Ward 60 net; 2nd J. Fraser 60 net (b.i.h.); 1st I. MacCallman 58 net.

The Glencruitten Trophy (Scratch only) - 5th I. McNab 66 scratch; 4th K. MacCallum 66 scratch (b.i.h.); 3rd P. Murphy 65 scratch; 2nd C. Aitken 62 scratch; 1st D. MacCuish 60 scratch (b.i.h.). Longest Drive went to Graham MacColl. Nearest the 2nd pin Hughie May. Nearest the 5th pin Terry Macnair. Nearest the 13th pin Malcolm Cullen. Nearest the 15th pin John A. MacKinnon Jr.



Scotland's stars of the future

The nation's hopes of qualifying for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa may be hanging by a thread after the recent 4-0 defeat to Norway, but the future of the Scottish game looked in good hands as these young players were put through their paces in Oban last week. The youngsters pictured above are just some of those who attended the SFA training camp with development officer Dylan Kerr. 16_034006a001

Youngsters to sign up to Oban league

Football
BUDDING footballers who have just started primary one, or older primary school children who are not affiliated to a team, are being invited to register with the Oban Express Primary League. Children who are registered can be matched up with an existing team in the league. Registration will take place at Atlantis Leisure at 6pm next Tuesday.

Argyll members join Tayside event

Orienteering
MEMBERS of the Argyll orienteering club EckO joined 3,500 others at Perth for six days of Orienteering across Tayside. The competition on August 2 was in a different location each day with terrain ranging from sand dunes to dense forest. EckO's Fiona Berrow came in second overall in the women's 21 long course while on the Friday Gill Berrow took first place in the women's 50 long course and finished 13th overall in her class. In the junior events, Taynuilt's Sam Lines achieved third place overall in the under-12 boys, while Roanne Lilley, Tom Lines, Ewan Shearer and Eilidh Shearer all finished in the top ten of their respective age classes.

Killin senior gents open winners

Golf
Killin Golf Club Senior Gents Open winner, **Kiltyrie Trophy;** J Elliott (Langholm) 66
Age Group 55-63
1 G Marshall (Rye Hill) 69
2 N Chisholm (Kemnay) 69
3 R Downie (Polmont) 70
Age Group 64-68
1 A Simpson 69
2 J Cowie (Blair Atholl) 69
3 G Ingram (Dunkeld) 72
Age Group 69+
1 J Elliott (Langholm) 66
2 B Morris (Stirling) 69
3 J Blyth (Whitemoss) 70
Nearest the Pin (15-28)
Gordon Ingram (Dunkeld)
Mactaggart Trophy; Jim Burton 70
Lix Toll Trophy; George Smith 76
Magic 2s
Steve Bergin (Killin)
J. Elliott (Langholm)

Oban club post race results

Sailing
Race No.112
F Dinghy
1 Rosie, Laser Radial Adam Davies
2 16773, Laser Radial Andrew Barrington
Race No.113
S Dinghy
1 Wavelength, Laser 4.7 Jamie Chapman
2 topper, Topper Amy Kincaid
3 Blue Dolphin, Mirror Alison Chadwick, Chelsea
4 unSponsored 1, Topper Tierney Carter
Race No.114
F Dinghy
1 Rosie, Laser Radial Adam Davies
2 16773, Laser Radial Andrew Barrington
Race No.115
S Dinghy
1 Wavelength, Laser 4.7 Jamie Chapman
2 unSponsored 1, Topper Tierney Carter
3 topper, Topper Amy Kincaid
4 Blue Dolphin, Mirror Alison Chadwick, Chelsea

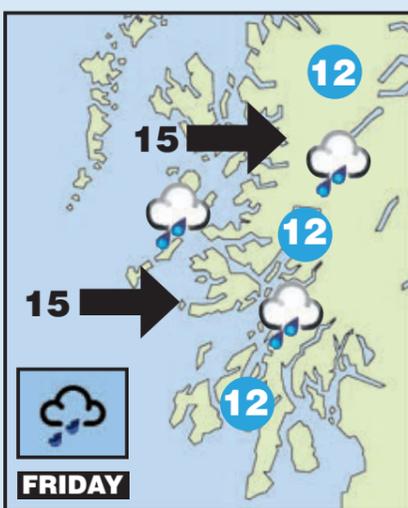
Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 20, 2009** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	05.41 3.9 11.35 0.4 17.48 4.2 *** **	18.25 4.3
Fri	00.19 0.5 06.16 4.0 12.19 0.2	19.01 4.3
Sat	01.00 0.5 06.51 4.0 13.01 0.2	19.36 4.1
Sun	01.38 0.5 07.25 4.0 13.41 0.3	20.10 3.9
Mon	02.15 0.7 07.59 3.8 14.21 0.5	20.42 3.6
Tues	02.52 0.9 08.32 3.6 15.00 0.8	21.16 3.2
Wed	03.30 1.2 09.06 3.4 15.41 1.2	

Location	Difference
Ardrihaig	-5.35
Campbeltown	-5.30
Crinan	-0.47
Islay Port Ellen	2.00
Lochboisdale	+0.30
Mallaig	+0.25
Portree	+0.55
Tobermory	+0.16
Dover	+5.30

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the weather

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Thursday
Cloudy with showers or longer spells of moderate to heavy rain. Winds light to moderate west to south-westerly. Temperatures 8°C to 15°C

Friday
Again cloudy with spells of moderate to heavy rain. Winds moderate westerly. Temperatures 7°C to 15°C.

Weekend Outlook
Rain is forecast to continue into the weekend. Winds moderate west to south-westerly. Temperatures 8°C to 15°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist - Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree - As above
Kennacraig to Islay - As above

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Castlemilk fail to deliver as Saints net four

Oban side kick start league campaign with 4-0 home win over newly-promoted Glasgow team

NEWLY promoted Castlemilk were the visitors to Glencruitten in this opening league game of the season, but the newcomers to the Premier Division ended up on the wrong end of a 4-0 scoreline.

Saints started well with both Darin Bryars and Keith Millar missing good scoring chances in the opening few minutes. The home side then caught the visitors napping with a short corner on the half hour mark. Ross Maitland's deep cross found Keith Millar at the back post but his header just skimmed the top of the bar.

At the other end Castlemilk created two good chances in

as many minutes, the first was a net-bound shot from Steven Murphy which was cleared off the line by Alex Craik and the second saw the ball bouncing around the Saints penalty area but it was eventually scrambled clear.

Blazing
The home side came out in the second half with all guns blazing and Donald Campbell saw a right foot piledriver flash past the post. Two minutes later Castlemilk's John Smith watched a similar effort at the other end do the same. Saints introduced substitutes Allan MacKay and Bulgarian striker Asen Gaydardzhiev as the half

Football
Umbro Scottish Amateur League Premier Division
Oban Saints 4
Castlemilk 0



Asen Gaydardzhiev.

wore on and it proved to be a match-winning move by the manager. The home side took the lead in the 67th minute with a well taken goal from MacKay who wasted no time in slotting the ball past James McKenna. Asen increased the lead 12 minutes later when he squeezed the ball home from close range. The game was killed off as a contest in the 80th minute when MacKay made

opening day for Saints MacKay netted his second goal of the game in the 87th minute.

Sharper
Manager Iain Jackson said: 'I was impressed with Castlemilk, they will be a good addition to the Premier Division, but I thought we were just that wee bit sharper and more clinical. Allan and Asen both took their goals well.'

Saints are at home again this Saturday when they take on Glencastle Sparta in a premier division game. The match will be played at Glencruitten, kick-off 2pm with referee John Campbell in charge.

Argyll team stay on the pace

Sinclair and Hammill set fast times at Speyside

Rally
ROUND six of the Hankook Scottish Rally Championship, the Gleaner Oils Speyside Stages, got underway on Saturday, August 8 in Elgin's town centre Cooper Park.

Shaun Sinclair and co-driver Chris Hammill showed that they were getting used to their new Mitsubishi evo9 by setting a third equal fastest time around the park, then topping that by being second equal on the next run.

The rally then headed to the forests around Keith and Huntly where the cars were to tackle a further six forest stages.

Midway
Sinclair continued to be on the pace arriving at the midway service point in eighth position overall and third in group N.

He continued his good form in the afternoon stages to end the day sixth overall and second in group N, winning the class 10 award in the process. This result sees the Connel driver move to sixth place overall in the Hankook SRC and third in the highly competitive group N section.

Dervaig's John McCrone and Ulva Ferry's Peter McCrone kept their Hankook junior championship on course by taking the TSL

backed Peugeot 205 to class three honours and finishing 36th overall in the event. One place behind in 37th was Fionnphort's Craig Rutherford and co-driver Derek Forsyth of Conon Bridge. Rutherford added another class two win to his impressive 2009 season.

These results see McCrone at the top of the Hankook junior championships and Rutherford in second place, a fantastic achievement for the Mull car club members.

Jimmy Allan and Willie Campbell, both Oban, returned to the Scottish woods in their evo6 to take 33rd overall and an excellent eighth in group N in what was only Jimmy's second rally in a four-wheel drive car. The Oban-based Lockhart brothers were forced to retire their Spreadbury Welding evo6 after stage three with a driveshaft failure. The brothers were in 35th position at the time.

Willie Bonniwell was forced to miss the rally when a gearbox problem sidelined the Flit Subaru on the Wednesday before the rally. The penultimate round of the championship takes place on September 5 at Newton Stewart.



Liam MacEachen with legendary Scottish football scout Bobby Dinnie MBE.

Young player follows in King Kenny's footsteps

Oban midfielder impresses scouting legend

Football
A YOUNG Oban footballer is following in the footsteps of one of Scotland's greatest ever players.

Thirteen year old Liam MacEachen this week signed as a youth player for Partick Thistle after being recommended by the same man who discovered Scottish football legend Kenny Dalglish.

Liam signed for Thistle's pro-youth team after impressing football scout Bobby Dinnie MBE while playing for Erskine Boys

Club. Mr Dinnie, while manager of Possil YM in Glasgow, nurtured the careers of King Kenny and many other football greats including ex-Rangers favourites Gary McSwegan, Bobby Russell, Robert Fleck and Alex Forsyth. Liam, who plays in left midfield, has already taken part in two friendly games and is now looking forward to his side's first league match of the season.