

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8265

Thursday 27 August, 2015

www.obantimes.co.uk

80 pence

### Agenda:

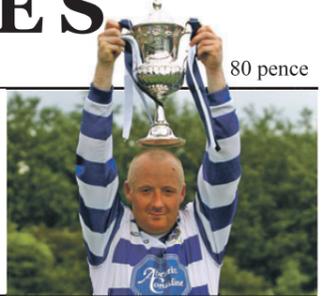
- the people
- the issues
- the back story



### THIS WEEK Mike MacKenzie

"There is something immoral about people who are unable to afford heating costs in a country like Scotland which is awash with energy"

### Macaulay Cup match report and photos from the 2015 final



### Nicola's a class act say pupils as school visit leaves them on a high

SCOTLAND'S First Minister praised Oban high when she visited the school on Monday morning.

In an exclusive interview with the *Oban Times*, Nicola Sturgeon said she had visited many schools in Scotland, but in Oban she had a genuine feeling about young people's enthusiastic attitude towards education.

Ms Sturgeon posed for a photograph with the senior pupils' leadership team (pictured right) before visiting Oban Phoenix Cinema, a housing association estate and the offices of the *Oban Times*.

For a full report of the Scottish government's visit to Oban, turn to pages four and five.



### TIMESLINE

#### Annual review on the cards for NHS

IT IS now less than two weeks until NHS Highland's annual review, which this year takes place in Caithness.

The review, which is being taken by the cabinet secretary for health and wellbeing, Shona Robison, is being held on Monday, September 7.

Members of the public are being encouraged to attend the open session, which is being held in the Wick Assembly Rooms at 1.30pm.

#### Art society likes to display its talents

OBAN Art Society's annual exhibition in the Cadet Hall begins tomorrow, Friday, until Saturday, September 5. The group has been holding exhibitions of its members' works for 50 years.

This year there will be over 20 contributors and over 150 items, each unique and only available for the duration of the exhibition.

#### West coast canvas inspired artists

THREE Argyll artists have collaborated for an exhibition in Glasgow's prestigious Leiper Gallery next month.

Lesley Burr, Fiona MacRae and Sian MacQueen are exhibiting works which they say is inspired by life on the west coast.

The exhibition is scheduled to open on September 3.

#### Early Christmas gift for the town

WITH only 120 days to Christmas, the town's premier event, 'Oban Winter Festival' has been given a funding boost of £2,000 by councillors. Organisers said this year's event will be 'better than ever'.

# Jobs on the line as cuts bite

### COUNCIL CALLS FOR VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCIES AS IT AIMS TO SAVE BETWEEN £15M TO £18M OVER NEXT TWO YEARS

STEVEN RAE  
srae@obantimes.co.uk

CASHED-strapped bosses at Argyll and Bute council are asking for voluntary redundancies as the authority tries to save more than £15 million.

All staff, with the exception of school teachers and social care employees registered with the Scottish Social Services Council, will be invited to take a voluntary redundancy package.

The move is part of the council's bid to slash spending by between £15.7 million and £18.4 million over the next two years.

The authority's policy and resources committee endorsed the austerity plan at a meeting in Lochgilphead last week.

A report by Douglas Hendry, the council's executive director of community services, made no



TOUGH CHOICES:  
Councillor Duncan MacIntyre

mention of the number of redundancies which might be required to help bridge the council's budget gap.

However, the report did say: 'It is anticipated that the council will require to reduce its budget by between £21.7m - £26m over

... at the moment the council is struggling with staff numbers ...

Duncan MacIntyre

five years with a an anticipated reduction in the next two years of between £15.7 and £18.4m. 'Inevitably jobs will be affected and, given the council's policy to

avoid compulsory redundancies as far as possible, it is recommended that a letter is sent to council employees asking them to express an interest in voluntary redundancy.'

A report to the council's policy and resources committee highlighted that not all requests for voluntary redundancy would be guaranteed as the council must ensure that services continue to operate.

The council will explore further savings from different services, such as the use of fuel-efficient vehicles to reduce the budget for pool cars, pupil transport or reducing travel budgets. It will also scrutinise small central budgets for postage or publication subscriptions.

The local authority said that cuts which would affect major services would be put out for pub-

lic consultation from October, with the committee to receive feedback and recommend proposals to the council in January next year. A final decision will be announced by the council in February.

Councillor for Oban North and Lorn, Duncan MacIntyre, said that any loss of staff in the local authority would have an impact on the services delivered.

He said: 'It's very sad we have to have redundancies, but we have to be mindful that some people may want to accept the offer, and obviously have to honour that.'

'It's obviously far better than forcing redundancies on people - I suppose it's the lesser of two evils.'

'It's still a concern though, because at the moment the council is struggling with staff numbers for things like grass cutting

and street cleaning. If you start reducing numbers in areas such as that, you're going to notice a big difference very quickly.

'That means you have to weigh these things up.'

He continued: 'Do you take people from the front line services or from higher up? There's no easy answer.'

'You could take two members of management, who are on £50,000 salaries, or five people 'on the ground' at £20,000, but the impact on these services will be noticed very quickly.'

'The reduction of three councillors in the 2017 elections, if the boundary changes go ahead, will obviously save money but that's still 18 months away.'

In 2010, a similar call for voluntary redundancies by the council received more than 900 responses.

### Jamie bows out

THE SCOTTISH Conservatives' elder statesman, Jamie McGrigor, has announced he is to stand down at the 2016 Scottish parliament elections.

It brings to an end a long and distinguished career for the MSP who represents the Highlands and Islands.

He has been a leading figure for the Tories for years, recently serving as spokesman for the environment, fishing and external affairs.

Sir Jamie was also one of the first MSPs to successfully present a Private Member's Bill in Holyrood.

He is also the driving force behind the establishment of the Scottish Register of Tartans. He has brought a wealth of rural experience to the Scottish parliament, as a farmer of sheep and cattle, and the pioneer of a trout farm in Argyll.

### Glowing report

ST COLUMBA'S primary school in Oban has just received a glowing report from government inspectors.

The key strengths of the school were identified as happy, confident children who were enjoying their learning and were proud of their school.

The school was also praised for its caring and supportive ethos built on faith values and strong links with the local community.

The headteacher also received a gold star from inspectors for her effective leadership and the high quality teamwork among the staff and their focus on improving outcomes for children.

A spokesman for Her Majesty's inspectorate of Schools said they had agreed a positive development plan for the school.

### Art of dialogue

TROUBLED arts organisation Comar, based on Mull, is holding an open recruitment process for a new convenor and board members after a walk out of members earlier this month.

In a statement, the Comar board members said they were keen to work with a 'shadow board' set up to oppose plans to make redundant two of the organisation's highly regarded arts directors, Alastair McCrone and Gordon MacLean.

A Comar spokeswoman said they had halted the redundancy process.

She said: 'This includes the commitment to suspend any further action on the ongoing redundancies to allow the Comar board and the shadow board to continue a constructive dialogue about how to build a strong, sustainable future for the arts in Mull, Iona and Argyll.'

### Manor House Hotel & Restaurant

More than just beautiful seafood

Overlooking the Harbour  
Gallanach Road • Oban  
01631 562087  
www.manorhouseoban.com

### B&M CENTRE

BMW AND MINI SPECIALISTS DEALERSHIP QUALITY AT HALF THE PRICE

- BMW trained • 8 years experience • Diagnostics
- Programming • Servicing • Retrofits
- FREE Vehicle Health Check On Every Visit
- FREE collection and delivery service

Tel: 0141 237 7654  
Mob: 07707 331 046  
bmwminispecialistsglasgow.co.uk

OPEN: Mon-Fri: 8am-5pm • Sat: 8am-12pm  
B&M Centre, Glasgow, Unit 28, New  
Albion Ind Est, Halley Street, Yoker G13 4DJ

### Flooring with style

Laminates  
Carpets  
Woods  
Vinyls  
Tiles

SPECIAL OFFER  
tartan carpets  
available from stock

Mathesons, Tweedmill, Soroba Road, Oban  
Tel: 01631 565195  
www.mathesons.co.uk



SOUND ADVICE: Sue Pagan

## Support Oban memory walk

OBAN is to be turned into a 'dementia-friendly community' under the watchful eye of Alzheimer Scotland's new north Argyll adviser.

Sue Pagan, who will be based in the town, aims to help the 1,941 people in Argyll and Bute suffering from dementia.

She said: 'Clearly this is not an insignificant issue and, although research has indicated that there has been little change in the last 20 years, we have not yet seen the impact of an increasingly ageing population. Dementia is not a natural part of ageing, but it is a disease of later years and has to get away from the idea that a diagnosis of dementia means that life is effectively over.'

It is hoped Alzheimer Scotland's Dementia Friends initiative will raise awareness and address the stigma in communities, but relies on donations and fundraising.

This is why Ms Pagan, who has a background in counselling and mental health, is looking forward to the second Oban Memory Walk, to be held this Sunday from 2pm.

The new adviser said: 'Please come along and walk for us, bring the family and bring the dog and make memories or walk for someone important to you who has or had dementia. We can all play a part in making sure that no-one faces dementia alone.'

The Memory Walk will take place on the Sustrans track from Ganavan Sands to Dunbeg.

## Infection rate fails target

NHS Highland is off course to meet a key infection prevention and control target.

Nationally, health boards have a target of 32 cases of Clostridium difficile (C. diff) per 100,000 acute occupied bed days (OBDs).

While NHS Highland was within that target in the period from January to March, figures, that have yet to be validated, show an incidence of 51.71 cases per 100,000 OBDs from April to June.

'This rate is higher than we would expect for this quarter', nurse director, Heidi May, told NHS Highland board members.

'And, as a result, the infection prevention and control team have advised Health Protection Scotland of the situation.'

'Health Protection Scotland have said they are satisfied that the board have in place all the correct procedures and measures to prevent and control infection,' Ms May continued.

Meanwhile, NHS Highland has met its infection prevention and control target for *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (SAB).

# New high school gets green light as plan now goes before Holyrood

STEVEN RAE

srae@obantimes.co.uk

COUNCILLORS have given plans for a new 1,300-strong state-of-the-art high school a resounding vote of confidence.

Last Wednesday, Argyll and Bute council approved the plans, despite the fact the location of the proposed Oban high school falls within the blast zone of a nearby liquefied natural gas (LNG) storage plant in the town's Lochavullin industrial estate.

The Health and Safety Executive had lodged an objection to the council plan, citing the proximity of the LNG storage facility as a potential 'major hazard'.

The new buildings would be located within the area of the existing Oban high campus.

The council mounted a robust defence of its proposals, however, moving quickly to reassure pupils and the public that they were not at risk over the location of the new school.

As the HSE - which is a statutory consultee - has lodged an objection, the plan has to be referred to the Scottish government, which has 28 days to intervene in the matter, if it



Councillor David Kinniburgh

decides to challenge the council decision. The new school, which will have a capacity for up to 1300 pupils, is expected to be built by spring 2018.

The council has allocated £13 million to the building of the school, with the remainder of the £24 million project being funded through the Scottish government's 'Schools for the future' programme.

The council spokesman for planning and regulatory services, councillor David Kinniburgh, said: 'We are minded to approve this project which we feel will have a real benefit to people in Oban and Lorn for years to come.'

'The focus of the council's

“ In trying to attract people and investment to the area, quality facilities for educating our young people are a must ”

David Kinniburgh

planning service is on making things happen, supporting sustainable economic growth and regeneration. In trying to attract people and investment to the area, quality facilities for educating our young people are



Councillor Rory Colville

a must.' The capacity of the new school allows for a steady rise in the number of pupils, based on school roll forecasts and local development plan actions.

Councillor Rory Colville, spokesman for education and lifelong learning, said: 'We are focussed on providing young people in Oban, Lorn and the Isles with the best possible start in life and delivering a new school fit for the 21st century.'

'Everyone involved in educating and supporting our young people is committed to realising the council's ambition to make Argyll and Bute a place people choose to live, learn, work and do business.'

'A new school will help to equip

our children for the future; providing them with a fabulous facility in which they can learn and succeed, be ambitious and realise their full potential.

'This is one part of an ambitious £74 million investment programme which will also provide new schools for children in Dunoon, Kirn and Campbeltown.'

The project is being promoted and driven by Hub North Scotland Ltd., in partnership with the council and will see the current school site undergo significant changes over the next three years.

'The new building will be constructed on the grass rugby pitch at the current school site, with the 3G pitch remaining in use throughout.'

Once the new building is completed, pupils will move in and the old buildings will be demolished, freeing up much needed social space for students and improved bus drop-off points and car parking provision.

The work on the new school is expected to be under way later this year.

More information on the project can be found at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/new-oban-high-school

## TIMESLINE

### Three rescued on hills in 24 hours

OBAN mountain rescue team went to the aid of three people in 24 hours in two separate incidents.

With the help of the neighbouring Glencoe team, they rescued an 18-year-old man when he became disorientated descending Glen Etive's Etis Slab at around 9.30pm last Wednesday.

The following day, the Oban volunteers were helped by police to find a 29-year-old man and his 35-year-old wife. The pair had been walking on Ben Cruachan when poor weather worsened and they became lost.

Eight members of the rescue team descended the hill and located the couple before guiding them to safety.

### Car precarious on 'Atlantic' bridge

A CAR was left hanging in the balance after it became stuck on the edge of the bridge over the Atlantic at the weekend.

The vehicle was 'lodged precariously' on the edge of the Clachan bridge at 5.30pm, when police arrived following numerous calls from the public.

Four occupants managed to get themselves out of the car before police arrived at the scene and they were taken to Oban hospital by ambulance as a precautionary measure.

A police spokesman said: 'A vehicle was involved in an accident on the bridge over the Atlantic. It was lodged precariously on to the bridge parapet.'

### Year's suspension for Oban architect

AN architect, who is based in Oban, has been suspended by the Architects' Registration Board following a series of 'serious and widespread' failings on a heavily delayed house extension scheme.

The Architects' Registration Board's professional conduct committee found Martin Hadlington guilty of 'unacceptable professional conduct' and removed him from the register for a year.

The committee said it had taken into account a number of mitigating factors, such as Hadlington's remorse, the remedial steps he had taken to avoid such problems in the future and that this was the first time he had been in trouble with the board.

### Pensions help for the over-50s

ARGYLL and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) has welcomed news that the Pension Wise guidance service will be made available to people aged over 50.

Holders of defined contribution pension schemes can call 08456 123 808 to receive advice on choices available under 'pension freedoms' introduced in April 2015.

Alternatively, over the 50s can visit the CAB in Lochgilphead.

# Taynuilt daughter pays tribute to cancer campaigner as bikers plan trip to Oban

LOUISE GLEN

lglen@obantimes.co.uk

A TRIP to Oban for friends of a 40 year-old paramedic who died from pancreatic cancer has special resonance with Taynuilt woman, Zoe Gillies.

Zoe's mother died from the same condition and wants to raise awareness of the disease which affects people of all ages. Motorcycle paramedic, Andrew Luck, was just 43 when he died last year of pancreatic cancer.

And, during his illness, he fought hard for more funding for research into the disease.

Pancreatic cancer is the fifth highest cancer killer in the UK. It has the worst survival rate of all the 22 most common cancers at just three to five per cent.

Zoe said: 'People need to be aware of symptoms so we can get earlier detection. My mum, Mabel Braidwood, passed away with pancreatic cancer in 2013, just 16 weeks after diagnosis.'

'Mum inspired me to help raise awareness of this type of cancer as it has a low survival rate. In 2014, I helped to raise over 100,000 signatures to bring an e-petition to the Scottish parliament. Andrew Luck was such a brave man to raise awareness of the cancer while fighting the cancer himself. I know from chats with Andy that he loved the road to Oban on his motorbike.'

The bikers are leaving Glasgow Royal Infirmary on Sunday, September 30 at 9am and will be travelling to Inveraray, then onto Tyndrum and finally



FIGHTING CANCER: Zoe Gillies with her mum, Mabel Braidwood. Mabel died in 2013, just 16 weeks after her cancer was diagnosed

to Oban. The Brandon Lodge hotel, near Taynuilt, has offered free 'soft' refreshments for the bikers.

A stall is being set up as an awareness stand, where people can pick up leaflets which provide information on the symptoms of the cancer. Badges, pens and wristbands, which will be available to buy, will raise money for Pancreatic Cancer Scotland (PCS).

A PCS spokesman said: 'Andy died last July at the age of 43. As well as continuing to work as a motorcycle paramedic during his illness, Andy did so much to raise awareness of pancreatic cancer by campaigning right up to the end.'

'He was a regular at the

Scottish parliament cross-party group for cancer, fighting to get more funding for research into earlier diagnosis and eventually the hope of a cure or to improve survival rates. He also took part in a hard-hitting advert along with two other pancreatic cancer patients, Kerry Harvey and Penny Lown which brought worldwide awareness to the disease.

'Sadly Kerry Harvey also passed away last year at the age of 24, leaving Penny as the sole survivor of the three who took part in this campaign.'

Around 8,800 people are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the UK each year, making it the 11th most common cancer. The pancreas is a large gland



CAMPAIGNER: Andy Luck who died of pancreatic cancer last year

that's part of the digestive system. It's about 15cm long, and is located high in the abdomen, behind the stomach, where the ribs meet at the bottom of the breastbone.

The pancreas produces digestive enzymes - which break down food so it can be absorbed into the body and hormones - including insulin, which helps keep blood sugar levels stable.

In the early stages, a tumour in the pancreas doesn't usually cause any symptoms, which can make it difficult to diagnose. The first noticeable symptoms are often pain in the back or stomach area, unexpected weight loss and jaundice.

But these can be caused by many different conditions, and people should contact their GP if they are concerned, or if these symptoms start suddenly.

## OBAN STOVE CENTRE

Come in and see us

Trade Sales available

COMPLETE IN HOUSE FITTING SERVICE

Old Crofters Yard, Soroba Rd, Oban, Argyll, PA344HU

Tel: 01631564790 Fax: 01631562919

info@obanstovecentre.co.uk

## MULLlines

# Game Mally gears up to be flush with success

LOUISE GLEN

lglen@obantimes.co.uk

A WOMAN from Mull is about to set off on a cycling epic which will take her the entire length and breadth of Britain - to celebrate her birthday and raise money at the same time.

Basket-maker and former nurse, Mally Gower, will set off from Cornwall on August 27 to embark on a 1,500-mile journey that will take up to eight weeks to complete.

She will celebrate her 60th birthday en route, on the first day of October.

Her trip on a Koga touring bike will take her to the four compass points of Britain: that is the farthest points north, south, east and west.

Starting from The Lizard in Cornwall, she will head east to Lowestoft, west to Ardnamurchan, then north to Dunnet Head, including Land's End and John O'Groats en route.

In 2012, Mally was knocked off her bike on the A6 in Derbyshire which left her with a broken and dislocated



CHAIN REACTION: Mally Gower is set to pedal 1500 miles to celebrate her birthday and raise money for a worthy cause

left hip. She is waiting for a hip replacement, but remains undeterred.

'I'm not a great lover of parties, so I decided to do something special to celebrate turning 60 instead,' Mally said. 'I'm hoping people will join me at various points. My aim is to get back home before the clocks turn back.'

Mally's other goal is to raise enough money in sponsorship to twin 60 toilets through charity initiative, Toilet Twinning, which provides proper toilets, clean water and hygiene education in some of the poorest nations.

For £60, people can twin their toilet with one in a poor nation, and they receive a

certificate showing their twin, with its photo and GPS co-ordinates.

Mally, who is a Quaker, added: 'Having a toilet is such a basic need and we are just so lucky to have toilets, when so many people in the world don't.'

'We moan about public toilets in this country, but they are still pretty good compared with what many people in the world have. I will need toilets on my route - and that's going to be interesting - but it will at least keep me focused.'

Mally moved only recently from Derbyshire to north Mull 'for a simpler way of life'. She has recently undertaken a variety of seasonal work to raise money for her tour, including a stint at Duart castle, and she is also teaches basketry.

Mally regularly cycles 12 miles a day but is hoping to average 50 miles a day on her cycle tour, to allow for a few days off. To celebrate her 50th birthday, she walked coast to coast for landmine clearance charity, MAG.

OT

# Lifeboat rescues fishermen before their vessel sinks

STEVEN RAE  
srae@obantimes.co.uk

FIVE fishermen were dramatically rescued after their vessel ran aground and capsized in the Sound of Mull on Monday.

The crew aboard the St Apollo escaped into their life-raft during the incident, which happened around 3.30am.

A rescue helicopter was sent from Prestwick, but the group were reached first by the Oban lifeboat, where they were taken ashore.

The Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) has launched an inquiry into the cause of the sinking.

A spokesman for Oban RNLI said: 'At 4.25am the lifeboat arrived at the scene and found that the crew of the fishing vessel had taken the precaution of launching their life-raft while

they were awaiting rescue. As soon as the lifeboat arrived, the crew of the fishing vessel decided to abandon ship into the raft.

'The five crew were then taken on board the lifeboat just in time to see their fishing vessel slip back into deeper water, capsize and become almost completely submerged.

'The crew of the fishing vessel were checked for injuries and found to be no worse for their traumatic ordeal.'

A representative from the Fishermen's Mission met the crew of the St Apollo on Oban Pier to offer assistance and a hot breakfast before the five men headed home to Ayrshire.

Matthew Ramsay, superintendent said: 'Many thanks to the Regent hotel, Oban, and its general manager, Tommy Sutherland.

'Staff members Nicu, Ann and



Pictured is Oban lifeboat's XP boat, used to get alongside the fishing vessel during Monday's rescue

Irene all made sure the men were well cared for.

'They didn't bat an eyelid when asked to help so early in the morning - true West Highland hospitality and kindness at its best.

'The mission is now on hand to offer support until the men can get back to the fishing.'

The rescue was the culmination of a busy 24 hours for the Oban crew, which had to deal with four call-outs.

On Sunday afternoon, the lifeboat was sent to help a yacht in difficulties off Craignish Point but stood down when another boat took the yacht under tow.

The crew received another callout that afternoon, but again stood down before launching.

Then in the evening, the crew set off to help a jet skier in trouble, but returned to port after the vessel was assisted ashore.

## TIMESLINE

### Teenager charged with abusive rant

A TEENAGER was arrested in Oban's Soroba Road on Saturday night after being accused of launching an abusive tirade at police.

The 18-year-old suspect was accused of using threatening and abusive language to the police at 11.15pm.

A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Accused of theft from Oban store

POLICE were called to Boots the chemist on Oban's George Street on Friday evening following a report of shoplifting.

A 47-year-old man was arrested by police after he was accused of stealing from the shop.

A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Dangerous driver reported to fiscal

A FORTY-SIX year old woman has been reported to the procurator fiscal for dangerous driving near Taynuilt.

Police stopped the driver at 5.30 on Monday morning on the A85.

### Check conditions before setting off

POLICE have appealed to drivers to take road conditions into account when they set off, even on the shortest journeys. This advice was issued after four people were killed on the roads last weekend.

### Motorist caught driving at 99mph

A DRIVER was caught almost hitting a ton last week.

Police clocked the 30-year-old man travelling at 99mph on the A82 near Tyndrum.

A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

# 'Inconsiderate' dog walkers fall foul of club

STEVEN RAE  
srae@obantimes.co.uk

RUGBY enthusiasts from Oban are the latest to call foul on the disgusting practice of owners not clearing up after their dogs.

As well as occasionally finding dog dirt on the pitches at Oban Lorne Rugby club, bags of dog mess have been found tied up and thrown on top of a metal container used by the club to store equipment.

Dee Bradbury, Oban Lorne president, said: 'We, as a club, are very concerned about this situation. While this is a public space, it is primarily a sporting facility.'

'Rugby requires players to go to ground and on occasion players have been covered in dog faeces. This applies to our adult and juvenile players. There is a high risk of serious infection. Who would want this to happen?'

'For those who have made the effort to pick up and then throw it on the container roof - what is wrong with you? Bins are about 10 feet away. We will seriously consider monitoring the situa-



TACKLING FOUL PLAY: Back row, from left: Oban Lorne committee member Claire McQueen, Allan Wright, Craig Wright, Craig McGuire and Julie McKenzie. (Above right) Dee Bradbury



tion from within the clubhouse and making our findings public. 'Please pick up after your dog and take the bag home.'

Argyll and Bute rugby development officer, Allan Wright, who plays for Oban Lorne, said: 'You couldn't make this up.'

'It's ridiculous that people would pick the mess up, bag it, tie the bag, and then throw it on the roof like that.'

Allan's brother, Craig, who also plays for Lorne, said: 'The thing is, the people doing it probably live nearby, but have no pride in their local area or the sporting

facilities the club uses. In the past, there's been times when senior and junior players have got dog dirt on their shoes or on their legs. Players should be able to take it for granted that there's no dog mess on the pitch.'

Craig McGuire, who is captain of the Argyll and Bute rugby team, said: 'It's disrespectful for the area, for the club and for everyone else. Others use the pitch and pick up the dirt and put it in bins. These inconsiderate people ruin it for everyone else.'

Oban community councillor, Julie McKenzie, who is a founding member of the group, Oban community action on dog fouling, met the players and discussed their concerns, as well as giving the club members anti-dog-fouling signs to put up in the grounds.

The dog fouling group is keeping going the momentum of its campaign.

Julie said: 'Anyone who is interested in helping or supporting us should come to the Atlantis leisure centre at 10am on Monday, where we will discuss our future plans with our partner agencies.'

AkzoNobel

£10

BACK

WHEN YOU SPEND

£30 ON DULUX

Promotion only available in Independent Retailer stockists






Visit us at:  
**Craigard Décor**  
10-12 Craigard Road, Oban, Argyll PA34 5NP  
Tel: 01631 562680

paint again for free

the let's colour™ guarantee



If the colour is not right for you  
Dulux will exchange it for free

Promotion runs in participating outlets from 24th August through to 31st October 2015.

**Holyrood comes to Oban as the First Minister leads the way. Louise Glen, Steven Rae and Emma Crichton report**



The Scottish cabinet with Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow (fourth from left)

**Cabinet backs the global work of Mary's Meals**

CABINET ministers made a donation to one of Argyll's best-known charities during their visit to Oban on Monday.

Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, founder of Dalmally-based charity, Mary's Meals, met the

ministers at the Corran Halls, where a special presentation was made, supporting the charity's Backpack Project.

The Backpack Project encourages people, including schoolchildren, to donate their

old backpacks and fill them with school materials such as notebooks, pencils and other equipment, for children in countries such as Liberia, Uganda and Malawi.

First Minister, Nicola Stur-

geon, said: 'Mary's Meals does fantastic work with children in some of the world's poorest countries. That is why the Scottish government is providing more than £1 million of international development funding over five

years for Mary's Meals school feeding programmes in Malawi. Magnus said: 'This is absolutely brilliant, and I'm absolutely delighted at the gesture, on top of the fantastic support we receive from the Scottish government.'

**Plan a catalyst for real change**

SUPPORT to devolve further power to Scotland's rural communities was announced by the Scottish government's rural affairs secretary, Richard Lochhead, during the cabinet's visit to the town this week.

Scottish government funding of £200,000 has been allocated to help deliver the Scottish rural parliament action plan.

Mr Lochhead made the announcement ahead of the Scottish cabinet meeting in Oban, nine months after Scotland's first rural parliament was held in the Argyllshire town.

Speaking on a visit to the Stramash outdoor social enterprise - which won an innovation award at the rural parliament - the cabinet secretary said: 'Scotland's first

rural parliament was hugely successful in giving rural communities a voice.

'The challenge now is to maintain that democratic momentum. Rural parliaments in other countries have proven to be a catalyst for lasting change and I am keen to see a similarly dynamic and influential rural movement here in Scotland.'

'That is why the Scottish government is providing £200,000 to support the delivery of the Scottish rural parliament action plan, which sets out the priority issues and solutions that have been identified by rural communities themselves.'

'The plan cannot be delivered by government alone and so I am keen that it is supported as widely as possible.'



WELL PLAYED: From left: Lyndsay Elliot, Shona Robison, councillors Roddy McCuish and Elaine Robertson, and Alison McIlroy, technical officer for Argyll and Bute council 17\_t35playpark01

**Health supremo salutes the town's play park volunteers**

CABINET Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport, Shona Robison, visited Atlantis leisure centre to meet Lyndsay Elliot, one of the key fundraisers for Oban's community play park, as well as officials from Argyll and Bute council.

Shona Robison was impressed with the progress made by the fundraisers, noting that the Scottish government Legacy 2014 grant from Sports

Scotland had boosted funds by more than £85,000.

'This community effort is on a bigger scale than I've seen before,' she said.

'It's very ambitious and clearly it's going to have a huge impact on the local community, and will be used well. It's great that the legacy funding has helped towards this, but the real congratulations must go to everyone involved, and the

encouraging co-operation between the community fundraising, the council and Atlantis leisure.'

The Oban community play park is scheduled to open in the autumn and will be the culmination of a tremendous effort on the part of the dedicated committee of fundraisers who have worked tirelessly for several years to realise their dream.

**£9 million pledged to help speed up rural broadband**

A FUNDING programme for broadband for rural communities across Scotland has been launched by the First Minister on Monday.

Nicola Sturgeon announced the new Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) broadband grant scheme is now open for applications.

The £9 million fund will be used to support community-led broadband projects similar to GigaPlus Argyll - a ground-breaking scheme where groups of hard-to-reach communities get together to procure superfast broadband services from commercial providers.

The First Minister said: 'Superfast broadband is being rolled out across Scotland with Scottish government support, and we are more than halfway towards meeting our target under the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB) Programme.'

'The social and economic benefits are clear, as demonstrated by the innovative and accessible wifi tourist information kiosk in Oban's Phoenix Cinema.'

'This SRDP funding will help communities in the hardest-to-reach broadband areas follow in the footsteps of the pioneering GigaPlus Argyll project, and work together to bring superfast services to homes and businesses.'

'This scheme takes the available funding for community broadband projects up to £16.5



ON MESSAGE: Nicola Sturgeon is interviewed by Louise Glen (left) and Emma Crichton. Video footage of the interview with the First Minister can be viewed on the Oban Times website

million in Scotland, over and above the £400 million DSSB investment.

'It is another step to achieving the Scottish government's aim of delivering world class connectivity by 2020 and enabling people across Scotland to connect any time, any place, anywhere, using any device.'

The Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) 2014-2020 broadband grant scheme will be delivered by Community Broadband Scotland (CBS).

CBS Director, Zoe Laird, said: 'Access to high speed, robust, broadband has a transformational effect on how people live, work and learn, particularly in our

most remote and rural communities. Our role at CBS is to help communities find innovative solutions and GigaPlus Argyll is a great example of an innovative business model that will bring transformational and robust broadband to the most remote of premises across eight island and mainland communities. The SRDP scheme will enable us to help even more rural communities across Scotland get digitally connected.'

Eight island and mainland communities on the west coast of Scotland have joined forces with Community Broadband Scotland (CBS) for the community-owned GigaPlus Argyll project.

Project chairman, Moray Finch, said: 'Broadband connectivity in the GigaPlus Argyll area is poor, with speeds less than two Mbps, and our communities on the islands and Craignish peninsula are outside the reach of the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband fibre scheme.'

'By getting together with CBS, we have been successful in securing tenders and appointing a company specialising in the installation and operation of wireless superfast broadband which will deliver affordable services to 1,400 homes and businesses, opening up huge opportunities.'

Oban Phoenix Cinema manager, Jennie Larney, said: 'The Phoenix already has wifi which is hugely popular with local customers and tourists, but superfast broadband will make a massive difference. It will make it much easier and faster for us to access the latest releases, as well as enabling us to screen live-streamed events. I know that superfast infrastructure is currently being installed in Oban and we can't wait to get connected.'

Calum Ross, Vice chairman of Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative (AITC), said: 'AITC is acutely aware of the importance of superfast broadband and 3G/4G coverage across our area to help grow tourism. Innovative solutions are vital in our remote rural areas, and our kiosks are a prime example of this.'

**Campervan trip is no jolly, says MP as he sets off on tour of duty**

LOUISE GLEN  
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

A NEWLY elected MP who has decided to visit nine Scottish islands in a rented campervan said he chose to do so not knowing it might 'frustrate' people.

Brendan O'Hara, elected in May to serve Argyll and Bute at Westminster, set out in the large campervan on Tuesday morning to 'fulfil a promise' he had made to islanders that he would visit as many islands as possible as soon as he could.

Visiting Bute, Coll, Tiree, Colonsay, Islay, Jura, Mull, Iona and Gigha, Brendan said it will be an interesting trip.

Brendan said: 'I'm in no doubt that this is the most beautiful constituency in these islands and representing the people who live and work here is a huge privilege.'

'I was determined to use this time to get around as much of the place as I can to meet folk, hear their concerns and ideas and help them with the issues they face.'

'Being an MP means putting your constituency first and this is one of the many opportunities I'll take to do just that.'

'I am looking forward to the next two weeks immensely.'

However, the parliamentary novice was taken aback when he heard that some of his constituents viewed his road and ferry trip as a 'bit of a jolly'. He replied: 'It is not a jolly at all. It means I am on my own for 14 days travelling around the islands.



VAN MAN: Brendan O'Hara is visiting the Islands in his campervan

'When I get back to Helensburgh, I almost immediately need to go back to London.'

'It is certainly not a holiday. I will be visiting villages and towns and knocking on doors.'

'I see it more as accommodation and an office that allows me to see people where they live - rather than them travel-

ling to see me.' When asked how people should contact him when he is on tour, he provided this answer: 'If it is daylight hours and people see the van, then I would be delighted if they would knock and say hello.'

Brendan said he will be eating in hotels and restaurants as he is not that keen on lighting

a gas burner in the van. He continued: 'I will be buying everything I can on the islands.'

'I will arrive with a box of tea bags and two pints of UHT milk.'

'If it doesn't work and people are annoyed with the van, then I won't do it again. But we will try it and see what happens.'



**University of the Highlands and Islands Argyll College**

We have spaces available on the following courses - **apply online now** or contact your local centre for more information

■ NC Horticulture	■ NC and HNC Sport and Fitness
■ NC Digital Media Computing	■ SVOs Professional Cookery
■ HNC Interactive Media	■ HNC Hospitality
■ HNC Computing	■ HNC Agriculture
■ NC and HNC Sound Production	

also a range of degree and open learning courses

**C 01631 559 500** [www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/tellmemore](http://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/tellmemore)

**Louise Glen and Steven Rae report on the Living Wage, homes and a mantra that extols a virtuous triumvirate**

# First Minister visits the home front

ARGYLL Community Housing Association, ACHA, welcomed Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, to Oban.

The First Minister visited the association's offices at Menzies House where she met tenants, staff and the association's chairman, Mike Brown.

The First Minister then visited the association's new-build development completed recently at Catalina Avenue in Oban where she spent time with Andy and Euphemia Birnie, who welcomed her into their new home.

Nicola Sturgeon was also briefed on the next phase of housing to be built by the association at Catalina Avenue, which started on site in July and will provide 17 one, three and four-bedroom homes to add to the 40 already completed.

Alastair MacGregor, ACHA's chief executive, commented: 'The First Minister was keen



**HOME COMFORTS:** Nicola Sturgeon visits Andy and Euphemia Birnie in their new home at Catalina Avenue in Oban

to see the partnership working between the Scottish government and ACHA which is delivering new homes to meet housing need in Oban.

'We were pleased that she was able to take the time from a busy schedule to meet tenants, staff and voluntary board members to see the partnership delivery on the ground.'

He further added: 'The visit also gave us the opportunity to brief the First Minister on the establishment of the association's welfare rights information project which has recently been awarded £196,000 from the Scottish government to provide advice and assistance to the association's tenants.'

**It was most certainly good times for staff of the Oban Times when the First Minister visited the offices on Monday**



**FUNNY GIRL:** The First Minister shares a joke with Carolyn Buchanan of the accounts department



**BONNY BABY:** Nicola Sturgeon admires chief sub-editor Lesley McKerracher's photograph of her grand-daughter, Jessica



**CREATIVE IMPULSE:** Nicola Sturgeon discusses the finer points of page layout with graphic designer, Rab Woods



**WARM WELCOME:** The First Minister is welcomed to the offices of the Oban Times by managing director, Alistair Bennett

## 'Fairness, prosperity and education'

A QUESTION-and-answer session in the Scottish parliament and the Oban public saw more than 400 people turn out to quiz leading politicians.

Education, marine protected areas, small business, health and young people were among the topics discussed by the large crowd at Atlantis leisure in Oban on Monday evening.

First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, addressed the largest crowd the visiting parliament had seen throughout Scotland, saying: 'You can ask us anything that you like. If we can't answer, we will get back to you over the next couple of days.'

Ms Sturgeon said she and her colleagues had taken the opportunity to visit 24 different projects and she was impressed with

what she had seen. After talking about Oban Phoenix Cinema, where she met representatives from Gigha, Mull and Iona and Argyll and Islands Tourism Co-operative (AITC), she said: 'I'll be back.'

Ms Sturgeon added that the Scottish government had three priorities: 'Fairness, prosperity and education.'

Mull-based councillor, Mary-Jean Devon, asked about a recently re-introduced ruling regarding educational maintenance grants and young carers, and wanted to know if the government would reconsider relaxing the strict rules around non-payment of maintenance grants for people who may be carers.

Ms Devon said: 'The Scottish

government needs to think again and have young carers champions in schools.' Ms Sturgeon called it a sensible suggestion and that she would take it away and discuss the matter with colleagues.

There was little comfort for Kenny MacNab, the representative of west coast fishermen.

Richard Lochhead, minister for the environment, told Mr MacNab there would be a longer 'lead in' period before marine protected areas (MPA) were introduced. This was to allow time to look at the disproportionate effect on trawlermen's incomes on the west coast.

But he continued: 'The scientific advice is that a ban on dredging is necessary. But we will have more time for an economic impact assessment. Some

people say we are not going far enough.' Christopher Chisholm asked about the length of time road were closed after four roads had been shut off on Sunday for hours on end.

Keith Brown, roads minister, argued that roads needed to be closed in order to allow police enough time carry out their work.

'We have 3D imaging cameras that are being trialled in order to speed up the process and I hope, over time, these can be rolled out to all areas.'

While most questions were answered, some people were disgruntled that they could not ask supplementary questions.

Aisling Clark, from Oban, asked for details on educational attainment and appeared not to agree with the answer she was

given. Another man, Ian Johnson, who asked about equalities in health care between men and women, was asked to hold his supplementary questions to the end of the debate.

Ian had wanted to know what the Scottish government was doing about the high incidence of death from prostate cancer, which was higher than the numbers for breast cancer.

Alex Neil, equalities minister, had said there were many areas of inequality in life and the government was doing all it could to address these matters.

The session lasted until after 9pm and saw ministers end the evening by spending the last half an hour in private conversations with members of the public over a cup of tea.



**IMAGE-CONSCIOUS:** Queen of the selfie, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, poses with some of the pupils at Oban high school

## CalMac's living wage vow

CALMAC has become the first ferry operator in the UK and the first major transport company in Scotland to achieve 'Living Wage' accreditation.

The accreditation has been earned by David MacBrayne Limited - CalMac's parent company - and applies to the company's 1450-strong staff, many of whom live and work in the West Highlands. It also ensures Argyll Ferries' employees are covered by the pledge.

The award has been warmly welcomed by Annabelle Ewing MSP, minister for youth and women's employment.

The accreditation is made by the Poverty Alliance on behalf

of the Living Wage Foundation. All employers will be expected to comply with National Living Wage (NLW) legislation by 2020, as announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the recent Westminster budget.

Annabelle Ewing said: 'CalMac Ferries Limited plays a vital role in island life, operating a lifeline ferry service for the communities of the Clyde and Hebrides.'

'Staff are at the heart of this organisation, so I'm pleased to see CalMac recognise this by becoming a Living Wage employer.'

'The Scottish government recognises the real difference the Living Wage can make to working people.'

'It is absolutely right and proper that CalMac's employees should earn a Living Wage,' said managing director, Martin Dorchester. 'It is something we were already doing and gaining accreditation simply formalises our commitment to this.'

'A recent independent study by the Fraser of Allander Institute found that our staff earn 12 per cent more than the Scottish average.'

'This reflects not only the importance we place on ensuring our staff - who often live in areas where job opportunities can be limited and also low paid - are financially recognised fairly for their work.'

## Thug son who headbutted his mother during brutal attack spared jail time

**COURT REPORTER**  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

AN TEENAGER who now lives in Oban carried out a savage and sickening attack on his own mother, Paisley sheriff court heard last Thursday.

But Sheriff Seith Ireland decided not to lock up the thug and placed him on a Community Payback Order. He was also sentenced to carry out 150 hours of unpaid work.

John Meney, 19, brutally attacked his mother, Karen, at the home they shared in Johnstone, Renfrewshire, earlier this year.

Meney, now of Soroba Road, Oban, denied assaulting his mother, claiming self-defence at Paisley sheriff court.

But after she told the court she was left 'in complete shock' at the 'unbelievable' assault which left her covered in blood, a sheriff convicted Meney of assaulting his mother to her injury by leaving her with a bruised back, red face and damaged nose.

The court heard how the thug punched, kicked and head-butted his mother, pulled her by the hair and threw her into furniture on April 11 this year.

The court heard that his mother was having a coffee with her sister in the living-room of her home in Canal Street, Johnstone, when she heard Meney getting up to go to the toilet.

She said she went to speak to him when he returned to his bedroom, explaining: 'He was back in his bed lying down.'

'I had been arguing with his girlfriend a couple of days before



**THUGGISH ASSAULT:** John Meney was convicted of a brutal and sustained attack on his defenceless mother, but was not sent to jail because the sheriff said it wouldn't serve the interests of justice

and John had been staying at his gran's house. He just said that I would "get my comeuppance". I patted him twice on the cheek and I did say, "Congratulations, you are in the woman-beaters' club".

'He said, "Do that to me again and I'm going to punch you in". I called his bluff and did it (patted him on the head). I didn't think for a minute that he would do it.'

Meney then launched an uncontrolled and savage attack on his mother.

Giving evidence at his trial, she said: 'At the third tap to his face, he jumped up out of his bed and grabbed me by the hair. He was pulling my hair and he threw me into the wardrobe. I fell back and banged the back of my head and I was on the floor. He jumped and grabbed me by the head again.'

'I just managed to get myself standing up again. He just swung me about the bedroom and I went into the bedroom cabinet. I hit the floor and got carpet burns on my elbows.'

'Every time I stood up and managed to get to my feet, John knocked me back again.'

'I was bounced off everything that was in the room. My sister came into the room to see what was happening and out of nowhere - it was as if he flew through the air - John head-butted me and my nose started bleeding.'

'I was in complete shock and again I went into one of the units.' She said that her son, who had only been wearing boxers when he attacked her, quickly got dressed and ran out of the house.

But he returned a short time later, begging his mother not to phone the police and telling her to head-butt him to make up for his attack.

After hearing that Meney had moved to Oban, managed to get himself a job and was due to become a father in October, Sheriff Seith Ireland decided not to send him to prison.

As he placed him on a Community Payback Order (CPO), requiring him to be supervised for the next 12 months and to carry out 150 hours' unpaid work, Sheriff Ireland said: 'It was a quite nasty incident.'

'You saw your mum's attitude to what happened - it was quite disgusting behaviour towards your mother.'

'It is not in the interests of justice to send you off to custody, but that was in my mind due to the nastiness of this assault.'

Meney will begin the CPO when the one he is currently serving for previous offences has run its course.

Learn locally in Argyll and Bute

**New Daytime and Evening Classes for adults starting September 2015**

Call 01631 567974 for further information and to book

Class Name	Description	Time
<b>Beginners Photography</b> Tutor Cameron Harris	Learn how to get the most from your camera and use image manipulation software	Daytime Tuesdays 5.30 - 7.30pm Lorn House Albany Street From 8 September
<b>Computing for Beginners and Next Steps online job applications/C.V.'S</b> Tutor Kenny Harrison	Various courses and 1:1 help with computers available.	Wednesdays 1.1 call to book Thursdays daytime 10 - 1 drop in. Thursday daytime and evening classes
<b>Upcycle your style</b> Tutor Liz Gaffney	Give clothes a new look. Dyeing fabrics, embellishing, making patterns, block printing, basic sewing	Tuesdays 6 weeks from 1 Sept 10.30 - 12.30 Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban
<b>Computing for Beginners 55 plus</b> Tutor Charles Drummond	A beginners class covering internet, email and computing basics geared at those who have not grown up with computers	Tuesdays 10.30 - 12.30 Oban Library from 15 Sept for 6 weeks
<b>Job Information Club</b>	Drop In. Get help with CV writing, Job Applications, information on learning opportunities	Tuesdays 1 - 4 pm Lorn House.
<b>English for Speakers of other Languages</b> Tutor Margaret Powell- Joss, Mandy Anfield, Tricia Slater	Conversational English class for people whose first language is not English. Call for more information or to book a place	Mondays 7 - 8.30 pm Tuesdays 2 - 4 pm
<b>Art</b> Tutor John MacPhee	Extend your skills further and develop your own ideas and approaches to painting	Wednesdays 7 - 9 pm from 2nd September Oban High School

**For further information on any of the classes, or to book a place, please contact us at:-**

**Lorn Community Learning Centre, Willowview, Lower Soroba, Oban**  
01631/567974 Or visit [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/adult-learning](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/adult-learning)

STOP PRESS!

If you, or anyone you know may benefit from help with their reading, writing and/or number skills; help is at hand. Please call Brian on 01631 567952 to see what is available. Support is typically on an individual basis, but small groups do exist. We don't have a set 'curriculum'; we support people to learn what they want at a pace that suits them - all of which is free of charge.

**Oban**

'WINDOWS on the World' is a new competition being launched by The Rockfield Centre.

Already the grounds and huts are being used for various activities and work is continuing on the main building to bring it back to life after seven years lying dormant.

While the main building is being renovated, Oban Communities Trust (OCT) wants to enhance the boarded-up windows by the creation of window murals which will illustrate the purpose of The Rockfield Centre.

Val Hamilton, former head of Art at Oban High School, is co-ordinating the project.

She said: 'We want to transform the six tall windows at the front of the building by installing painted panels over these windows. This will not only brighten up the look of the building, but outline the future of the Rockfield Centre through art creation.'

'Designs should clearly inform the viewer of the purpose and ethos of the centre. Background information and how to take part in this exciting competition can be found at [www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk/news](http://www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk/news)'

Eleanor MacKinnon, OCT project manager added: 'Windows on the World' gives a great opportunity for further creative involvement from the community and for artists to showcase their talent. We are all looking forward to seeing ideas come to life.'

**Harris**

SEVEN swimmers have completed the first swim from St Kilda to Harris - a 55-mile (88km) journey.

The relay team started at 4am last Monday from Village Bay on Hirta, the main island on the remote archipelago. They reached the beach at Huisinish in Harris just after 3pm on Tuesday - seven hours ahead of schedule.

This was the third time this year the team had attempted the swim. They had to call off previous attempts in May and July because of bad weather.

The charity swimmers tried to complete the swim last year, but had to abandon it after about 24 miles (38km).

A strong northerly current slowed down their progress towards the end of their successful attempt.

Earlier, they had been able to make good progress because of fine weather and calm sea conditions.

**Western Isles**

SQUEAKY clean food businesses in the Western Isles will be rewarded for going over and above normal hygiene standards.

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has offered the Eat Safe award to any establishments selling food directly to customers.

To qualify, businesses must go over and above the food hygiene and safe management standards required by law.

Norman Macleod, chairman of the comhairle's of environment and protective services, said: 'The Eat Safe award is only presented to businesses that have achieved hygiene standards beyond those required by law, so their commitment has to be commended. I would encourage all businesses within the Outer Hebrides to aim for this award as it provides them with a valuable tool to reassure their customers of a continuing commitment to produce food safely.'

**Tobermory**

A UNIQUE opportunity to teach Gaelic on the largest island in Argyll has opened up, on a temporary basis.

Argyll and Bute council is looking to recruit a teacher of the traditional Celtic language at Mull's Tobermory high school, the only school on the island.

The post is vacant either until the current postholder returns from maternity leave or until June 30, 2016.

For more information, visit: <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs>

**Skye**

THE NEXT meeting of the North Skye community broadband project will be held tonight (Thursday) in Portree.

This follows a successful inaugural event in the Skeabost hotel, when anyone interested in bringing faster internet to the island gathered to create a steering group.

Tonight's meeting at the HIE office, Kings House, will begin at 6pm and can be available via audio conference for anyone unable to attend.

For more information contact Elgar Finlay via [elgar.finlay@theglendastrust.org](mailto:elgar.finlay@theglendastrust.org)



SHOW TIME: back row: Lorraine McFee, Jill Stolton's daughter, Liane Jurek, Mick Cope and Rev Brookes. Front: Nan MacIntyre, Ruth Ritchie, Gela Rose and councillor Elaine Robertson.

**Horticultural show a success**

AVICH and Kilchrenan community council recently held its annual horticultural show in Kilchrenan village hall.

The well-attended event was opened by councillor Elaine Robertson, the auctioneer was the Rev Robert Brookes and the judges were D MacDougall, Rev Robert Brookes and Val MacFarlane.

Winners: Duncan MacGregor Cup

for best overall vegetable entry - Mick Cope; Vegetable Cup for most points in vegetable classes - Ruth Ritchie; Rose Bowl for most points in flower classes - Nan MacIntyre; Helen Brown Cup for three individual roses - Ruth Ritchie; Spencer Plaque for six sweet peas - Lorraine McFee; Robin's Nest voucher for best baking exhibit - Jill Stolton; McPhie Trophy for most points in baking classes - Jill Stolton;

Poppies Restaurant voucher for best decorated cake - Lorraine McFee; Egg Cup for best exhibit of eggs - Gela Rose; Alba voucher for best art exhibit - Liane Jurek; children's baking competition - Sylva, Indira and Eowyn Price, cup cakes; Lochrane Cup for best cottage garden - Nan MacIntyre; Garden Trophy for best large garden - Ruth Ritchie; Drisraig Cup for best vegetable garden - Mick Cope.

**Oban trio saddle up for charity**

THREE novice cyclists from Oban will ride more than 100 miles in two gruelling days to raise money for charity, starting on September 10.

The trio, Sophie Handley, Mairi Kennedy and Sandie Duffy, who all work at estate agents, Bell Ingram in the town, have never set foot in a gym before and have only just bought their bikes.

They will be raising money for three charities close to their hearts; MS Society, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and Argyll An-



DETERMINED: from left, Mairi Kennedy, Sandie Duffy and Sophie Handley.

imal Aid. Sophie said: 'This is definitely going to be a huge challenge for us, but we are determined to succeed for our chosen charities. MS Society is particularly significant for me as my father is currently living with MS and epilepsy. This is my way of giving something back. It's going to be painful, emotional, and exhilarating - all wrapped up in lycra.'

Anyone who wants to donate should visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/ride105>

**Pedal power raises lifeboat cash**



A MAN raised £400 for an Arisaig charity by cycling 250 miles in just 18 hours.

Shaun Miller, 42, is already a keen cyclist and decided to undertake the challenge from Arisaig to Carlisle for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

He said: 'The charity is one that is dear to the hearts of people here [in Arisaig]. It is a good cause and an important one for the area.'

Mr Miller, who works as receptionist at Arisaig hotel, set off on his challenge at 3am on Friday, July 24. Last year he cycled from his home in Arisaig to Glasgow and was 'surprised' just how easy the journey was for him.

Despite the ease of the

**Arisaig**

cycle to Glasgow, Mr Miller doubted that he could accomplish his task to Carlisle in just one day.

He said: 'This was my personal best. I cycle quite a lot and wanted to see how far I could push myself.'

'Dodging deer was not fun at 3am. However, after surviving the first 20 miles, I started to fly.'

'When I got to Carlisle at 9pm I was shocked at how easy it was. In fact, I didn't accept donations before I went because I didn't think that I could achieve it. It is a long way.'

Mr Miller has no plans to take up another cycle for charity this year, but won't rule it out.

FUNDRAISER: Shaun Miller

**MORVERN lines**

**A well travelled collie dog**

THE HOMING instincts of dogs, especially collies, are legendary, but the dog in the following story, sent to me by a correspondent in Oban, must have been exceptional.

The tale began on the south shores of Loch Sunart when the tenant of Laudale estate, the late John Andrew Fletcher, found one his collies worrying sheep so he decided to dispose of it.

On his way down to the shore with his gun he met one of the crew of a Clyde fishing boat that had come into the loch for shelter during a spell of bad weather. During the conversation, the crewman asked Mr Fletcher what he was doing that morning. When he heard that the dog was destined to be shot he asked if he could have it as he liked the look of it.

The weather abated and the fishing boat departed for its home port. As it entered the River Clyde the dog, deciding it did not like the sea or the look of its new surroundings, leapt overboard and swam ashore. Three weeks later it turned up on the doorstep of Laudale house. Perhaps it knew the reason for its banishment because it never again worried sheep.

The Fletchers were a Mull family from Lochdonhead well-known for their knowledge of sheep and cattle. They came to Morvern in 1871 to manage Glenricsdale estate for three brothers from Birmingham, William, Horace and Thomas Henry Newton - the first two were Church of England clergymen - who considered buying the island of Lismore, but had the good sense to realise the disadvantages of having a holiday retreat so close to burgeoning Oban and quickly moved on.

John Andrew Fletcher took over the tenancy and factorship of Laudale from his father, Archibald, who died in 1903. Between them, father and son established a fold of Highland cattle whose strain is still to be found among some of the best pedigree herds in Europe. John Andrew died in 1948 and his ashes were scattered on the ridge above Laudale house.

The Fletchers must have lived on Mull for generations because an arrangement existed between them and the Curries, another very old local family, that when a Fletcher died the Curries were to have the first 'lift' of the coffin and the same when a Currie died, the Fletchers were to have the same right.

The custom, a bond, was apparently the outcome of a fight to the death between a Fletcher and a Currie alone on a hillside on Mull many centuries ago.



HISTORIC: Laudale House, home to the Fletcher family and the travelling collie dog

**Family names**

TRADITIONAL Christian names are coming back into fashion, according to a recent national survey.

Not so long ago, it was the custom in the Highlands and islands to name new-born females after close male relatives who had died from natural causes or had been killed in the war. Hence we have Hughina, Mardina, Wilhelmina and Johnalda to give just a few examples.

There was also a well-established formula for carrying forward family names which, if strictly adhered to, would allow anyone to trace their forebears without having to rely on written records which did not come into being much before 1855 other than what might be recorded in family bibles.

The first son was called after his father's father; the second son after his mother's father; the third son after his father's father's father; the fourth son after his mother's mother's father; the fifth son after his father's mother's father; the sixth son after his mother's father's father and the eleventh through to the fourteenth sons after their mother's four great grandfathers.

The first daughter was named after her mother's mother; the second daughter after her father's mother; the third daughter after her mother's father's mother; the fourth daughter after her father's father's mother; the fifth daughter after her mother's mother's mother; the sixth daughter after her father's mother's mother; the seventh through to the tenth daughters after their mother's four great grandfathers and the eleventh through to the fourteenth daughters after their father's four great grandmothers.

How the parents remembered all this rigmarole is almost beyond belief but, of course, the human memory appears less reliable today than it was yesterday.



CUSTOM: Highland children were often called after their grandparents according to strict codes

**A lobster and a bottle of whisky**

RETURNING to maritime matters, a friend told me a good story recently of a well-known family of distillers who, many years ago, spent a lot of time sailing around the west coast.

Occasionally, when they went into a bay at the end of the day and wanted fresh food or a change of diet, they would look for a lobster pot buoy. They'd pull up a creel and if it contained a good-sized lobster they would replace it with a bottle of their own whisky. I don't know who got the best deal - probably the fisherman as lobsters in these days were ten-a-penny, but I sure would have liked to have seen the expression on his face when he saw what he had caught.

Iain Thornber  
[iain.thornber@btinternet.com](mailto:iain.thornber@btinternet.com)

SCOTTISH RURAL AWARDS PROUDLY PARTNERED BY ScottishField SCOTTISH COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

**WE ALL LOVE HEROES**  
...so who's yours?

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY STRATHALLAN CHiene+Tait hwenergy

**NOMINATIONS OPEN ON 21 SEPTEMBER 2015**

@ruralawards Scottish Rural Awards www.scottishruralawards.org



Kyle lifeboat rescues a yacht at Kishorn bay. Photograph by Kyle RNLI

**Kyle lifeboat 'taxi' for windsurfer**

KYLE of Lochalsh's RNLI volunteer crew turned into a taxi service when they towed a windsurfer they thought was in difficulty.

Lifeboat Spirit of Fred Olsen was called out on the afternoon of August 12 after a member of the public reported seeing a windsurfer in difficulty at Plockton bay.

Volunteers arrived on the scene to rescue the man and discovered he was not in the distress, but the windsurfer was happy

to accept a tow back to the pontoons in Plockton.

Just days later, the crew were paged again on the evening of August 17 with a report of a boat with a mechanical failure. The yacht had one person on board and was dragging its anchor close to the shore on Kishorn bay. When the lifeboat arrived, fish farm workers were already assisting, so the lifeboat crew towed the yacht to Plockton bay.



A MODEL boat enthusiast has built a second fully-operational boat representing a ship in the Caledonian MacBrayne fleet.

The 1:72 scale model of Lord of the Isles was built by Colin Hird of Carlisle.

Colin previously built an operational model of the MV Isle of Eigg.

A video of the boat can be seen at <https://www.facebook.com/colin.hird.7>

# Safety fears prompt parents to step into road crossing patrols

**AMANDA CRAWFORD**  
acrawford@obantimes.co.uk

CHILDREN crossing a busy main road are at increased risk when walking to school, because other roads have been prioritised while a crossing patroller is off sick.

Pupils walking from the south of Lundavra Road up to Upper Achintore, following the change-over from Fort William primary school, have been without a lollipop lady for almost two weeks.

Instead, parents are walking onto Lundavra Road and stopping traffic themselves to allow groups of children to cross safely.

There are currently two crossing patrollers outside the school, one on Ross Place and one on Lochaber Road.

Nicola MacMillan is a parent who walks to school. She has not been affected by the current situation, but is concerned for others.

Mrs MacMillan said: 'I have one child at primary school and I walk down from Lochaber Road. I heard someone was off sick, but you'd think they'd put a police officer or warden in place to keep

the children safe. When the new school opens, it will affect me directly. I don't see why they should have two right outside the school and none on the main road, it makes no sense to me. I have a friend who has been having to stop in the middle of the road to let her kids cross.'

Pupils are set to move once more from the school, formerly known as Upper Achintore, into the new Lundavra building at the beginning of October.

Two mums, who preferred to remain anonymous, also said they were going to contact the school. One said: 'There are work vans and road works on this road. It is dangerous for the kids.'

The other lady said: 'They are far too small to be crossing this road themselves without help and regard for their safety.'

Nick Thomson, headteacher at Lundavra primary school, said: 'I have had one parent come to complain about this issue. We have three controllers here and one is off on absence. The two people we have positioned are in places that are most in need. We are looking at replacing the third person, but it can be difficult



FEARS: lollipop lady absence is putting lives at risk claim parents 21\_7351lollipop01

to get someone to do the hours necessary, morning, lunchtime and after school.

'While it is unfortunate, we do have more children crossing at Lochaber Road. We have over 100, which is far more than those coming from Lundavra.'

There are currently 15 pupils crossing at Lundavra Road every day, and Mr Thomson did confirm that there would be a member of staff in place on the opening of the new school.

A spokesperson from Highland council said: 'One of the school crossing patrollers is on sick leave, so until a relief member of staff can be secured, the headteacher allocated the Lundavra Road/Connochie Road crossing to a patroller and asked for a census which showed 15 pupils were using this crossing.'

'As the other crossing has over 100 pupils, the headteacher made a risk-based assessment and moved the patroller to the busy crossing. The headteacher will be in contact with all parents who have children in the Grange Terrace/Road area to advise that there will be no crossing patroller at present.'

## TIMESLINE

### Alcohol stolen from shinty club

HUNDREDS of bottles and cans of alcohol were stolen from Fort William shinty club at the weekend.

The An Aird clubhouse was broken into sometime between 1am and 10am on Sunday as thieves made off with spirits, wine, beer and cider. Three kit bags, thought to have been used to carry the alcohol, were also stolen. The theft followed a party at the clubhouse on Saturday night and club officials are appealing for anyone who witnessed suspicious behaviour to come forward. Anyone with information is asked to contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

### Two injured in A87 collision

TWO PEOPLE were injured in a crash involving a coach and a car near Kyle of Lochalsh on Monday.

The male coach driver was airlifted to hospital in Glasgow after the incident on the A87 at Balmacara, while the female car driver was taken to Broadford hospital by ambulance. The road was closed from the time of the accident, just before 9am, until early afternoon.

### Gritting priorities to be considered

ROADS most in need of gritting this winter are being considered by Highland councillors in the next few weeks.

Maps outlining priority primary and secondary roads have been provided to area committees, to be implemented between this October and next April. The council plans to treat the roads within the agreed budget, saving £240,000 through cuts agreed last year.

Find us on Facebook  
www.facebook.com/obantimes

## £25m tourist masterplan for Leanachan forest

A MASSIVE tourist complex worth £25 million has been approved by Lochaber area committee.

The 'masterplan' for Leanachan Forest includes an 80-bed spa hotel, cabins, a campsite and bunkhouse on 7,300 acres of national forest land on the outskirts of Nevis Range Mountain Resort.

Highland councillors saw the blueprint this week and approved it as part of the West Highlands and Islands local development plan. This

means Forest Enterprise Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise can begin to attract developers and investors to bring the plans to life, but the proposal will still require planning permission and consultation will run until December. Ben Lennon, Forest Enterprise Scotland's district manager for Lochaber, said: 'The area being proposed is fantastic and would be a big draw to visitors who love landscapes and outdoor activities.'



PLEDGE: Nicola Sturgeon wants to see Belford hospital replaced 'on a good site and in fit-for-purpose accommodation'

## First Minister pledges backing to secure good hospital site

TESCO'S abandoned land in Fort William could become the new Belford hospital after Scotland's First Minister pledged her support in securing a site, writes Emma Crichton.

During a visit to the Oban Times on Monday, Nicola Sturgeon said the government will make a decision on funding for a new hospital following a business plan from NHS Highland.

The Blar Mor land became available earlier this year when Tesco announced it wouldn't be building a supermarket there. The site would provide easy access to both the town's medical centre and police and ambulance stations, but plans to replace the 50-year-old hospital are not due to start for another four years at the earliest.

When asked if funding could be released earlier,

Ms Sturgeon said she would help make sure the 'opportunity of a good potential site isn't lost'.

She said: 'The NHS is in the early stages of putting together a business plan. For the government to make decisions about funding it we need to see the business plan first.'

'That will take its course, but at the moment there is willingness on the part of the government to see the Belford replaced on a good site and in fit-for-purpose accommodation. I can't give guarantees and I can't give timescales at the moment, but we will be willing to work with the health board locally to make sure the opportunity of a good potential site isn't lost.'

For more on the First Minister's visit to Oban, see pages four and five.

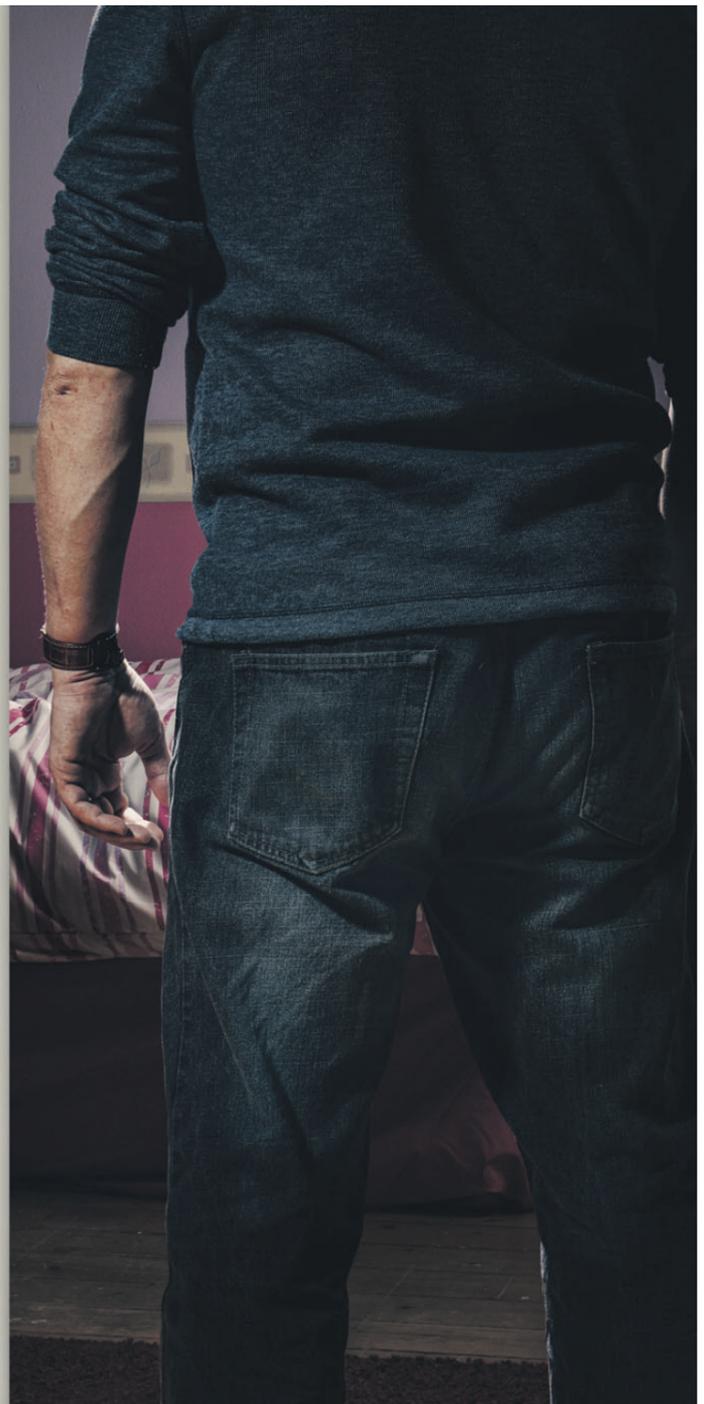


YOU COULD BE ALL THAT'S BETWEEN KATE AND ANOTHER NIGHT OF ABUSE.

This is your chance to make a real difference to a vulnerable child's life by volunteering to sit on the Children's Panel. You don't need qualifications to apply, you just need to care.

Applications close 30th September.

To find out more visit [childrenspanelscotland.org](http://childrenspanelscotland.org)



# West Coast shines at Food Awards Scotland

EATERIES and hotels from the west coast shone last week in Glasgow at the second annual Food Awards Scotland.

The elegant black tie event acknowledged and celebrated the accomplishments, determination and hard work of various professionals, establishments and businesses from the Scottish food sector. Locals garnered an array of prizes, from Fresh Produce Provider of the Year to Hotel Restaurant of the Year to Takeaway of the Year, North West.

'The vast amount of nominations received from the public acknowledges that hard work doesn't go unnoticed,' commented Irfan Younis of event organisers, Creative Oceanic. 'We would like to congratulate all the winners and the finalists who had tough competition this year. The fantastic response allowed the ceremony to grow almost 100 per cent this year, and we hope the public and the nominees continue to support this hard-working and thriving industry.'

With over 350 attendees, the event was hosted by radio personality, Gina McKie, and brought together some of the most prominent and distinguished names in the Scottish food industry, recognising their hard work and commitment to always provide their customers with the best products and service.



## STONEFIELD CASTLE

Stonefield Castle, Tarbert, Loch Fyne, Argyll and Bute, PA29 6YJ

**2015 Hotel Restaurant of the Year at the Food Awards Scotland**

Open 7 days a week, 365 days a year  
Come and join us for anything from morning coffees to Dinner

Stonefield Castle's AA Rosette award-winning restaurant provides guests with the chance to sample the best of all that is Scottish. Come and enjoy our 3 course Sunday Lunch for only £12.95 per person

Tel: 0843 178 7141 Fax: 0843 178 7142  
www.bespokehotels.com/stonefieldcastle

**STONEFIELD CASTLE**  
Stonefield Castle brought home the coveted 2015 Hotel Restaurant of the Year at the Food Awards Scotland. Its AA Rosette restaurant offers the best of Scotland's bounty using locally sourced seafood and meats, along with an extensive wine list. Each of the 36 tastefully decorated modern rooms has stunning views over the gardens and loch. Located near the idyllic fishing village of Tarbert, Stonefield Castle evokes the golden age of elegant and graceful living. What could be more enchanting than a romantic or leisure break at an elegant Scottish castle in the fairytale setting of the beautiful Kintyre peninsula?

**Seafood Supplier of the Year - Winner: J. Lawrie & Sons**  
Photo L-R: Mhairi Blair and Jeff Lawrie

**Hotel Restaurant of the Year - North West & Overall Winner: Stonefield Castle**  
Photo L-R: Kenny Meldrum and Ann McDonald

**Best Seafood Establishment - Winner: Loch Fyne Restaurant & Oyster Bar**  
Photo L-R: Alastair Bega, Daniel Johnstone and Jamie Nicolson

## J. Lawrie & Sons

*The Taste Of Tradition*

TRADITIONAL FISH & CHIP SHOP  
THE FRESHEST SCOTTISH SEAFOOD.  
HADDOCK, COD, MONKFISH, SCAMPI, SQUID.  
LOCAL THICK-CUT CHIPS.  
VENISON BURGERS & MUCH MORE...

**Scottish Food Award for Seafood Supplier of the Year 2015**

70 YEARS OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY SEAFOOD.

**Best Seafood Establishment - Winner: Loch Fyne Restaurant & Oyster Bar**  
Photo L-R: Alastair Bega, Daniel Johnstone and Jamie Nicolson

**Guild of Fine Food best Scottish food producer 2011 & 2014**

A FAMILY RUN SMOKEHOUSE & DELI IN THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS.  
LOCALLY SMOKED SCOTTISH KIPPERS & SMOKED SALMON  
FRESH FISH & SEAFOOD  
NOW INCLUDING THE FINEST LOCAL PRODUCE, FROM CHEESES TO CURED VENISON, PRESERVES AND OLIVES.  
MAIL ORDER SMOKED SEAFOOD & HAMPERS

01687 46 22 22  
WWW.JAFFYS.CO.UK

**J LAWRIE & SONS**  
J Lawrie & Sons of Mallaig are the winners of the Food Awards Scotland Seafood Supplier of the Year. The Lawrie family has been running their smokehouse since 1944. From Jaffy's, their retail front in Mallaig, they sell fish and chips as well as their own smoked varieties such as oak smoked haddock, hot-roasted and cold-smoked salmon, oak smoked kippers and their popular hot roasted Drambuie glazed smoked salmon. It's all cured according to the family recipe over sherry cask chips. For those who can't make it to Mallaig, Jaffy's has an online shop at jaffys.co.uk and will ship their exclusive Highland delicacies anywhere in the world.

**Oban FISH & CHIP SHOP**

"The best I've Ever tasted"  
Rick Stein

"No1 Seafood Restaurant (casual dining)"  
on Trip Advisor

**Food Awards Scotland Takeaway of the Year, North West for 2015**

We offer so much more than just fish and chips!

<b>Starters</b>	
Oban Bay Chowder	£6.50
Sliced Loch Awe Cold Smoked Salmon and Pink Grapefruit	£7.50
Scottish Smoked Mackerel and Mango Salsa	£6.00
Freshly Shucked Loch Creran Oysters	£7.00
<b>Fishy Mains</b>	
South Indian Cod Curry	£12.00
Baked Halibut with a Shellfish Sauce	£16.00
Local Monkfish Scampi With Lemon Mayonnaise	£13.00
Creamy Fish Pie	£12.50
Isle of Mull King Scallops with a Pea Puree and Mint Vinaigrette	£16.00
Battered Salt & Pepper Squid with our own Chilli Jam	£11.00
Pan Fried South Shian Salmon with a Herb Butter	£14.00
Spicy Easdale Crab & Avacado Salad	£13.00
Seafood Platter	£18.00
Bring a bottle - no charge for corkage	

116 George Street, Oban, Argyll  
01631 569828 • obanfishandchipshop.co.uk

**Loch Fyne Oyster Bar, Restaurant, Deli & Home Delivery Service**

Loch Fyne Oysters are celebrating after taking home the award for 'Best Seafood Establishment' from The Food Awards Scotland 2015 only two weeks after receiving two, prestigious 2-star Great Taste awards for Kinglas Fillet and Whisky Marinated Smoked Salmon.

So why not book a table in the world famous Oyster Bar and Restaurant where an array of culinary delights await you. Or browse the mouth-watering selection of shellfish, smoked and fresh fish, available in the Loch Fyne Deli or Online Shop where a sumptuous range of speciality cheeses and artisan foods are also available.

Loch Fyne Oysters Ltd, Clachan, Cairndow, PA26 8BL  
To book call 01499 600 482  
Home Delivery: 01499 600 470  
[www.lochfyne.com](http://www.lochfyne.com)

**Proud Winners of Scottish Food Award for Fresh Produce Provider of the Year 2015**

**J.M. Breckenridge believe that quality counts**

Office: 01631 563711 / Fax: 01631 565136  
JM Breckenridge, Tweedmill Buildings, Soroba Road, Oban, PA34 4HQ  
[www.jmbreckenridge.co.uk](http://www.jmbreckenridge.co.uk)

**OBAN FISH & CHIP SHOP**  
Oban Fish & Chip Shop took the top prize for the Food Awards Scotland Takeaway of the Year, North West for 2015. A favourite of both locals and visitors, Oban Fish and Chip Shop is a family business that offers a wide variety of freshly caught fish, such as sole, halibut and hake, as well as the Catch of the Day and sustainable cod and haddock. Enjoy Oban's 'best fish supper' in the welcoming dining room or, as many people love to do, stroll over to the waterfront for a panoramic picnic view over the islands.

**LOCH FYNE RESTAURANT AND OYSTER BAR**  
The award for Best Seafood Establishment 2015 goes to Loch Fyne Restaurant and Oyster Bar in Cairndow. For breakfast, snacks, lunch or dinner, the menus offer the best of the west, using only the freshest local produce, from their Loch Fyne mussels to Crispy Oysters with horseradish mayonnaise to Hand Dived Scallops with Black Pudding. Fabulous puddings such as Lemon Posset and Treacle Tarts round out a perfect meal, along with a wide range of whiskies and local Fyne Ales. Alec's Room is available for meetings, parties and functions, including weddings. Visit Loch Fyne at lochfyne.com and shop online for goodies and gift baskets, available to ship anywhere in the UK and a variety of overseas destinations.

**JM BRECKENRIDGE**  
The Scottish Food Award for Fresh Produce Provider of the Year goes to JM Breckenridge, suppliers of quality fresh produce such as fruit and vegetables, herbs and dairy to the west of Scotland and the Highlands and Islands for 40 years. Operating out of two refrigerated depots in Oban and Fort William, JM Breckenridge caters to hoteliers, restaurants and retailers, delivering an excellent level of service with a smile and value for money. As one of the most established suppliers of fresh produce in the country, the McDonald family treats their customers like family.

# Sheriff bans teenage crash driver

AMANDA CRAWFORD  
for@obantimes.co.uk

A TEENAGE driver from Mallaig who caused a crash that saw two cars burst into flames on the busy Road to the Isles, has been banned for a year.

Aimee Lawrie, of Mallaig Vaig, was found guilty of driving without due care and attention following a trial in Fort William sheriff court last Wednesday after crashing her mother's Vauxhall Corsa nose first into another vehicle.

The 19-year-old had only held a driving licence for nine months when the crash took place near Beasdale on the A830 on the evening of Friday, August 8, last year.

The court heard Lawrie and two female friends were travelling to Fort William from Mallaig to watch a football match, while the Glaswegian couple they collided with were heading to Arisaig to begin a week-long camping holiday.

Instead the parties ended up shocked in hospital when Lawrie appeared to lose control near to



DEVASTATION: the aftermath of the head on collision on the A830 road from Mallaig to Fort William

Beasdale train station. Sheriff Jim Scott heard that Lawrie came round a curve on the road and veered onto the opposite side of the road where a Toyota Hilux was towing a caravan.

The Toyota driver said during evidence: 'As I approached, I could see the top of the hill. I did

see the vehicle coming towards me. It was on the right side [of the road]. It was on my side of the road.'

Procurator fiscal, Michelle Molley, asked: 'Was there anything you could see that could have caused the car to become out of control?'

The witness replied: 'No. Speed is the only explanation I can think of. I was stopping because I saw the car on my side of the road. I don't know what speed she was doing, but she was going fast.'

Lawrie then took to the witness box to defend her case. She said

she was certain the road was 'slippery' and that she was doing no more than 30 miles per hour just prior to the collision.

The court heard she had felt the back of her Corsa slide, which took her onto the opposite side of the road as she travelled eastbound.

She said she then corrected the car and returned to her own side, but she lost control of the car again before smashing head first into the Toyota.

Unemployed Lawrie spent days in a Glasgow hospital having a broken arm and broken toe treated following the crash, while her two friends recovered in Fort William's Belford hospital.

Defence solicitor, Natalie Bruce, said: 'She felt the car slide as though it was on ice. She regained control of the vehicle and then felt it slide again.'

Miss Lawrie was found guilty and fined £200 and disqualified from driving for 12 months.

Sheriff Scott said: 'My conclusion is that the accused, driving at excessive speed, caused her to lose control. This is a very serious incident.'



Aimee Lawrie was fined £200 and banned from driving for one year.

“ This is a very serious incident. ”

Sheriff Jim Scott

## TIMESLINE

### Rescue team has busiest year ever

A RESCUE from the summit of Ben Nevis at the weekend has seen Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team (LMRT) hit 99 callouts in their busiest year ever.

The volunteers helped a 22-year-old man when gales blew him over, causing him to hurt his ankle on Sunday.

An unusually busy few months for LMRT has been attributed to poor weather this summer, seeing the team clock up their usual annual quota of 100 rescues in just eight months.

With winter on its way there is no sign of the rescues slowing down but team leader, John Stevenson, isn't worried about money running out.

He said: 'We're always looking for money. We always have to keep spending because clothes and gear wear out very quickly, especially when we're as busy as we have been.'

'It's a double-edged sword because we obviously wish we weren't this busy, but when we're busy, people are more aware of us and what we're doing, so that helps with donations.'

### Don't miss out on memorial cash

COMMUNITY groups are being encouraged to apply for funding to restore war memorials.

Highland council still has money available, following the completion of nine repair projects, with another 45 in progress.

Councillor Allan Henderson, chairman of the local authority's community services committee said: 'There is still funding available for war memorial restorations and it is vital the local people identify where the priorities are and how we can help make improvements. I would urge anyone who is interested to contact their local councillor or community council to find out how they can get involved.'

## Home swap mum welcomes VIP guests

A MUM who had to move house for health reasons, welcomed the Scottish welfare minister into her home as part of a new housing scheme launch.

Jessie Anderson, 41, of Fort William, suffers from heart disease, which forced her to give up a three bedroom house in the town when her health deteriorated. After months of consultations with Lochaber Housing Association, Highland council and medical consultants, Jessie secured a newly-built ground floor flat at McAndie court.

Miss Anderson, mum to 11-year-old Broc, said: 'I was in a big house at An Aird. My health deteriorated. I get breathless, blackouts and chest pains. They have worsened and have become more frequent. I get them every day now. Walking isn't easy for me either. In my last house I had to sleep downstairs. I thought about moving last year and, with support from the council and my consultants, it has gone really well.'

Scottish government welfare minister, Margaret Burgess, was in the area to open the 21-house estate in the town, after funding of £1.5million was granted to Glenloch Business Park to turn the old distillery into homes. Now Miss Ander-



From left: Councillor Thomas MacLennan chats to welfare minister, Margaret Burgess, and Jessie Anderson. 21\_B5minister01

son also lives below her eldest daughter, Aleasha MacDonald, 20, who provides support for her and Broc.

Mrs Burgess also attended a Fairer Scotland event at Voluntary Action Lochaber (VAL) in the afternoon. There she heard a range of third sector organisations and pupils from Lochaber high school discuss issues that are important to the rural communities of Lochaber.

## Drivers warned to expect chaos as cyclists ride A82

ROAD users have been warned to expect 'chaos and delays' by campaign group, the A82 Partnership, in the run-up to a cycling event in which a woman died last year.

On Friday, September 11, there is expected to be 800 cyclists travelling north on the road from Crianlarich to Fort William for the annual Ride Across Britain event.

The A82 partnership previously appealed to organisers, Deloitte, to re-consider the route, after it raised concerns over the amount of traffic already using the road coupled with the safety of cyclists and travellers on the day. But their appeals stating that there were no overtaking opportunities on the 10-mile stretch between

Onich and Fort William failed to budge Deloitte organisers, who went ahead anyway.

During last year's ride from Land's End to John O' Groats, mother of two, Sally Preece, 49, from Cheltenham, died when her bike collided with a car on the A85 near to Loch Earn.

Following the death of Mrs Preece, the journey was curtailed and cyclists were bussed along the A82 to their overnight stop at Torlundy, but plans look likely to go-ahead again this year.

Councillor Brian Murphy, chairman of the A82 partnership, said: 'We are all already aware of the impact on traffic flows of just two cyclists travelling between Onich and Fort William, but to have numerous groups of up to

30 will cause significant delays and will result in frustration.

'To arrive in Fort William on a Friday afternoon is utter madness. Traffic travelling north out of Fort William on a Friday afternoon on a normal week faces significant delays, so I cannot imagine the impact of an additional 800 cyclists on this traffic flow.'

Nick Tuppen of Deloitte said: 'The safety of our riders has always been a top priority along with minimising disruption for the local communities. In view of the tragic accident last year, we have worked particularly closely with Transport Scotland and Police Scotland to understand the challenges of the area you have referenced.'

ADVERTORIAL

## See for yourself how achievable energy efficiency can be

Green Home Energy Week from 5-13 September gives you the chance to visit over 50 homes from the Green Homes Network, including four in Argyll from Helensburgh to Lochgilphead.

Discover what it's like to live in a home with energy efficiency improvements and renewables systems. Chat to green homeowners about their experiences and find out more about the free advice and support available to help you make your home more energy efficient.

The Green Homes Network

features a broad range of low cost and innovative energy efficiency improvements; from solar powered heating to wind turbines, heat pumps to biomass boilers, wall insulation to loft insulation and everything in between.

Find out more information about the open homes, community events, technologies and measures being

showcased, as well as dates and times in your area at [www.greenhomeenergyweek.org.uk](http://www.greenhomeenergyweek.org.uk).



### Case study

Lochgilphead homeowners Amanda and Richard had a very high monthly electricity bill for heating, despite the fact that they had installed solar PV panels in early 2012 with the help of the Home Energy Scotland renewables loan scheme.

The couple were becoming increasingly conscious of the carbon footprint they were creating and the environmental impact of non-renewable heating fuels, so they made the decision to further investigate renewable technologies. This eventually led them to contact Home Energy Scotland for advice and expertise. Amanda comments: "Our advisor was extremely knowledgeable and helped to clarify an otherwise very complicated and convoluted process."

As well as reducing their bills and carbon footprint, Amanda and Richard were also keen to make the most of the various government schemes in operation, such as the Feed-in Tariff (FIT), the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) payments and the renewables loan.

The couple were committed to installing a biomass boiler and were fortunate that they had plenty of spare time to research the different technologies and potential installers to get the right system for them.

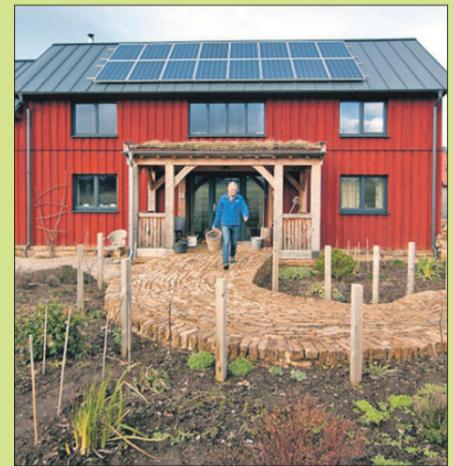
Amanda explains: "It took a lot of patience and tenacity, but eventually our biomass boiler was installed in January of this year (2014) and we could not be happier with the system and the installers."

The installation team were amazing and I could not recommend them highly enough. I was dreading the process as, in addition to the biomass boiler, we needed a new wet system to be installed in the property, which was a big undertaking. My fears were instantly alleviated by the professional and hard-working installers who completed the works efficiently and with minimal mess and disruption."

For others considering installing a similar renewable system, Amanda and Richard would recommend researching the systems and the different schemes thoroughly. The couple reflect on their journey: "The whole

pathway into renewable technology can be very daunting for a lot of people and many may be, initially, put off by the assessment and assistance structure; however, once you access the system it is very worthwhile! It would be great to see more information about renewable technologies available in a format that people can understand; a clear visual map or flow-chart which guides you through all the steps of the process."

Amanda and Richard are keen to talk to others who are considering installing renewable systems as they understand the benefit of getting first-hand perspectives of peoples' experiences in navigating the process.



# see for yourself how you could live more energy efficiently

Green Home Energy Week  
5-13 September 2015

Green Home Energy Week is a week-long showcase of living more energy efficiently. Taking place across Scotland, inspirational homeowners and community groups are opening their doors to share and chat about their experiences with you.

Choose which properties and events you'd like to visit at [greenhomeenergyweek.org.uk](http://greenhomeenergyweek.org.uk) or call 0808 808 2282.

energy saving trust

HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG  
0808 808 2282  
FUNDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

natural scotland  
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Please note that the Energy Saving Trust and Home Energy Scotland advice centres accept no responsibility for the home, property owner or the visitor during Green Home Energy Week visits. Visitors attending homes and community events do so at their own risk.

# Viewpoint

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

## The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8216

Regardless of their political persuasion, no one can deny that the arrival of First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and her impressive entourage, was nothing other than a major coup for Oban and the West Highlands.

The razzmatazz of a national political bandwagon as it rolls into town can be both exciting and intoxicating. Especially when you have such a consummate performer as Nicola Sturgeon driving the charabanc:

she is easily the 'go to' person of not only Scottish, but arguably British politics, at the moment.

But politics being politics, you didn't have to wait too long before the hot air started to rise to the surface and tried and tested platitudes began to get an airing. 'Fairness, prosperity and education' was one such hum-dinger of a phrase; just add moon and June and we're home and dry in the land of make-believe.

Still, like the weather, it was good while it lasted.



## Days gone by - a view of Connel Ferry

Colin Armstrong of Coventry submitted this week's flashback photograph which features Connel Ferry in days gone by. Digital versions of the flashback photos for the Oban Times can be sent to 'editor@obantimes.co.uk' or prints sent to the editor, The Oban Times, POBox 1, Oban PA34 4HB. Anyone who wishes a print returned should include a stamped-addressed envelope.

## MPs and MSPs should speak out on CalMac

Sir, I can't help wondering where our MPs/MSPs have disappeared to regarding the on-going CalMac saga.

Despite the service provided to all communities currently served by CalMac and employees' futures being uncertain, we do not hear any locally elected members of parliament fighting the corner of those affected.

It seems our government has decided that off-loading to Serco is the direction we are heading.

While there are assurances as to no compulsory redundancies for current CalMac staff, the same assurances have not been given on the services currently provided, some of which will be undoubtedly be cut in the future if we go down the privatisation route as they are non-profit-making.

While profit is the ultimate aim of any business, it should be noted that the communities served rely heavily on the regularity of services whether bringing goods to and from the island, travelling for work and family occasions and hospital appointments.

I wish our elected MPs/MSPs would come out backing the service currently provided by the excellent staff at CalMac and realise life is not all about profit, but about serving the less populated communities along the west coast with a life-link to the mainland.

Donald MacKenzie, Kinlochleven.

## Proposed boundary changes 'ridiculous'

Sir, The proposed changes to council ward boundaries are absolutely ridiculous and the SNP government must stop these from going ahead.

It is utter nonsense for SNP MSP Michael Russell to try to deflect blame to Argyll and Bute council for this. It's the Scottish government,

not the council, which will decide whether or not these stupid proposals go ahead.

The SNP government should stop this absurd process now. Mr Russell should be directing his fire at the SNP government, not using this issue as a stick with which to beat the council. They have opposed these stupid proposals, not rolled over and accepted them' as claimed by Mr Russell in his attempt to deflect attention from where the real power lies - his own government at Holyrood.

Alan Reid, Dunoon.

## Field owner saves the day for Appin show

Sir, Further to your report on the Appin Show in last week's Oban Times, may I, on behalf of the show committee, express our grateful thanks to Alastair Colthart of Tynribbie.

He allowed us the use of his field at short notice following the assessment on the Sunday prior to the show that our usual field, kindly provided by Ronnie and Mary MacColl at Stalker Croft for many years, was too waterlogged to be used this year.

Without the alternative field being made available, the show would have had to be cancelled.

Our thanks also go to his nephew, Alasdair Colthart, who cleared the field of its silage crop at short notice.

Ross Allward, honorary treasurer.

## No scientific evidence to back up claims

Sir, Regards the letter of August 20, Ms Metcalfe has misunderstood the point of my original letter.

I was not denying the theory that windmills may cause neurological disorders, epilepsy or suicide - perhaps they do.

I was highlighting the fact that nowhere in this article was there any robust scientific evidence to

back up these alarming assertions. Such articles should be assiduous in demonstrating rigour when presenting scientific or medical material.

Jennifer Baker, Lismore.

## Inveraray success at world championships

Sir, Congratulations to Oban high school pipe band for doing so well in the novice juvenile section of the World Champion Pipe Band contest.

I was disappointed there was no photograph or mention of Inveraray pipe band's achievement in the grade one competition, except in Robert Robertson's Glasgow letter column.

To come third in this competition was no mean feat, considering the more experienced band they were competing against. Well done Inveraray.

Name and address supplied.

## Couple's thanks to kind people of Argyll

Sir, We are writing to express our gratitude for the kindness shown by the people of Argyll when my husband took ill during our sailing holiday.

We were given exceptional help by staff of the Crinan Canal, Lochgilphead A&E, Lochgilphead taxi company, the ambulance service and Oban hospital. I must thank Isla who, having finished her shift gave me a lift back to the boat on a very wet and stormy night.

The surgical ward staff helped me find local bed and breakfast accommodation during my husband's hospitalisation, and Ian and Ann MacMillan helped with transport back to Largs. Although it was a stressful and difficult time, we were generously supported by people we did not know and wish to publically express our thanks.

Heather and Andy Holmes, Stockport.

## Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON  
robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk

## Gaels head back to city

AS AUTUMN approaches, Glasgow is beginning to feel like home again as more and more people return to the city after summers spent back up the A82.

This year's syllabus for the Glasgow Skye Association popped through my letter box this week - a sure sign a winter of ceilidhs and dances is about to get underway.

This, of course, is the 150th anniversary of the Glasgow Skye and, as usual, it has a great programme of events starting with its opening concert in the Crawford Hall, Beith Street, at 7.30pm on Saturday, September 12.

## Heron Valley music video

AN EXCITING new musical offering is on the horizon from a great young trad band.

Heron Valley, who hail from Strachur, are popular in Glasgow and are in the process of releasing a new music video.

They regularly have the Park Bar bouncing and recently played at the world pipe band championships after-party. A lot of people will be looking forward to seeing the video, which was recorded during a busy ceilidh in the Uig Hall just outside Dunoon.

Heron Valley are Alex Mackechnie, accordion and fiddle; Arlene Mackechnie, piano; Iain Wilson, pipes, whistles, and vocals; Euan McNab, guitar and pipes; Nick Hamilton, drums and Abigail Pryde, vocals and tenor guitar.

This is a young band that is definitely going places. Follow them on facebook and keep an eye open for the video release.

## Seasaidh Lexy

GAELIC'S most famous drag artist is coming to Glasgow on September 19.

There's a sentence you probably didn't expect to read in your Oban Times this week.

Presented by Du Teillay Limited in association with Glaschu Beo, the hit theatre show stars Calum MacKinnon as Seasaidh Lexy and also features David Walker and Seonag Monk.

It has already toured much of the country - leaving audiences in stitches and prompting one reviewer to proclaim that it 'should be available on prescription'.

If you haven't heard of Seasaidh Lexy, look her up on youtube. A particular classic is the video of her dancing a Canadian Barn Dance round her bedroom to the music of the Vatersay Boys, while applying her lipstick - bottle of wine in hand.

The show is going to be a cracker and will have you laughing from start to finish.

## What's on

Saturday September 12: Glasgow Skye Association opening concert, Crawford Hall, Beith Street, 7.30pm.

Saturday September 19: Gaol's Gaire (Love and Laughter) - Seasaidh Lexy, Mitchell Theatre, 7.30pm.

## Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL  
ailean@obantimes.co.uk

TUIGIDH DUINE SAM BITH an tàmait a th' air Comann Thuathanaich Shraith Narann gum b' fheudar dhaibh an taisbeanadh treabhaidh is seann innealachd tuathanaich a bha gu bhith aca ann an Deimhidh deas air Inbhir Nis air 26 an t-Sultain a chur dheth.

Ri linn buaidh na droch aimsir fad an t-samhraidh tha dragh air luchd-deasachaidh an taisbeanadh nach bi na raoitean a bhios iad a' cleachdadh air am buain ann an àm.

Ann am mòran sgìrean cha d' fhuair an grunn cothrom tiorrachadh am-bliadhna agus cha b' iongnadh a bhith a' faicinn fèiltean gan cur dheth leis mar a bha raoitean cho bog 's nach gabhadh dad a leigil orra.

Tha co-fhaireachadh mòr agam dha croitearan agus tuathanaich a' chinn a tuath 's mu thaobh an iar na dùthcha is iad a' sabaid ri droch thide fad na bliadhna agus gun ghealltanais, fhathast co-dhiù, air leasachadh aimsir a bheir misneachadh dhaibh.

Tha cùisean ràitheil eadar mìos is sia seachdainean air deireadh ann an cuid a dh'àiteichean agus tha

sin a' ciallachadh gum bi buain air deireadh, ma ghabhas e deanamh idir.

Is fheàrr aon oidhche Mhàirt na trì latha Foghair! Bha an seanfhacal seo mar a bha gach fear de sheòrsa air a bhonntachadh air eòlas an t-sluaigh, agus bha làn-fhios aca gur ann san earrach a bha feum air fàs ma bha toradh foghair ceart gu bhith aca.

Am-bliadhna bha suidheachadh da-rìribh dùbhlach aig cuid a b' fheudar crodh a bhith a' staigh suas gu meadhan an t-samhraidh leis nach robh fàs a-muigh a bheathaicheadh sprèidh.

Thug sin fìor dhroch bhuaidh air stoc feòir agus air sporain chroitearan is thuathanaich agus tha mòran aca nach fhuing cus a bharrachd de leithid a chall. Ged a bha pàirtean den dùthaich a fhuair aimsir nas fheàrr agus a tha a' faotainn foghar a ghabhail gu ire mhath, chan eil teagamh nach eil biadh sprèidh gu bhith nas gainne agus nas daoire air a' gheamhradh tha tighinn.

Chan iongnadh mar sin ged a bhiodh cuid a' cur romhpa stoc a reic

agus 's e adhbhar iomagain a th' ann dhan ghnìomhachas an tìll na daoine sin tuilleadh gu obair àiteachais is stuit.

Ach is ioma car a thig air an oidhche fhad' Fhoghair! Faodar an seanfhacal seo a ghabhail ann an dà dhòigh agus cò aige tha fios nach tig side bhreàgha, ghrianach airson arbarh abachadh agus cothrom a thoirt gu bàrr a ghleidheadh. Chan eil teagamh nach eil tuathanaich agus croitearan uile beò an dòchas!

ONE CAN understand the disappointment of Strathnairn Farmers' Association at having to cancel its popular vintage rally at Daviot on September 26, but bad weather has so delayed crops that the farmers fear fields may not be harvested in time for the event.

Following such a bad year for many farmers and crofters, it is little wonder that many are considering selling up. But this is bad news for the industry and many communities.

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



LAUGH A MINUTE: Calum Mackinnon, in the guise of Seasaidh Lexy, will have you in stitches.

Saturday October 3: Glasgow Skye Association race/curry night, West of Scotland Cricket Club, 40-44 Peel Street, G11 5LU, 7.30pm.

Saturday October 10: Latha Gàidhlig, Beith Community Development Trust Gaelic Day, Beith Community Centre, Kings Road, Beith.

Friday October 23: Marag Supper, Crawford Hall, Beith Street, 7.30pm.

## Pub scene

Park Bar: Thursday August 27: Session. Friday August 28: Dun Mòr. Saturday August 29: Trail West. Sunday August 30: Dun Mòr. Islay Inn. Friday August 28: Black Velvet. Saturday August 29: Parting Glass. Wednesday September 2: Quiz night.

## Press policy

WE AT The Oban Times endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@obantimes.co.uk; telephoning the editor on 01631 568046; writing to the Editor at The Oban Times,

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

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

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

We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

## 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

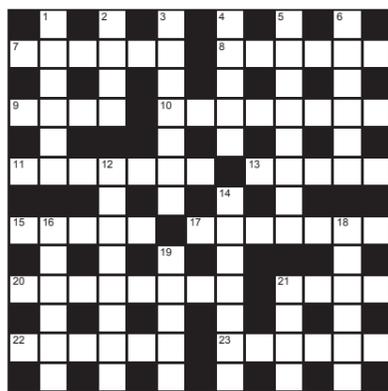
be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

**SCOTS**  
Heritage Magazine SPONSORS

THE OBAN TIMES  
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE  
CROSSWORD

SUMMER EDITION  
OUT NOW

www.scotsheritagemagazine.com



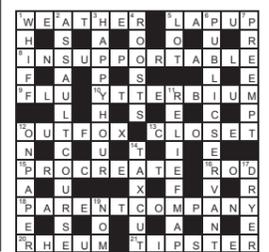
### Across

- 7 Bad smell (6)
- 8 Bliss (6)
- 9 Used for linen (4)
- 10 Wonky (8)
- 11 Designed to please the olfactory organ (7)
- 13 Gnashers (5)
- 15 Soft sugary confectionary (5)
- 17 Slight alteration (7)
- 20 Collection of still pieces (8)
- 21 Locale (4)
- 22 Barely make (3,3)
- 23 As a precaution (6)

### Down

- 1 Emphatic writing (6)
- 2 Computer operating system (4)
- 3 Stunned (7)
- 4 Cluster (5)
- 5 One who can't sing (4-4)
- 6 Strip of ornament (6)
- 12 Denial (8)
- 14 Type of paint (7)
- 16 Understanding (6)
- 18 Most recent (6)
- 19 Fritter away (5)
- 21 One of a partner, top drawer! (4)

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



# Class act as 120 new teachers start work in Highland schools

MORE than 100 probation teachers began work in Highland schools when the new term began last week.

The new starts began their first year in education at an induction course at Highland council's Inverness chamber.

Councillor Drew Millar, chairman of the local authority's adult and children's services committee, said: 'It's really good to see so many young people starting their careers in education here in the Highlands and I wish them all well. We hope we are able to retain as many of them as possible after their years' probation, as the Highlands has a lot to offer as a place to live and work in. We greatly value the role teachers play in the lives of our young people and believe that high quality teaching underpins the successes our pupils achieve.'

Of the 120 probationers, 76 were allocated to primary schools, while 44 went to high schools, including eight new English teachers.



Councillor Drew Millar, centre, and Bill Alexander, director of care and learning, right, welcome 120 probationary teachers to the Highlands *f3steachers1no*

## Trading standards to probe farm sale advert

EMMA CRICHTON  
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

OWNERS of a £650,000 farm house in Strontian are to be investigated by trading standards after posting misleading information on a property advert.

Drimnatorran farm, just outside the rural Lochaber village, has an asking price of more than half a million pounds and boasts five bedrooms, a 'chalet' and outbuildings, but planning records show permission was



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: a farm building is being passed off as a 'log cabin chalet' in the sale of a £650,000 Strontian farm

never granted for the log cabin. Earlier this year Highland council's planning team approved an application by owners Melvyn and Sally Shaw for a 'non-residential farm-related building', but property information for the 47 acres of land shows a log cabin chalet.

A spokeswoman for Highland council said the issue had already been raised with Mr and Mrs Shaw, who assured her the details would be changed.

She said: 'Our local planning officials have previously raised

the reference to 'log cabin chalet' with the owners of the property.

'The owners confirmed with them that the building is used for agricultural purposes and advised they would arrange to have the details changed.'

'Misleading information in sales particulars is governed by the consumer protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008 and the matter has been passed to the council's trading standards office to investigate.'

Mr and Mrs Shaw declined to comment on the issue.

## Apprenticeship cash up for grabs

WESTERN isles employers in the construction industry are being reminded that funding for modern apprenticeships and added value training is still available.

The closing date for applications through Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Building Skills Grant scheme has been extended to Friday September 4.

Anyone interested in applying for the grant can contact 01851 822715 or [fmaciver@cne-siar.gov.uk](mailto:fmaciver@cne-siar.gov.uk).

## TIMESLINE

### Supermarket off sales bid rejected

A SUPERMARKET application to increase alcohol sales in Fort William has been rejected by Highland council's licensing board.

Owners of Lidl asked the local authority for permission to increase the off sales area in its town store, along with another four in the Highlands, to promote premium wines and other items, but the request was rejected last Tuesday as it exceeded the maximum display space allowed for alcohol.

The refusal was welcomed by Elisabeth Smart of the Public Health Board, who was concerned about the effects of increased alcohol consumption.

She said: 'The evidence shows people in Highland are drinking harmfully and that people buy mainly from off sales. This is a positive step by the licensing board to support individuals and communities in tackling the harmful effects of alcohol.'

### Local groups will give guided tours

THE INSIDE workings of four Lochaber organisations will be available for the public to see as part of Highland council's Doors Open programme.

Glencoe Folk museum and Nevis Radio, along with Kinlochleven and Lochaber powerhouses will all be welcoming visitors for guided tours at the end of September, as part of the month-long event.

Audrey Sinclair, chairwoman of Highland council's planning, development and infrastructure committee, said: 'This is a great opportunity to see and learn about some of the Highlands' architectural and historical gems covering a diverse range of designs and uses, past and present. There is something interesting for everyone, so why not use the programme to plan a day out with a difference?'

### Giant step back in to movie frame

SKYE has been a popular film set for decades, but will feature as the magical home of giants for its next big screen appearance.

The island's world-famous landscape will be used as 'Giant's Land' in the Steven Spielberg adaptation of Roald Dahl's *The BFG* (big friendly giant). Several locations on Skye, including Fairy Glen, the Quirang and the Storr were shot earlier this month for the film, scheduled for release in July next year.

### Residents get say on hydro scheme

RESIDENTS of Ballachulish are to be asked their views about a new hydro scheme above the village.

The ballot paper will be posted to all homes in the area to confirm support for the project by Ballachulish community company.

For the hydro power source to go ahead, at least 51 per cent of the community must vote and the company must receive a simple majority.

If the scheme goes ahead, all profits will be put back into Ballachulish.

For more information contact [ballacomco.co.uk](mailto:ballacomco.co.uk) or 01855 811346.

### Loch toxins back to safe levels

TOXIN levels in Harris waters have returned to safe levels following monitoring works by the Food Standards Agency.

A spokesman from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar said it is again safe to eat shellfish from lochs Seaforth, Tarbert and Stockinish on the island and warnings have been lifted.

## Bats finally on the move from hydro board office

STAFF in Invergarry will soon be able to return to their office after being chased out by bats.

The 12-strong SSE hydro workforce has been 'evicted' from the station's mess building in Invergarry for the past three years thanks to 500 soprano pipistrelle bats.

This year, SSE wildlife expert, Alastair Stephen is working with SNH and a bat ecologist to relocate the furry flying mammals.

The bats took up residence in the roof and walls of the building, only a few hundred feet from the 20MW power station which sees water carried from Loch Garry by a tunnel near the mouth of the River Garry on Loch Oich.

Over the past few years, staff have resorted to working from a portable cabin to avoid the endurance of the strong smell of ammonia given off by the mammals' droppings when they emerge in the summer.

The task Alastair is faced with is an unusual one, as he is normally focused on fisheries.

He said: 'A key priority for us is to ensure the bats are relocated safely and without disruption to their natural behavioural patterns.'

'My day job is working in harmony with native salmon populations and other aquatic wildlife interests, so dealing with the bats is slightly different, but immensely interesting. Our Invergarry team will also be thankful to be reinstated in their own mess room before too long.'



ON THE MOVE: one of the soprano pipistrelle bats found at a Lochaber Scottish hydro workplace



SUCCESS: prizewinners at this year's junior gardening show *16\_b3gardening01*

## Green-fingered pupils vow gardening show judges

BUDDING young gardeners wowed judges at this year's Lochaber Rural Education Trust gardening show, despite the poor weather this summer.

Pupils from Lochside, Banavie, Spean Bridge, Inverloch, Bun Schol Gaelic Lochabair and Lochaber high schools took part in the sixth event to be held by the trust.

The annual Marie MacLean challenge is specially themed each year and, this time, judges were expecting roses. With more than 100 entries forwarded from nurseries, playgroups and primary schools, the judges had a difficult task.

Results: Best vegetable exhibit, Banavie Friday

club (cabbage); best flower exhibit - Logan Spence (single rose); most outstanding exhibit in playgroup classes, Cooper Spence (hand print); most outstanding exhibit in nursery classes, Emily Byrne, Banavie (decorated cup); most outstanding exhibit in primary school class, Ruairaidh Stephen BSGLA (decorated flower pot); The Duncan trophy for most points, Kilmallie playgroup; Giggles Childcare trophy for most points, Banavie nursery; United Auctions trophy for most points, Banavie primary; The Linda Campbell spoon for most points; Margaret Antonios; Isabel Campbell MBE Tankard for most points; Logan Spence.



REUNION: members of the MacLean family travelled from Italy to join Lochaber relatives in presenting the Marie MacLean memorial trophy *16\_b3gardening02*

## Top dogs strut their stuff at canine show



TOP TITLE: Lynore MacAlister, whose Newfoundland won the best working group puppy award. Photograph by Iain Ferguson.

CANINES came from all over Britain to strut their stuff at a Lochaber show at the weekend.

An astonishing 280 dogs entered Lochaber and District Canine Society's (LDCS) annual open show at The Nevis Centre, Fort William, on Sunday.

Owners brought their dogs from as far as Belfast and Cumbria to take part in the popular show.

The categories were judged by six panellists from LDCS. Results: best in show, Mrs Cowie's Saluki, from Aberdeenshire; reserve best in show and best puppy in show, Mrs Main's Shetland sheepdog, from Culloden; reserve best puppy, Mrs Younie's Golden Retriever, from Elgin; best veteran, Vicky-Ann Tompkins' Saluki, who recently moved from Fort William to Northumberland; best minor puppy, Lynore Macalister's Newfoundland from Torlundy, Fort William.

## Community groups cash in with grants

FOUR community groups are celebrating after receiving funding from Lochaber joint ward's discretionary budget.

Glencoe village hall trust was given £500 to help carry out an energy efficiency study and £100 went to Lochaber schools pipe band to help with event costs.

Morvern and Glengarry community councils also received £750 and £1,500 respectively to help pay for village maintenance.



STAND OUT: Alan Hamilton

## Numbers add up for Lochaber school maths challenge pupils

MATHS whizzes from Lochaber high school have won awards following a UK-wide competition.

The clever first and second year pupils competed against more than 250,000 pupils from across Britain in the UK Mathematics Trust's junior challenge. Alan Hamilton, S2, stood out

from the crowd and received a trophy from Lochaber housing association for having the highest score in the school.

In first year, Martyn Denny and Kyle Dignan won silver, with bronze awards going to Fergus Berardelli, Cam Clark and Robbie Murray. Of the second years, silver

awards were won by Alan Hamilton, Scott Lawrie, Daniel Menzies and Erin Nicolson.

Bronze winners were Connor Anderson, John Cummings, Gregor Linfield, Amber MacInnes, Orla McDougall, Rebecca MacDougall, Aidan Kane, Beth Robertson, Lachie Shaw and Jodie Standen.



AWARDS: Lochaber high school prizewinners after the UK Mathematics Trust challenge

**ADVICE** **HELP** **ACCOUNTS** **CAREER**

*We Are Here To Advise You!*

**2 for 1 from £69**

Oban 70 George Street. Tel 01631 567 770  
 specsavers.co.uk

**Specsavers**

Cannot be used with other offers. Second pair from £69-£169 ranges, to the same price range or below and to the same prescription. £69-£149 ranges: PENTAX and other 1.5 single vision lenses included in both pairs. For PENTAX 1.5 Standard varifocal or bifocal lenses you pay for the lenses in your first pair. £169 Finelens and Rimless ranges: PENTAX and other 1.6 single vision lenses included in both pairs. For PENTAX 1.6 Standard varifocal or bifocal lenses you pay for the lenses in your first pair. All lenses are scratch-resistant. Extra Options available at an additional charge on both pairs. Excludes safety eyewear. SKU 25672022. ©2015 Specsavers. All rights reserved.

**CITY PLUMBING SUPPLIES**  
 part of the Travis Perkins Group

**SOLAR THERMAL | SOLAR PV**  
**GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMPS**  
**AIR TO WATER HEAT PUMPS**  
**AIR TO AIR HEAT PUMPS**  
**BIOMASS | MVHR**

7e Glengallan Road | Oban | PA34 4HG  
 Tel: 01631 567640 | Fax: 01631 569808  
 facebook.com/cityplumbingsupplies  
 twitter.com/cityplumbingsupplies

**CITY PLUMBING SUPPLIES**  
 part of the Travis Perkins Group

**R A Clement Associates**  
 Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors

When it comes to protecting your financial future, you need the best advice you can get.  
**www.raclement.co.uk**  
 Email: mail@raclement.co.uk

5 Argyll Square, Oban PA34 4AZ Tel: 01631 562643  
 3 Cameron Square, Fort William PH33 6AJ Tel: 01397 700171

your initial consultation is free so call us now

**W.D. Semple**

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE TO VIEW A MORE COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF VEHICLES ON OFFER

Approved Renault Dealer  
 www.wdsemple.com  
 Inveraray - Shore Street. Tel: 01499 302150  
 Lochgilphead - Highbank Park. Tel: 01546 606767/01546 606272

**Motability**

NEW DACIA DUSTER AND SANDERO NOW IN STOCK

NOW AVAILABLE  
 The New Dacia Range from **£5,995\***

Dacia Sandero - from **£5,995\***  
 Dacia Sandero Stepway - from **£8,395\***  
 Dacia Duster - from **£9,495\***  
 Logan MCV Estate - from **£6,995**

Sandero shown is a Laureate 1.2 16V 75 from £7,995. Sandero Stepway shown is a Laureate TCe 90 from £9,795. Duster shown is a Laureate dCi 110 4x2 from £12,995. Metallic paint optional on Sandero/Duster at £470.

business gateway  
 Argyle & Bute Council

Wylie & Bisset LLP provide a comprehensive accounting and advisory service to businesses in the Argyll and Isles area.

Our 40+ years experience of supporting local businesses, both large and small, means we are fully equipped to assist you plan for the future. Our specialists have a wealth of experience in the following areas:

- Audit
- Corporate and Personal Tax
- Corporate Finance
- Business Planning and Forecasting
- Tax Planning
- Management Accounts Benchmarking
- Consultancy
- VAT
- Bookkeeping
- Payroll services
- Insolvency & Debt Counselling
- Financial Services
- IT

For further information on any of our services, or to arrange a no obligation chat contact either of our two specialists Barry Law or Andrew Cowling.

**Wylie + Bisset LLP**  
 Chartered Accountants, Business & Tax Advisers

4 High Street, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4BG Tel: **01631 562478**  
 168 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4TP Tel: **0141 566 7000**  
 info@wyliebisset.com www.wyliebisset.com

**Donald Rankin**

Tigh An Oisean, Bridge Road,  
 Portree, Isle of Skye

**Accounts Preparation for companies, sole traders and partnerships, charities, income and corporation tax, VAT & payroll bureau.**  
**Business plans, start up advice.**

Enquiries welcomed from:  
**SKYE, THE WEST HIGHLANDS AND WESTERN ISLES**

Tel: 01478 612942  
 Fax: 01478 613091  
 office@donaldrankin.co.uk

Agenda: the people ● the issues ● the back story



# The answer is blowing in the wind

Mike MacKenzie, a MSP for the Highlands and Islands region, is an ardent advocate of onshore wind farms. Here the SNP politician - who lives on Easdale - argues in his article why exploiting our foul weather will power the economic regeneration of the West Highlands and the country at large



There is something immoral about people who are unable to afford heating costs in a country like Scotland which is awash with energy



**Mike MacKenzie**  
MSP for Highlands and Islands  
(pictured above and right)

Shakespeare said that 'nothing is either good or bad, but thinking makes it so'. As far as the aesthetics of wind turbines go, this is true. It is purely subjective. I like them. I find them elegant and I enjoy watching them, especially the larger ones which turn more slowly. Watching them relaxes and calms me; a bit like watching an aquarium. Most of the public seem to agree with me, with repeated polls consistently suggesting support for wind energy is around 70 per cent.

I accept, though, that some people don't like them and we should certainly not site them in our most scenic and unspoiled areas. That is why I am glad the Scottish government has protected these areas, not least by the introduction of Scottish Natural Heritage's 'wild land maps', although the term 'wild land' does need to be qualified.

There is precious little of what might genuinely be termed 'wild land' in Scotland, the hand of man having worked over most of our landscape, one way or another, since the last ice age ended around 10,000 years ago. Deer, sheep and spruce plantations have etched their impressions on our landscape and apart from the tops of our mountains and the odd shreds of remaining Caledonian forest, the landscape as we know it bears little resemblance to the historical one. For example, much of Argyll's native forest was cut down in the 18th and early 19th centuries for the charcoal then needed in iron production. Our landscape is by no means wild and it is not pristine.

Scotland has 25 per cent of the EU's wind energy resource and it would be daft not to utilise this. Forty years ago we led research in wind energy. It is a great pity we did not make progress back then and instead allowed the Danes to steal this lead from us as their country now benefits hugely from their important wind turbine manufacturing industry.

Nevertheless, there are significant benefits for Scotland from wind energy and particularly the Highlands and Islands where most of this opportunity lies. Our forefathers struggled against our inhospitable climate; our wind and rain and our tides and our waves. It is a delightful irony that renewable energy now offers the opportunity for us to benefit from our harsh climate.

Argyll and Bute is the only part of the Highlands and Islands now losing population and jobs are therefore at a premium. The jobs associated with onshore wind development and maintenance are a necessary and welcome part of our economy. So too are the many jobs involved in the manufacturing of wind turbine towers at Campbeltown.

Community wind energy projects produce very useful income for local

organisations, the flagship of these being Gigha, where the 'dancing ladies' as they call their turbines, are helping to pay for badly-needed renovation of homes and for other community projects.

Hard-pressed farmers benefit too with income generated from wind turbines helping their businesses to remain viable. Some of this money is spent locally, supporting the local economy and local businesses, giving rise to what economists call the 'multiplier effect'.

It is sometimes suggested that wind turbines have a detrimental effect on tourism and on quality of life. That is not the lesson we learn from Orkney where they have more wind turbines than any other part of the UK and generate over 100 per cent of their electricity from wind energy.

Orkney has the most dynamic and successful tourism sector of any part of the Highlands and Islands and is the UK's top cruise ship destination. It is also always in the top three when UK quality of life surveys are done. This experience suggests that wind turbines have very little effect on either tourism or the quality of life of local people.

I have met and talked to most of the people who lead the anti-wind turbines movements in Scotland and listened carefully to their arguments. I can find little evidence to support these arguments other than the pseudo-science they routinely present as the gospel truth. The main threat to health seems to be caused by worrying unduly about the possible effects of wind turbines.

Towards the end of his life, Mark Twain, the American writer and humorist, said: 'I am an old man and my life has been full of troubles, most of which did not happen'. This seems to be borne out by academic studies which have interviewed objectors to wind energy projects three or four years after they have been built. These studies suggest that a large majority of objectors find that their fears did not materialise and that, in practice, the wind developments did not adversely affect their lives.

Those who object to wind turbines don't think about climate change which is a genuine threat; they don't think about the need to decarbonise our energy supply and reduce pollution; and they don't think about energy security or energy costs. It is a fact that onshore wind energy is rapidly becoming the lowest cost clean energy source we have and will soon require no subsidy at all. Many of our islands suffer fuel poverty at rates beyond 50 per cent and steeply rising energy prices are a problem we must tackle.

It is very unfortunate then that, as a result of the Energy Reform Act passed by the previous UK government, the decision has been made to support new nuclear power rather

than renewable energy. The subsidy which has been agreed for the new and untried reactor at Hinkley point is £35 billion with another £10 billion in associated infrastructure. This is a subsidy paid at twice the price of wholesale energy and will ensure high electricity costs for the 35 years over which it will be paid. On top of this will come staggering decommissioning costs with those at Sellafield now estimated at £67 billion; all met by the tax payer.

UK energy policy has been disastrous over the last 35 years and we are now in a situation where Ofgem is warning about power blackouts this winter as spare capacity generation has declined to only two per cent. This has led to the National Grid furiously buying up spare capacity generation at inflated prices in order to keep the lights on. This means we will all be paying higher energy prices than we should be.

There is something immoral about people who are unable to afford heating costs in a country like Scotland which is awash with energy. The Scottish government, unfortunately, has very little power over energy. We can say what we don't want and prevent new nuclear plants through the planning system, but we cannot incentivise what we do want, like capitalising on our renewable energy opportunity.

Onshore wind energy can only properly be considered against this background of climate change and rising energy prices. It is an almost mature technology which paves the way for others, not least in paying for the upgrade and extension of our grid, which will, in turn, allow the newer technologies of wave and tidal power to flourish.

All of this is very good news for the Highlands and Islands and offers a real prospect of helping us secure prosperity for future generations.



**OUT NOW!**  
Scotland's newest and best equestrian magazine

- Dressage
- Eventing
- Carriage driving
- Show jumping
- Breeding
- Polo
- Paralympics
- Equestrian art
- Great hacks

- Ponies
- Endurance
- Vaulting
- Top products
- Fashion
- Leisure riding
- Books
- Events



Available from all WH Smiths, all good independent newsagents or online  
[www.eqymagazine.co.uk](http://www.eqymagazine.co.uk)

# Arena

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

## food and drink

As part of the Year of Food and Drink Scotland, the *Oban Times* has teamed up with local businesses to celebrate the wealth of variety, quality and talent in this booming industry.

Over the coming months, the paper will be promoting a selection of events, stories, restaurants, pubs and producers from the west coast.

Each week, one business from the sector will be the focus of this exciting new column, along with a delicious recipe, so keep an eye out and allow the *Oban Times* to provide a taste of the fantastic food and drink available in the area.

The Year of Food and Drink is a chance to spotlight, celebrate and promote Scotland's natural larder and quality produce to people and visitors.



### This week...

Who is it? **Scottish Slimmers Food**  
What do they do?  
**Local weekly slimming classes, weight loss programmes and recipes**

Where can I find them?  
Call free 0800 36-26-36 or visit [scottishslimmers.com](http://scottishslimmers.com)

**scottishslimmers**  
Call free 0800 36-26-36 or visit [scottishslimmers.com](http://scottishslimmers.com)

Scottish Slimmers are based in Aberdeen and are Scotland's only home-grown slimming organisation. Weekly weight loss classes take place in Oban, Fort William and Ballachulish. If you'd like to find out more, go to [scottishslimmers.com](http://scottishslimmers.com) or take this page along to the local classes to JOIN FREE.

Schools are back. Holidays are over. Let's pay some attention to ourselves. Let's get healthier and lose a few summer holiday pounds.

If you're looking for recipes you can cook quickly, packed with healthy ingredients that you can feed the whole family on, then Scottish Slimmers have got you covered.

Scottish Slimmers Food original recipe  
**Chicken and Kale Stir Fry** Serves 4



13 Checks [325 calories] per portion

- 180g easy-cook long-grain rice (dry weight)
- spray oil
- 500g skinned chicken breast, cubed
- 2.5cm piece fresh root ginger, peeled and diced
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 lemongrass stalk, peeled and sliced
- 1 red chilli, deseeded and shredded
- 100g kale, shredded
- 100g tenderstem broccoli
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tbsp oyster sauce
- grated zest and juice of 1 lime

- Cook the rice according to the packet instructions.
- Meanwhile, spray a large frying pan or wok lightly with oil and stir-fry the chicken for 5 minutes until slightly browned all over. Add the ginger, garlic, lemongrass and chilli and stir-fry for 1-2 minutes.
- Add the kale and broccoli and stir-fry for 2-3 minutes. Stir in the soy sauce, oyster sauce, lime zest and juice.
- Serve immediately with the boiled rice.

If you would like your business to feature in our weekly Food & Drink column call us on **01631 568000**

## Record number of dancers sign up for Cowal

COWAL Highland Gathering (CHG) which starts today, Thursday, is preparing to welcome a record number of the world's best Highland Dancers.

Nearly 650 dancers from across the globe are gearing up to challenge for the world's most coveted trophies at the famous event.

Many will have travelled thousands of miles to take part, with competitors flocking to Dunoon from as far afield as the USA, Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

CHG chair, Ronnie Cairns, said the fact that more dancers than ever before will make the journey to Cowal - many of them from overseas - is a reflection of the event's stellar reputation both at home and abroad.

'Once again, we look forward to welcoming the world's very best Highland Dancers and marvelling at their skill and dedication,' he added.

'Cowal is proud to host the most important events in the global Highland Dancing calendar culminating, of course, in the final of the World Highland Dancing Championship. The fact that more dancers than ever are making the trip - many of them at great personal expense - proves that our reputation continues to go from strength to strength.'

'Spectators at this year's event will witness the very best dancers from every corner of the globe battling it out for our famous trophies.'

'It's always an unforgettable spectacle - both in terms of the sheer number of dancers on show and the standard of their dancing - and this year will be no different. We can't wait for the action to kick off.'

It won't just be more dancers on show this year than last. There will be more pipers too, with 36 bands making the trip to Dunoon.

Many of the bands, which together boast hundreds of individual pipers and drummers, are seasoned performers at Cowal. One, however - school band Sgoil Lionacleit from the tiny Hebridean island of Benbecula - is making its debut at the event.

The spectators are sure to give Sgoil Lionacleit, along with all others taking part, their usual rousing reception - not just during competitions, but also at the spine-tingling Salute to the Chieftain at the end of the day.

Ronnie said: 'Pipe band competitions have always been one of the Gathering's core components, and Cowal Pipe Band Championships remain among the world's oldest and most prestigious trophies. There'll be no shortage of world-class skills on show as the bands battle it out for top honours.'

'The stadium competitions are, of course, only one part of the piping entertainment.'

'We're raring to get the show on the road. We're confident everything is in place to ensure that our competitors and spectators alike have a fantastic day out.'

This year's Cowal Highland Gathering - part of EventScotland's National Events programme - runs from Thursday 27 to Saturday 29 August.

For more information about the event or to buy tickets, please visit the Gathering's website at [www.cowalgathering.com](http://www.cowalgathering.com) or contact the event office by emailing [info@cowalgathering.com](mailto:info@cowalgathering.com) or phoning 01369 703206.



## Dancing the night away at BLAS festival

THERE will be ample opportunity to dance the night away at Blas 2015, with three ceilidhs on the programme featuring the very best of Scottish dance bands who are appearing with other top performers.

The first takes place on the opening weekend of the festival in Dingwall where Fèis Rois Ceilidh Trail are joined by Rona Lightfoot, Ali Levack, Innes White and others. The largest of the 44 Fèisean in Scotland, Fèis Rois has been a trail-blazer for many years, inspiring and developing young musicians in Ross-shire and beyond through a comprehensive annual programme that encompasses three Fèisean, classes and workshops, Ceilidh Trails and work in schools through the Youth Music Initiative.

The dancers and ceilidh-goers then are spoilt for choice on the closing Friday of the festival, September 11, when Cathy Ann MacPhee, Royal National Mòd Traditional Gold Medallist, Ruairaidh Cormack, Strath Gaelic Choir, and the Robert Nairn Dance Band, will have the toes tapping and the boards rattling.

The Robert Nairn Highland Dance Band hail from the North West corner of Argyll and their music encapsulates the Gaelic, piping and dance traditions of their district and the Highlands as a whole.

The button box-led band have won 'Scottish Dance Band of the Year' at the MG Alba Trad Awards in 2011 and have made four appearances on BBC Radio Scotland's 'Take the Floor' since 2011.

One of Gaeldom's greatest ever singing voices, tradition bearer, Cathy Ann grew up on the island of Barra, steeped in the language and culture of her family.

Now living in Canada, she performs and teaches regularly throughout North America and Europe where her stories and song create an engaging tapestry of Gaelic song and life.

Further north, in Strathly, Fergie Macdonald, and his band, accompanied

by Huradal and Fèis in an Oir will be supplying the dancing delights.

Fergie is another Blas veteran celebrating a significant milestone as he marks his 60th anniversary. Fergie formed his very first band in 1955 and is widely credited with introducing ceilidh music to the world, with radio and television performances and 35 albums to his credit.

In 2014, Fergie's song The Shinty Referee, reached number 1 in the World iTunes Charts, becoming the first traditional music artist in Scotland to do so.

Huradal brings together four traditional young musicians and dancers from across Scotland in a dynamic ensemble which showcases the rhythmic links between puirt-à-beul (Gaelic mouth music) and step dance.

Dancers Sophie Stephenson and Mari Britton are joined by Mòd Gold Medalist, Eilidh Munro, (clàrsach/vocals) and Robbie Greig (fiddle/guitar).

Established 11 years ago as a result of The Highland Council's desire to create a festival that would match the vitality of Cape Breton's Celtic Colours, the Blas festival is now an international event showcasing Highland culture and its continuing success has been welcomed by the Scottish government and Highland Council.

Blas 2015 will take place at venues across the Highlands and Argyll between September 4 and 12.

Tickets for all Blas events can be bought online, or by phone, with details on the festival's website [blas-festival.com](http://blas-festival.com) where further information is available on the full programme of events.

## Art workshops celebrate George Campbell Hay

FREE art and photography workshops will take place in Tarbet on September 5 and 6 and are open to participants of all levels of experience.

The workshops are part of the George Campbell Hay centenary celebration and participants will be encouraged to seek inspiration from the poet's love of Argyll, nature and fishing.

The art workshops will take place in Templar Hall on Saturday, September 5, from 10am.

The photography workshops will take place in Stonefield Farm Holidays on Saturday and Sunday from 10am.

All photography and artwork produced during the workshops will be used as part of the centenary celebration and may also find its way into a centenary celebration book or CD cover.

Anyone who would like more information on the event in Tarbet should visit [www.georgechay.com](http://www.georgechay.com)



SOLAN IN PROGRESS together to create this

## Fluffy bird, Algy, will make landing at Ardnamurchan

A FLUFFY bird named Algy has been capturing the imaginations of children from Ardnamurchan and now the woman behind the mysterious creature has made herself available for questions.

Jenny Chapman, author and artist of 'A Surprisingly Fluffy Bird', will make her second visit to Ardnamurchan Lighthouse this Sunday (August 30), for a book signing.

This comes ahead of the

second novel in the series, outlining Algy's adventures in the rugged landscape of rural Lochaber.

Complimentary copies of 'A Surprisingly Fluffy Bird' will soon be available for local primary schools.

Youngsters are encouraged to visit the West Ardnamurchan author's website, [adventuresofalgy.com](http://adventuresofalgy.com), where they can find an online dictionary and galleries to spark their own writing and artwork.



## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SCOTLAND, EASDALE BRANCH  
**ANNUAL SALE (In aid of Forces' Charities)**  
SEIL ISLAND HALL,  
SATURDAY 27 AUGUST  
2.30 pm to 4.30 pm  
Baking, Bric-a-Brac, Books/CD's, Fresh Produce, Plants  
Teas, Raffle, Bottle Stall, and stalls from Combat Stress,  
Erskine War Blind & Poppy Scotland.  
Entrance by donation  
For further information contact 01852 314 242

North Connel & District  
**Horticultural Show 2015**  
Victory Hall, Benderloch  
Saturday, 29 August  
Show Opens 2.00pm  
Admission - Adults £2.50,  
Children £1  
Prizes, Raffle, Sale of  
Produce from 3pm

**STRAMASH CHARITY FUN DAY**  
Inverawe Country Park, Taynait  
Sunday 30th August  
11am-4pm  
£5 per adult, £3 per child,  
£13 family ticket (2 adults +  
2 children)  
Try your hand at canoeing,  
archery, fishing and lots more!  
Sponsored by Bell Ingram

Classical Musicians  
Scotland present  
**The Ivor Novello**  
Story by John Cairney  
at St Conan's Kirk, Lochawe  
Saturday 29th August  
7.30pm £8 (£6 Friends)  
Refreshments included  
Tickets on the door

Spotlight Musical Theatre Group Presents  
**The Rockfield Review**  
Featuring songs from Broadway to the Silver Screen and  
highlights from our sell out Production "Anything Goes".  
In Aid of Oban Community Trust - The Rockfield Centre  
**Saturday 29th August, 7.30pm**  
**Oban Phoenix Cinema**  
Tickets available at the box office.

To advertise in

# Guitar legend John will take Ardgour concert by storm

Second of this season's Watercolour House Concerts, in Ardgour on Sunday September 6, plays host to one of the finest guitarists on the planet – the Irish-American musical legend, John Doyle.

John's signature bass-driven sound and elegant song-writing has graced stage and studio in the company of Joan Baez, Mary Chapin Carpenter, John McCusker, Donal Lunny and Mary Black, as well as being at the heart of the greatest of the Irish bands of the American diaspora, Solas.

John visits Watercolour in the wake of a regular musical partner-in-crime, old-time fiddler, Bruce Molsky, and the audience promises to be as busy as for Bruce's highly popular gigs.

From a musical family in Dublin, Grammy-nominated John's influences include well known English folk singers, Nic Jones, Martin Carthy, Richard Thompson, and The Waterboys; celtic singers, Dick Gaughan and John Martin; and fellow Irishmen, Paul Brady and Al O'Donnell as well as his father,

Sean Doyle - probably the biggest influence of all.

John went on the road as a pro at 16 with the group, Chanting House, and went on to form the highly acclaimed supergroup, Solas, with Seamus Egan, John Williams, Karan Casey and Winifred Horan which took the folk and Celtic music worlds by storm, in no small part due to John's powerhouse rhythmic guitar style and innovative arrangements.

As a member of Solas, John performed to sold-out audiences nationally and internationally as well as appearing on many national TV and radio programmes, including Garrison Keillor's 'A Prairie Home Companion'. A Celtic Connections regular and frequent guest on the hugely popular, 'Transatlantic Sessions', John has also performed for US President, Barack Obama, along with regular fiddle partner, Liz Carroll.

In recent years, John has focused primarily on writing based on the experiences of Irish emigrants to the New World – and the songs on Doyle's current release, 'Shadow and Light' have been said 'to be destined to be classics in the Irish folk music songbook. His talents as songwriter are rare and exquisite.

The House Concert starts at 3pm on Sunday September 6. Booking is essential for this very special gig – email mak@watercolourmusic.co.uk or telephone 01855-841320. Admission by donation.

# Brìghde is Lone Piper at Highand Tattoo

A TALENTED Skye youngster will be playing a central role at the Highland Military Tattoo.

17-year-old piper, Brìghde Chaimbeul, who was born and brought up on the island and now lives in Kyle of Lochalsh, has been chosen as the Lone Piper for this year's Tattoo which takes place at Fort George outside Inverness from 11–13 September.

An award-winning piper since the age of ten when she won the Piobaireachd competition at the final Strathclyde Police Piping Competition, Brìghde is a talented all-round musician who also plays the small pipes, whistles and piano.

She is the youngest ever winner of a junior piobaireachd prize at the prestigious Northern Meeting and last year won the overall Under-18 trophy.

Brìghde is a former pupil of Niall Stewart, piping instructor for Lochalsh and South Skye schools.

Traditionally, the Lone Piper plays at the close of a military tattoo, bringing the event to an end before the performers march out of the arena.

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

Featuring an RAF Typhoon fly-past each night, massed pipes and drums, Highland dancers, military bands and an inter-Services competition, this year's tattoo also has a focus on high quality local food and drink with a new improved catering and retail village.

Support for the village is coming from the Community Food Fund, which is financed by the Scottish government, and has been created to promote local food and drink, in line with Scotland's National Food and Drink Year.

All profits from the events will be donated to armed forces charities. Tickets are available via Ticketline www.ticketline.co.uk or 0844 888 9991; at Eden Court box office on 01463 234234; or at the Highlanders' Museum at Fort George on 0131 310 8701.

# Young Spean Bridge singer rocks audiences at Edinburgh Fringe

LOCHABER woman, Marianne Fraser, has emerged as a star of Le Haggis – the edgy Scottish cabaret winning high praise at this year's Edinburgh Festival.

Marianne a 24-year-old vocalist and guitarist from Spean Bridge, performs a series of classics for the audience at the colourful cabaret, which features a variety of superb Scottish and international performers.

Marianne, who studied at Lochaber High School before going to the National Centre of Excellence in Traditional Music at Plockton, followed by the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, said: 'It's such an exciting show to be part of.'

'It's amazing to be working with acrobats and aerial performers of such an incredibly high standard – we're having lots of fun.'

Marianne first showed her talent when she started playing the fiddle aged ten. Nowadays, she is completely committed to her music, performing all over the country and teaching music in Dumfries and Galloway primary schools.

'Music is what I want to do – I don't care if it's entertaining people in a care home or on a big stage, I just love it,' she said.

Marianne, whose family are still in Spean Bridge, also performs with Scottish sextet, CherryGrove, and alt-pop outfit, Medals.

The bands have played at Festival Interceltique in France, T in the Park and have also supported Twin Atlantic and Biffy Clyro.

Graham Main, Le Haggis artistic director, said: 'Marianne's style gives Le Haggis that bold, contemporary voice in Scots trad which makes the show so appealing to audiences wherever they are from.'

Le Haggis is a pulsating mix of old and the new, traditional and edgy – it's also rather saucy and strictly for adults.

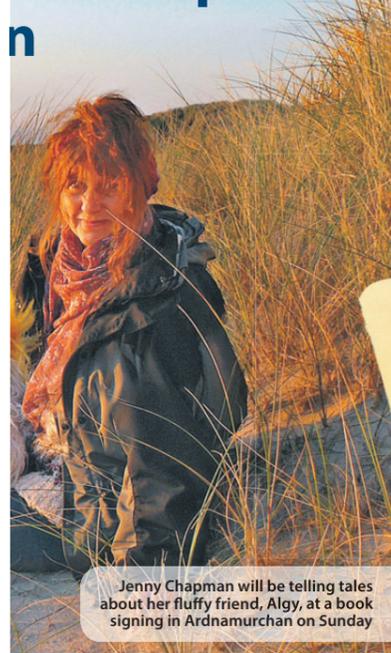
Le Haggis is among the highlights at the Assembly George Square Gardens, where it takes place in the alternative reality of a huge mirror-lined Spiegeltent Colombino.



**SOLAN COMPLETED:** Image created by the Kampmann family at the last workshop in May. George Campbell Hay makes frequent references to the gannet or solan in his poetry.



## Make a surprise



Jenny Chapman will be telling tales about her fluffly friend, Algy, at a book signing in Ardnamurchan on Sunday

# Practical plants were stars of the show

ALMOST 100 people took part in the recent Ross of Mull's innovative and creative 'Practical Plants' Day held at Creich Hall.

The event was organised by Emily Wilkins, Countryside Ranger with Mull and Iona Community Trust and a small group of helpers.

And set-up costs were covered by a donation from Mull Eagle Watch. Local residents ran workshops on fabric dyeing, basket making, wild food cooking, seaweed identification and foraging, cordage making, plant foraging, healing plants folklore and peat cutting, and home made lunches and cakes were provided by an inspired pop-up cafe. There were also green woodworking demonstrations, a talk on the symbolism of heather and a display highlighting the plants in Mull's Gaelic place names.

The inspirational and informative event showcased new skills based on old traditions and new ways of using natural resources. It also demonstrated the enormous talent and community spirit of residents on the Ross. In response to appreciation and requests for further events of this kind, it is hoped to repeat this venture next year.



**In next week's Oban Times win tickets to Best of the West Festival**

# Entertainment Guide

## Cinema

Oban Phoenix Cinema, community-owned and run  
Tel: 01631 562905 www.obanphoenix.com

28 AUGUST 2015 - 03 SEPTEMBER 2015

- HOOK (U)**  
Sat: 10:00
- INSIDE OUT (U)**  
Sat: 12:30, 15:30; Sun: 11:15
- MAGGIE (15)**  
Fri, Mon, Tue, Wed: 21:05; Sat: 17:45; Sun: 15:55
- NT LIVE: THE BEAUX' STRATAGEM**  
Thu: 19:00
- PAPER TOWNS (12A)**  
Daily Except Sat, Sun: 16:00, 18:35; Sun: 13:25
- PIXELS (12A)**  
Daily Except Sat, Sun: 16:15; Sat: 10:15; Sun: 11:00, 13:35
- PIXELS 3D (12A)**  
Sat: 14:45
- SOUTHPAW (15)**  
Daily Except Sat, Sun: 21:05; Sun: 18:30
- THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E. (12A)**  
Fri, Mon, Tue, Wed: 18:35; Sat: 20:00; Sun: 16:00, 18:05; Thu: 22:00
- THE ROCKFIELD REVIEW**  
Sat: 19:00

### FILM SYNOPSIS

**NT LIVE: THE BEAUX' STRATAGEM: 160MINS - U**  
The 'Beaux': Mr Aimwell and Mr Archer, two charming, dissolute young men who have blown their fortunes in giddy London. Shamed and debt-ridden, they flee to provincial Lichfield. Their 'Stratagem': to marry for money.

**HOOK: 136MINS**  
When Captain Hook kidnaps his children, an adult Peter Pan must return to Neverland and reclaim his youthful spirit in order to challenge his old enemy.

**MAGGIE: 115MINS**  
A teenage girl in the Midwest becomes infected by an outbreak of a disease that slowly turns the infected into cannibalistic zombies. During her transformation, her loving father stays by her side.

**PAPER TOWNS: 136MINS**  
Adapted from the bestselling novel by author John Green, PAPER TOWNS is a coming-of-age story centering on Quentin and his enigmatic neighbor Margo, who loved mysteries so much she became one.

**SOUTHPAW: 144MINS**  
A boxer fights his way to the top, only to find his life falling apart around him.

**THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.: 136MINS**  
In the early 1960s, CIA agent Napoleon Solo and KGB operative Illya Kuryakin participate in a joint mission against a mysterious criminal organization, which is working to proliferate nuclear weapons.

**THE ROCKFIELD REVIEW: 210MINS**  
This musical theatre concert will feature song and dances from shows such as Hairpray, Wicked, Disney's Brave and Footloose. The second half of the show will be a special concert re-working of their 2015 sell-out production of Cole Porter's Anything Goes. A chance if you missed it earlier in the year to catch a little bit of high society on the high seas! Suitable for all it will be a great night out.

## Radio

**Oban FM**  
Community Radio - your local radio station  
Tune in to 103.3 or listen live at www.obanfm.com  
For requests, competitions or questions please email: studio@obanfm.org.uk or call us on 01631 570057

### THIS WEEK'S LISTINGS

- MONDAY:**  
0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Monday Morning With Andy and Stephen, 1100 Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Jim Edge, 1700 Drivetime With Danni Hay, 1900 Rosie's Highland Fling, 2000 John McCuckie's Show, 2100 David Cullen, 2200 American Jukebox with Michelle
- TUESDAY:**  
0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show with Maggie May, 1000 Ken Hunter, 1200 Memories are Made of This with Ken Hunter, 1330 The Quiz with Danni Hay, 1500 Lesley Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 1900 Sounds Scottish with Archie Cameron, 2000 Highest Praise with Stuart, 2100 Elaine Lamb, 2300 Northern Soul with Gordon Covey
- WEDNESDAY:**  
0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Sound Scottish (repeat), 1000 Comfort Zone with Doug Carmichael, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Elaine Lamb, 1700 Drivetime with Campbell and Coll, 1900 Country Meets Rock with Len & Ken, 2100 Gordon's Grooves
- THURSDAY:**  
0800 Maggie May's Carousel, 1100 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Gordon Covey, 1700 Drivetime with DJ Taz, 1900 Christine's Collection, 2100 Ann's Celtic, 2200 Margo Till Midnight
- FRIDAY:**  
0800 Jean Ainsley Breakfast Show, 1000 Teeny and Tiny Show, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Weekend Warmup with Ian Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 1845 Sports View, 1900 Country Meets Country with Jackie Craig, 2000 Friday Night with Innes, 2100 TFI Friday with Jim Lawn
- SATURDAY:**  
0900 Maggie's Swingin' Sixties, 1000 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Crowsher, 1330 CLYDE 2, 1800 Sports View with the Dream Team, 1900 Marcus, 2000 Dave Lewis
- SUNDAY:**  
0900 Sunday Morning with Breege, 1100 - 1400 Allan, 1630 Archie Darling, 1800 Ken's Friends with Ken Hunter, 1900 New Country Show with David Entwistle, 2100 Drum & Bass with Graham Scott

**LOOK!**  
your customers do  
this advert could be seen by over 35,000 people every week\*

promote your business with  
**The Oban Times**  
A WEST HIGHLAND TIMES  
call our sales team today  
01631 568000

**our community noticeboard**  
call 01631 568000

**Oban U3A**  
Tuesday 1 September 2015 at 10.30am Main Hall, Glencruttin Church Centre, Oban  
A warm welcome to members new and old for our monthly coffee and chat meeting, with an opportunity this time to sign up for a range of interest groups. Please note the change of venue for the September meeting.

**CASK Still MAGAZINE**

A NEW *Free* 84-PAGE WHISKY MAGAZINE

Visit [www.caskandstillmagazine.co.uk](http://www.caskandstillmagazine.co.uk) for your **FREE** digital version

# Arena

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



## Anything Goes and more to raise funds

SPOTLIGHT Musical Theatre Group are thrilled to be working with The Oban Phoenix Cinema to bring their summer concert to Oban this week to raise funds for a fellow community project that is close to their hearts - the Oban Communities Trust - the Rockfield Centre.

This musical theatre concert will feature song and dances from shows such as Hairspray, Wicked, Disney's Brave and Footloose.

The second half of the show will be a special concert re-working of their 2015 sell-out production of Cole Porter's Anything Goes. Ellie Cooper, who plays leading lady, Reno Sweeney, spoke of her excitement

at being able to bring this show back. 'We have taken our concert to Tainuill and Appin this summer and we are excited to bring it to back to Oban to raise funds for such a worthy cause.'

Gordon McNab, Chair of Oban Communities Trust said: 'We are grateful to our fellow community groups supporting our efforts to raise funds and are looking forward to a fantastic night of entertainment.'

Tickets are available now from the cinema box office at www.obanphoenix.com, on 01631 562905 or on the door. Tickets cost £10 (VIP seats), £8 (Adults) and £6 (concessions).



## Funding awarded to support An Comunn Gàidhealach

THE organisers of the Royal National Mòd have been awarded a Scottish Government grant to help develop their programme of work.

Dr Alasdair Allan, Minister for Gaelic, announced the award of £26,280 ahead of the Mòd returning to Oban from 9-17 October.

An Comunn Gàidhealach will use the grant to support the Mòd and competitors who will be travelling to Oban to compete. Part of the grant will also be used to carry out repairs to the Neil Munro monument in Inveraray.

Neil Munro authored several works, most famously the Para Handy series, which celebrated the exploits of the crew of the Vital

Spark, as well as a number of historical novels.

The announcement came after the Scottish government held a cabinet meeting in the town.

Dr Allan said: 'We are very pleased to continue to support the work of the An Comunn Gàidhealach, ahead of the Mòd returning to Oban.'

'The Scottish Government is proud to be associated with the programme.'

'The Neil Munro monument is a worthy tribute to a great Scottish literary talent and were he around today, I am sure he would be thrilled to see the Royal National Mòd at the heart of celebrating everything that is great about Gaelic music and culture.'

John Morrison, Chief Executive of An Comunn Gàidhealach said: 'An Comunn Gàidhealach is delighted to see the Royal

National Mòd return to Oban in 2015.'

'Oban is the birthplace, and the spiritual home, of the main Gaelic event held annually.'

'The Oban and the wider Argyll community always give a warm welcome to the Gaelic community when they descend upon the town.'

'We are confident that this year will be no different and look forward to returning to Oban in mid-October.'

'We are also proud to renew our association with Argyll's best known author, the late Neil Munro.'

'The repairs to the monument that commemorates Neil Munro's life is an affirmation that we remember all those who made such a valuable contribution to the culture, language and music of the Gaels of Scotland.'

## Roses, Real and Rennie

KEEN gardeners will be able to revel in flowers both artistic and horticultural when The Hill House in Helensburgh, hosts its annual plant sale on Sunday, September 6.

Organised by Scotland's Gardens Scheme (SGS), visitors will be able to buy plants and produce propagated at The Hill House, as well as shrubs, flowers, herbs and house plants raised locally by SGS volunteers. The plant sale, and the gardens, will be open from 11 am.

Visitors wanting to enjoy the famous roses painted inside The Hill House by Margaret Macdonald, wife of Charles Rennie Mackintosh, will be able to see them when the house and tearoom opens at 12 noon.

'This is always a popular event with gardeners,' said Lorna Hepburn, Property Manager at The Hill House.

'Charles Rennie Mackintosh designed the whole of The Hill House and most of the interior decoration and furniture.'

'In the world famous drawing room and main bedroom he created indoor gardens, using roses as a key feature.'

'Visitors can view the house and take home a little piece of the garden, as well as other plants that they know should thrive as they were raised locally.'

The house has been restored and maintained to look as it did when it was completed in 1904.

The elegant gardens, which showcase the distinctive shape of the house, have been restored in line with early designs, using plants that would have been available at the time.

The plant sale finishes at 4pm and the house closes at 5.30pm. Entrance to the gardens and plant sale is free. Admission charges for the house are £10.50 for adults; £7.50 for concession; £24.50 for a family ticket (two adults and up to four children); £18 for a single family ticket (one adult and up to four children).

Further information can be obtained by phoning 01436 673900 and from the website, www.nts.org.uk.

## Elite academy honour for Mhairi

IONA artist, Mhairi Killin, has been elected as an RSA, a member of the Royal Scottish Academy.

Mhairi, renowned for her jewellery, drawing, sculpture and installation art, has joined a group of only 120 artists and architects known as RSAs.

RSAs can only be nominated and elected by other RSA members. This award recognises her wide achievement in artistic endeavour.

Mhairi is also a founding member of the artists' collective, 6°WEST which formed to create a distinctive cultural voice for contemporary art practice on Mull and Iona, the Highlands and Islands, the UK and internationally.

## New style Scottish Women's Institutes inspire women on Isle of Mull

IN cities, towns and rural areas of Scotland, a new generation of women is discovering for the first time the appeal of the Scottish Women's Institute.

They are trying activities like speed crafting, going on brewery trips, making cocktails and learning to play the ukulele at new branches that have popped in Leith, Shawlands, Aberdeen and Dervaig on the Isle of Mull.

Moves to introduce the SWI to a broader reach of women have led to the birth of pilot meetings which are being trialled in different parts of Scotland.

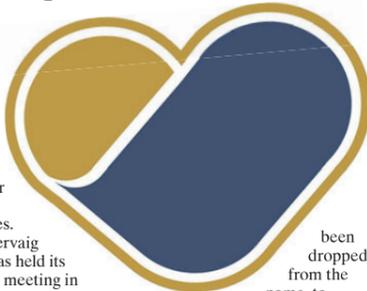
These less formal gatherings have been encouraging women to meet with other like-minded women to make friendships and learn new skills and interests at times of the day and week that best suit

their life-styles.

Dervaig Divas held its first meeting in a pub in the north of Mull and has been the brainchild of the SWI's Sheelagh Still, who finds it refreshing to go forward with younger people's ideas, input and enthusiasm.

Sheelagh said: 'We recognise that women want flexibility and may wish to dip in and out of meetings as their other commitments allow. It's great to see new interest being generated in the SWI.'

The word 'Rural' has



been dropped from the name, to reflect the growing membership in urban areas, while a new logo has been designed to give a fresh look along with the line 'Women Together'. A new website has also been launched making it easier to search for Institutes.

For more details of how to find your nearest institute, or advice on how to set up a new one, visit www.swi.org or go to its Facebook pages at https://www.facebook.com/ScottishWomensInstitutes

## Cowal - FEST Walking and Outdoor Festival

ESTABLISHED over ten years ago, Cowalfest is a ten-day walking and outdoor event which gives an opportunity to explore this scenic area, enjoy some of its history, heritage and wildlife - including pine martens and red squirrels - and

with plenty of photographic opportunities. Amidst hills, lochs, forestry and glens, events cater for all levels of ability, from a guided walk through the beautiful Benmore Gardens, to an ascent of Ben Ruadh (664m) or

daily trekking the Cowal Way in six sections. There are mountain biking and running activities, as well as canoeing. Cultural events include touring country houses, a book festival, traditional music, a ceilidh and more.

Visit www.cowalfest.org to view the whole programme or book an event. Accommodation is available locally. Links can be made through the website or by enquiring at [dunoon@visitscotland.com](mailto:dunoon@visitscotland.com).

## Time to piece together David's visit

A LIBRARY will host readings with a Scottish author on Wednesday. Fort William library have welcomed David Munro, originally from Argyll and Bute, to launch his latest novel The Time Jigsaw.

The book focuses on James Carsell-Brown, a native of Scotland whose life begins to change when living in Nice. He meets pretty Michelle Duvallier, whom he believes is the woman of his dreams, but all may not be what it seems. Mr Munro reckons relaxing to music and taking long walks through the scenic Scottish

countryside helps to inspire him. He will be at Fort William library on Wednesday August 2, at 2pm.

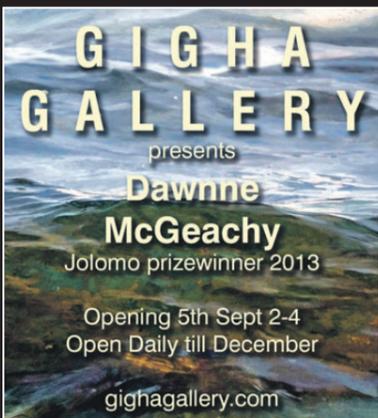
AUTHOR: David Munro will be launching his latest novel The Time Jigsaw at Fort William library.



## Jolomo prize winner hopes for another sell out exhibition on Gigha

It seems like no time since Dawnne McGeachy's sell out exhibition on the Isle of Gigha last year. Having won the Jolomo Foundation prize in 2013, Dawnne is now rightly recognised as one of Scotland's foremost artists. Dawnne was brought up in Campbeltown, before gaining a first class degree from Glasgow School of Art. She paints the sea around Kintyre, where her family fishes, using natural tones in oils. She captures the movement of the ocean like no other artist.

An added bonus in her paintings shows up only at night, when phosphorous constellations



change the seascapes into night skies. Dawnne's father used the stars to guide him at night when out fishing, navigating his way home to his family. The power of the sea is immense - the stars are guides to safety - and are truly beautiful. To view the starlight in the paintings why not stay in Gigha's community owned Hotel, right next to Gigha Gallery, and take advantage of the 'starlight discount'.

This is a wonderful, magical exhibition - and one not to be missed.

## Malt of the Month

SPONSORED BY Ben Nevis Distillery (Fort William) Ltd.

### Glenmorangie 40% ABV

I HAVE had a bottle of Glenmorangie on my shelf for almost eight months. It was a raffle prize for my choir monthly draw. To cut a very long story short, I won the bottle of whisky. It reminded me of the last time I had tasted it.

It was on the last train to Oban from Glasgow, at lunch-time in those heady days of the 1980s.

I was with the presenter of Scotland's premier religious programme Ikon. Her name was Liz Spence and she was dressed as Uhura from Star Trek (I don't think I asked why).

We decided that as were going to have a 'dry week' on the Isle of Iona that it would be an idea to open the bottle of whisky she had been presented by some of her colleagues to enjoy on the four hour journey.



We opened the bottle and enjoyed. Glenmorangie is, and always has been, a wonderfully fresh whisky, sweet with honey tones and soft with a kind breathiness. I can still remember the sound of the cork popping. It may have been one of my first real whisky

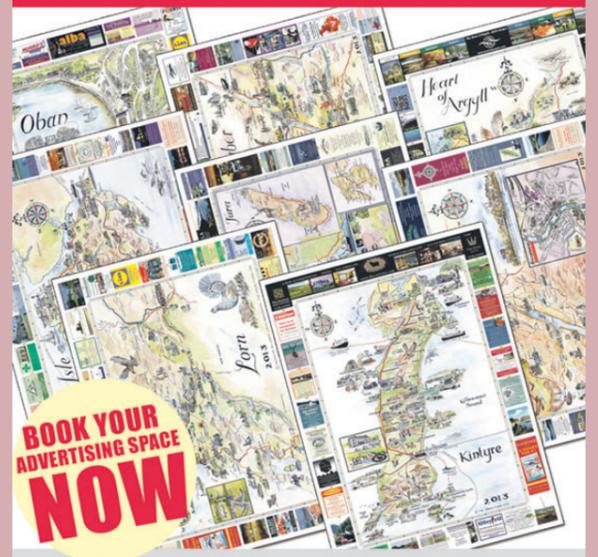
conversations. I told Liz about meeting a man coming through a gate on Iona, his name was Mr Lee. He was a big whisky drinker I told Liz, and I was going to marry him. She told me she was about to leave her second husband. She did. Two women at very different stages of life brought together by whisky. That is the beauty of the Uisge Beatha - the water of life, it gives you time to stop and share.

Louise Glen

## LOCAL TOURIST MAPS

REGULARLY RESTOCKED THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

The Oban Times A WEST HIGHLAND TIMES



BOOK YOUR ADVERTISING SPACE NOW

Don't miss the opportunity for your business to be included on the 2016 tourist maps call Fiona 01631 568018 or email [fmacinnis@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:fmacinnis@obantimes.co.uk)

# Farming

Sponsored by NFU Mutual  
Oban, call Euan Warnock  
and Donna MacDougall  
on 01631 567 036 for  
your insurance needs.  
Agent of The National Farmers Union  
Mutual Insurance Society Limited.



## Lochaber agricultural show



Champion sheep was a black face shearingling from Glen Fruin, Helensburgh, shown by Kevin MacKinnon 16\_f35show08

THIS year's Lochaber agricultural show was hailed a 'great success' by organisers, with a high number of entries in all categories.

Heavy rain on Friday night cleared in time for the 118th show at Inverlochy Castle farm on Saturday and attendees enjoyed two bird of prey displays and the ever-popular pet parade.

The show was opened by Lochaber agricultural society president, Malcolm Cameron, who presented a long-service award to David

Duncan, for more than 30 years of work with the group.

John Weller of the society, thanked volunteers for ensuring a great event: 'The show was a great success, with high quality stock and competition throughout. Although wet the night before, a dry bright morning ensured good attendance figures, just slightly down on last year's.'

'Our grateful thanks go out to the Rotary Club of Lochaber and the local Sea Cadets for

manning the gates and taking care of the car parking. Also to any organisation, or individual that contributed in any way with financial help or services to make the show go ahead.'

Christopher Cameron of Strone farm, Banavie, picked up the Hon Wills supreme cattle champion cup for his pure limousine bull, while Kevin MacKinnon of Glen Fruin, Helensburgh, won overall sheep champion for his black face shearingling.



Ewen Campbell and son, Archie, with Aberdeen Angus, Kilmallie Blackbird, winner of the pedigree calf category 16\_f35show01



Christopher Cameron of Strone farm, Banavie, presents the overall best in cattle with his children, Aimee and Connor Cameron 16\_f35show02



Daisy and Pippa Ferguson of Fort Augustus won the 13.2 hands and under riding prize with Twinkle



Six-year-old Logan Armour enjoyed the bungee 16\_f35show05



Ken and Helen Groom showed off a 1924 Model T-Ford at the show 16\_f35show04



David Duncan (second right) was presented a long service award for more than 30 years of Lochaber agricultural society work with the Macaulay family. From left: Mary Macaulay, Fiona Duncan, David Duncan and Malcolm Cameron 16\_f35show03



'Postman Pat' was a popular entry in the horse fancy dress 16\_f35show07



Kirsty Mann of Roshven, Lochailort, with champion horse, Ruby of Sunnyneuk. 16\_f35show09



Future bus driver, Meredith Wells, four 16\_f35show06

FOR RESULTS SEE PAGE 21

## Farming Focus

Ewen Campbell, SRUC Kirkton & Auchtertyre farms manager

NOT THAT anyone needed to be told, but it's now official that this summer has been very cold and wet. Although it has made life difficult, our summer jobs are now complete. All our sheep have been shorn and the wool is being sent next week to the British Wool Marketing Board in Glasgow, where it will be graded and most of it will eventually be used for carpets. That's one big time-consuming, but necessary, job out of the way.

We also weighed all our lambs and ewes in July before shearing, to see how they were faring and to decide whether we needed to worm any of the lambs. Like last year, half of the lambs are being treated in a selective way, using their weight gain to decide whether or not they needed worming; only a small handful did require worming on this occasion. The other half is being treated according to how many worm eggs are found in a combined dung sample. However, egg counts were so low that these lambs did not need to receive any worming treatment in July.

Once they had been sheared, weighed and treated for flies and ticks, all animals were sent back on to the hill, where the grass is now very lush (with all that rain). This also helped reduce the grazing pressure on the inbye fields and allowed the grass a chance to grow for making silage.

Now it is nearly the end of August and weaning is almost upon us. At weaning we will worm the lambs again, if they need it, and we will separate the lambs from their mothers. At this time lambs will also have their back fat and muscle depth measured by ultrasound scanning. The

results of which will be used in the genetic evaluations of the individuals in the flock to produce their Estimated Breeding Values. Hopefully, a good number of the



The new sheep conveyor belts at SRUC's Auchtertyre farm

male lambs will be ready for slaughter by early autumn, while most of the females will be kept for future breeding on the farm.

Most of our time this summer has been taken-up building a new sheep handling system at Auchtertyre, and this is now complete. This set-up is within a shed and contains: a manual drafter; a Prattley automatic weigh crate with 5 way auto-drafter; a sheep conveyor; and a vast range of pens of different sizes. The con-

veyor is the most recent piece of sheep handling kit we have bought. It is "V" shaped, with the sheep supported within the "V", the sides of which are long con-

veyor belts so the sheep can be moved along without their feet on the ground. This allows for easy handling of sheep for tasks such as worming, feet trimming and other husbandry practices. While being held in the conveyor, the sheep tend to be more relaxed than when in a conventional race, therefore improving welfare. It also makes it much easier and safer for us when handling the sheep.

We are organising a farming and industry livestock handling, health and welfare open day at the farms on the

9th September, so that people can come and see it for themselves. The event will be centred around these new sheep handling facilities at Auchtertyre and the new cattle handling and shed facilities at Kirkton. The day will start at 10.00 and finish around 16.00. It should be a good opportunity to see all these changes on the farms for yourself. To assist with catering arrangements, please register with SAC Consulting Offices in: Oban 01631 563 093 or Stirling 01786 450 964

The cows are currently out on the hill where there are no fences to stop them straying, but so far they have been well behaved and have not gone too far. The calves will be weaned and weighed in the next couple of weeks to allow the cows some recovery time before the winter. The calves have had no supplementary feeding yet, so it will be interesting to see how much weight they have put on over the summer. We also managed to do some silage on the farm this year. It was all done and dusted two weeks ago, when we had a couple of nice dry days. We managed to get 130 bales, so it will be useful this winter for the cows.

Finally, after having spent three months with us, Ailsa Thomson, our SRUC Aberdeen student who has been on placement here, is leaving us to resume her studies for her final year of her honours degree. It was great for me to have this extra help during the summer on the farm, and we hope she enjoyed her stay, despite the weather and the midgies!

**RITCHIE BALE HANDLER**  
suitable for round or square bales, complete with euro-hooks.  
Very good condition.  
**£375 + VAT**  
Tel 01546 602995 or 07785 721396

**SHETLAND SHEEP FOR SALE**  
Fully Registered  
Ewes/Gimmers  
Various colours  
Hebridean Sheep for sale  
Fully Registered  
Ewes/Gimmers/Tup  
Lambs  
Mid Argyll Area  
Telephone: 01546830181

### DOG FOR SALE



Working Parson Jack Russell male pup. Lives in Argyll. Sixteen months old. Brown and white, rough-coated. Nicely marked. Kennel registered. Inoculated.

Available now  
**£300**

Tel: 01967 421651

### Massey Ferguson 135



circa 1975, runs well, good tyres, engine, brakes and hydraulics, new mud guards and tyres, tow bar, 2075 hours.

**£4650 O.N.O.**

Tel: 07741 287699

### Highland cows for sale

All female, 2 heifers, 2 cows with calves at foot. Various colours & prices.

Local delivery at cost available if required.

Farm assured & hand reared.

Genuine enquiries. Please txt or phone 07889959500 (Fort William) for more info.



### COVENTRY for FENCING



**Scotland's No. 1 WIRE, STOCK FENCING, BARBED, HIGH TENSILE, MILD STEEL BEST PRICES**

**TIMBER DIRECT FROM OUR SAWMILL**  
Depots throughout Scotland • Delivery available  
For a competitive quote please call 01631 566866

# West Coast **MOTURING TIMES**

DRIVETIMES SAILING TIMES GARAGES CAR DEALERSHIPS MOTURING NEWS

## DRIVETIMES

**FORD FIESTA VAN 1.4 TDCI 2010**



Service history 1 owner  
Electric windows, cd,  
Long mot  
Only been used as a car  
60 mpg  
Very clean.  
**£4000**

Contact 07500 786612

**Nissan Micra Tekna 2008**



1.2i petrol, manual, grey,  
85,000miles, MOT until  
June 2016, 16" alloy  
wheels, colour coded  
bumpers and mirrors,  
ALX input, trip computer  
and much more. Well  
equipped, 5dr hatch that  
looks and drives superbly.  
**£2195.00**

01967 431872

**Skoda Fabia 1.2 Petrol**



Skoda Fabia 1.2 petrol,  
5 door, 2010 only  
30,600miles. 12 months  
MOT, recent oil change  
**£3,600 o.n.o.**

Tel: 01770700333 Mob - 07881922044

**Peugeot Avantgarde  
140 compass**



55 plate  
14,800 miles  
**£13,500 o.n.o.**

Tel: 07766 872547

subscribe to  
**The Oban Times**  
A WEST HIGHLAND TIMES  
**Subscribe  
from £22\***  
Call subscriptions on  
**01371 851868**  
or subscribe online at  
[www.obantimes.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.obantimes.co.uk/subscribe)



Subscribers should note that to keep down the cost of postage, some special supplements may, on occasions, be excluded from the subscribers edition of the paper. \*£22 for 3 month UK subscription.

**Fiat Panda 1.2 Petrol**



Bright Orange,  
5 Door, 40,000miles,  
MOT Aug16, FSH  
Local Owner.  
Beautiful Car  
Reluctant Sale  
**£2500 o.n.o.**

Call 07769 793105

**Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.6 VVT +3 Door 2007  
(07 reg)**



2 Owners, 39,947 Low Mileage  
for year. 4WD Petrol, 1.6 VVT,  
3 Door. Adjustable Seating, 2  
Owners, service history, MOT  
due on 18/04/2016, Electric  
windows, Air conditioning,  
CD player.  
**£4220**

Tel: 01770 810615 (Arran)

**Classic Mercedes 190D**



2.5 Diesel, 12mths  
MOT 1987 64000  
miles  
Sunroof, Very  
economical,  
Excellent condition.  
**£3800**

Tel: 01770 700371 (Arran) after 5pm

**Porsche Boxster**



Silver with red  
interior. 1997. 2.5ltr.  
Comprehensive  
specialist service  
record. Sports exhaust  
and clear light upgrade.  
Lack of use forces  
reluctant sale.  
**£5495 ono.**

Tel 07775832603

**Abbey Freestyle quality caravan**

2 berth, 2001, 1 owner from new, very rarely  
used, ex cond, totally unmarked inside and  
out, spacious fully fitted luxury end washroom,  
shower and toilet, fly screen etc, newly serviced,  
all paper work  
**£3,950**  
Also Pullman awning never used **£375.**

Tel: 07771 930975 (Perthshire)

**KIA Sorento**



2005, 2.5 diesel,  
MOT February  
2016, 100,000  
miles, good  
condition.  
**£2,900 o.n.o.**

Tel: 01852 300355

**2007 BAILEY RANGER 460/2  
CARAVAN**

2 berth, excellent condition  
throughout, with extras.  
**£5,500 ono**

Tel 01631 720434 or 07771532242  
Benderloch.



### Thought-provoking 'Sharpen up' interactive resource launched to highlight importance of eye tests for drivers

Brake, the road safety charity, has produced a free interactive e-learning resource to highlight the importance of making sure your vision is up to scratch before getting behind the wheel. 'Sharpen up', developed in partnership with Specsavers, can be used by anyone who works with drivers, including: fleet professionals and employers; driving instructors; road safety professionals and emergency services; teachers; community leaders; and by individuals directly wanting to find out more about driver eyesight.

People with impaired vision are much more likely to be involved in a road crash, and are estimated to cause 2,900 casualties per year (1). Eyesight can deteriorate rapidly without you noticing, hence experts recommend having an eyesight test at least every two years. A 2014 survey by Brake and Specsavers (2) found that one in four (25%) drivers hadn't had a vision test in the past two years; and 4% (the equivalent to more than 1.5 million UK drivers) had never had their eyes tested. A worrying one in eight (12%) who need glasses or contact lenses admitted driving without them.

Brake calls on all drivers to ensure that their vision is at a safe standard for driving, helping to keep themselves and others safe, through regular (at least two-yearly) eyesight tests and always wearing glasses or lenses if they're needed. Brake also calls on the government to follow public opinion and introduce compulsory eyesight tests for drivers, a move favoured by almost nine in 10 (87%) people (3).

The open-access 'Sharpen up' resource can be used to facilitate discussion and present the facts on the importance of drivers getting regular eye tests and maintaining good eye health, within a training session, lesson, workshop or online communications - especially by fleet managers, driving instructors and road safety professionals. Brake is especially encouraging professionals who work with older people to use the 'Sharpen up' resource to promote awareness of drivers' responsibilities on fitness-to-drive issues.

Access the resource online now at [www.brake.org.uk/sharpenupinteractive](http://www.brake.org.uk/sharpenupinteractive). Julie Townsend, deputy chief executive of Brake, said: 'Making sure your vision is up to scratch is crucial to safe driving. It's vital for drivers to get their eyes checked professionally at least every two years - eyesight can deteriorate rapidly without you noticing. Our new 'Sharpen up' e-learning resource shows people the dangers of driving with poor eyesight, encouraging them to make that vital trip to the opticians. The resource is a powerful tool that shows that if you drive, it's not just your own health and safety that you are risking if you neglect to get your eyesight checked, but also the lives of the people around you. The resource is freely available to road safety practitioners, employers, driving instructors and educators to help them raise life-saving awareness.'

Paul Carroll, Specsavers' director of professional services, said: 'It's vital that we all recognise the importance of regular eye examinations and the role that they play in keeping both drivers and pedestrians safe on the roads. In many cases, drivers' eyesight is only tested once, on the day of their driving test. It is then the driver's responsibility to check whether their vision remains above the legal standard. Because eyesight deteriorates gradually over time, the only way a driver can be 100% certain that they remain both legal and safe is to have regular eye examinations, which the 'Sharpen Up' tool should help encourage.'

**The facts**  
Crash risk is heightened by poor vision (4): if you cannot see well, you may not see a hazard or person in time to stop, or you may not be able to respond to the environment around you at all. Road crashes caused by poor driver vision are estimated to cause 2,900 casualties and cost £33 million in the UK per year. (5)

Vision problems are very common - almost three quarters (74%) of people in the UK either wear glasses or contact lenses, or have had laser eye surgery to correct their vision (6). Long or short-sightedness is the most common, (7) and can affect anyone at any age.

Drivers with visual field defects (problems seeing objects in their central or peripheral vision) have double the incidence of road crashes and traffic violations compared to drivers with a full visual field. Almost half of people with visual field loss are unaware of the problem (8).

Several health conditions, including age-related macular degeneration, cataract and glaucoma, can cause serious and sometimes permanent damage to eyesight. These conditions are more common in people aged over 50, but can affect younger people too. They must be reported by drivers to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) in the UK (9).

Read more at [www.brake.org.uk/facts](http://www.brake.org.uk/facts)

[1] Fit to Drive: a cost benefit analysis of more frequent eyesight testing for UK drivers, RSA Insurance Group plc, 2012  
[2] Driver eyesight survey 2014, Brake and Specsavers <http://www.brake.org.uk/assets/docs/surveys/Eyesight%20Survey%20Report-Aug14.pdf>  
[3] Driver eyesight survey 2014, Brake and Specsavers <http://www.brake.org.uk/assets/docs/surveys/Eyesight%20Survey%20Report-Aug14.pdf>  
[4] Detailed cost-benefit analysis of potential impairment countermeasures: research in the framework of the European research programme IMMORTAL, SWOV Institute for Road Safety Research 2005  
[5] Fit to Drive: a cost benefit analysis of more frequent eyesight testing for UK drivers, RSA Insurance Group plc, 2012  
[6] Britain's eye health in focus, College of Optometrists, 2013  
[7] Sixth Sense Opticians Survey, YouGov, 2011  
[8] Incidence of visual field loss in 20,000 eyes and its relationship to driving performance, Archives of Ophthalmology, 1983  
[9] Health conditions and driving, <https://www.gov.uk/health-conditions-and-driving>

**DRIVETIMES NOW ONLY** IF UNSOLD AFTER 1ST WEEK JUST CALL BEFORE TUESDAY 3PM TO GET YOUR SECOND WEEK FREE

**£31**

Tel: 01631 568000

## WANTED

**Greenfield's 4 x 4's**

**WANTED ALL TYPES OF PICKUPS AND 4X4'S**



Single & Dbl Cab  
Any condition/ mileage considered from  
1990-2014  
Wide Range of vehicles for sale

Tel: 07900 668642 Andrew

**WANTED**

All types of good quality 4 x 4 vehicles, Landrovers, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford etc and all 4 x 4 pickups, must be good condition and reasonable mileage. Older 4 x 4's and non runners/MOT failures etc considered. Will collect.

Telephone 07546 788945

## SAILING TIMES

**JEANNEAU ESPACE 100**



1986  
37 feet/six berth  
Twin steering  
Lovely condition  
**£35,000**

Tel: 01770601319 (Arran)

**WANTED**

All types of 4 x 4 vehicles, Landrovers, Toyotas, Nissan, any 4x4 considered non-runners, failures, single or double cab and accident damaged, MOT failure, genuine people to deal with.

Telephone: 01250 884306 or mobile 07885 203020

**URGENTLY WANTED**

All British & foreign scrap cars, MOT failures, 4x4s, vans, pick-ups & light commercials  
Top prices for the right vehicles  
We cover all of Argyll.

For prompt attention phone  
07845 462755 or 07887 868325

## NEW CAR INDEX

**VAUXHALL**



Autovision  
40 Harbour Road  
Inverness  
Tel. 01463 251500  
[www.scottishvauhall.co.uk](http://www.scottishvauhall.co.uk)

**SUZUKI**



Gordon Motors  
UK Dealer Of The Year 2014  
Comrie Rd, Crieff,  
Perthshire PH7 4BQ  
Tel. 01764 652125  
Delivery throughout the West  
[www.suzuki.co.uk/gordonmotors](http://www.suzuki.co.uk/gordonmotors)

**ISUZU**



S & S Services  
Old Bridge Road,  
Heathfield, Ayr  
Tel. 01292 880080  
01292 880440

**Great Wall**



S & S Services  
Old Bridge Road,  
Heathfield, Ayr  
Tel. 01292 880080  
01292 880440

**SUBARU**



S & S Services  
Old Bridge Road,  
Heathfield, Ayr  
Tel. 01292 880080  
01292 880440

**RENAULT**



**W.D. Semple**  
[www.wdsemple.com](http://www.wdsemple.com)  
Inveraray  
Shore Street  
Tel. 01499 302150  
Lochgilphead  
Highbank Park  
Tel. 01546 606767  
01546 606272

**TO PROMOTE  
YOUR NEW CAR  
DEALERSHIP  
PLEASE  
CALL: 01631  
568000**

**WANTED**

4 x 4's, all makes and models, Toyota, Landrover, Mitsubishi, high miles no problem, MOT or not, instant decision, same day payment. Also light commercials, vans and pick-ups bought.

Contact William 07730 130284 or 07716 200394 or email [wlmotorhomes@outlook.com](mailto:wlmotorhomes@outlook.com)

**WANTED**

Wanted all 4 x 4s, old or new Toyota Hilux, land cruiser, all pickups single or double cabs, any condition, runner or not, high miles no problem.

Telephone: 07703490572 ask for Robert

**WANTED**

Motor homes, caravanettes and camper vans, all makes or models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.

Contact William 07730 130284 or 07716 200394 or email [wlmotorhomes@outlook.com](mailto:wlmotorhomes@outlook.com)

**WANTED**

All types of motor homes & caravanettes. Any age or condition. We also buy water damaged or in need of repair. Also all types of touring caravans from 95 onwards.

Telephone: 01250 884306 or mobile 07885 203020

**54%**  
of people travel 10 miles or less to buy a second-hand car

Regional press is the relevant choice for motors advertising.

**Regional Press**  
CIS007 10 100716

**WANTED**

Motor Homes or Camper Vans, any year or condition, also any type of touring caravan. Will collect and pay cash.

Tel: 01356 250276/0754 3359961 or email [lit1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lit1@hotmail.co.uk)

# West Coast PROPERTY GUIDE

LETTINGS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SALES PROPERTY REVIEWS PROPERTY NEWS LOCAL ESTATE AGENTS

## Making Moving Day Easy

With so much going on, it can be easy to forget something essential. Take some time to make a list of small tasks and tick them off as you go.

As soon as you get the date for your move and the time for the exchanging of keys, you can start to get organised:

Book some time off work for the move

Get multiple quotes from removal companies - once you are clear about your move in date, it is worth beginning to research removal costs. Hiring a removal firm can certainly ease the burden, but don't settle for the first one you come across. Many offer different levels of service including simple transportation of items right through to packing them for you, so it is worth shopping around. If you are downsizing to a smaller property, look at storage space rental costs too. Remember, it might work out cheaper sourcing this service independently from the company you choose to transport your items. [We would also recommend using a removal firm that is a member of the British Association of Removers (BAR), the trade association that maintains professional standards within the industry. You can search for your nearest BAR registered firm by visiting [www.bar.co.uk](http://www.bar.co.uk)]

Don't rule out moving yourself - Not all moves require hiring the services of a removal company. Work out the distance to your new property, and most importantly the size of vehicle you require to transport your possessions. If you are willing to put the work in yourself, it can save a lot of money. That said, special furniture might well require experienced removers to pack and protect it so as to avoid damage during transit so don't be over ambitious. Should you decide to do it yourself, research self-hire services in the same way, being careful to check you have the correct vehicle license for the type of vehicle you end up selecting.

Set up services as soon as possible - It is frustrating to move into a new property only to find the gas and electricity isn't working. It is worth checking with the agent for the previous providers so you can call them to change the name on the contract or set up new accounts. Also, make sure that phone and broadband services are enabled prior to moving in as these often take a number of weeks to become active.

Check who holds the key to the door - this might sound like an obvious step, but it is surprising how many new homeowners forget to check the date when the keys will be released for the property. Ensure you clarify whether your new keys will be released by your solicitor/conveyancer or your agent, and when. Often it will be on moving day, not before.

Research access points on the day - logistical considerations are often overlooked, but making sure there is adequate access to the property for large vehicles will ensure no hidden surprises on the day of the move. It is always good to check that access will still be available to neighbours and other vehicles using the road outside the property during offload.

Plan your packing well in advance - Packing up your old house may appear a daunting task, but it needn't be. Many people make the mistake of packing up rooms according to what will fit best into boxes but it makes much more sense to plan where you want to put items in the new property. Labelling goes without saying, but working on a floor plan for where you want everything to end up will help you to work out whether it will fit or not at the other end.

Dismantle heavy furniture first - it's very tempting to focus on packing the smaller items that can be easily put into boxes first but tackling larger furniture like cabinets and wardrobes should be made a priority as this usually takes longer. It is worth transferring these items to the front of the house in the days leading up to the move so they can be loaded first.

Pack a 'basics' box - It is very easy to forget the essentials when moving house but ensuring that you have a spare change of clothes, a wash bag and a charger for your phone can be very helpful. You want to avoid a situation where you have to search through boxes on the day you move in to find the basics.

Compile a fact file for the people who have bought your home - Include things like rubbish collection day, recycling arrangements and heating instructions. On the day of the move, defrost your fridge and freezer and make sure you leave any instruction booklets for appliances you agreed to leave. Pack a bag of essentials for your first 24 hours so you don't have to root through boxes for items like your toothbrush.

Make sure your old home has been thoroughly cleaned - hire professional cleaners to clean the house for you, it will be one less thing for you to worry about.

Check the inventory - if you have been renting the property you should check your original contents list, and ensure that everything is in order.



### TO LET

**Lovely Skipness Cottage long term let**  
Beautiful views.  
Animals Welcome.  
email: [krabshuisj@gmail.com](mailto:krabshuisj@gmail.com)

**FLAT FOR RENT**  
Furnished 2 bedroom GFF in Oban. £550 pcm.  
£550 deposit + Council tax and Utilities.  
Available from 1 October.  
References required.  
Ref Landlord Reg - 192579/130/27030.  
Telephone 07917208881

**North Ballachulish**  
Spacious detached bungalow, 2 bedrooms (one ensuite), fully furnished, sea view.  
Available from early November for minimum 6 months rental.  
No DSS, references required.  
£600 pcm plus council tax and utilities.  
Landlord Reg. 109183/270/17041  
Call 07774 790221

Car, Bike, Home and Van Insurance with Adrian Flux

Great Insurance deals for your Car, Bike, Home and Van

Adrian Flux Insurance Services offer a range of policies which reflect the low risk nature of highland life. We can offer you great insurance deals on your car, bike, home and van. Call us today for a free no obligation quote.

0800 081 8989

adrianflux.co.uk

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Like

like us on facebook

[www.facebook.com/obantimes](http://www.facebook.com/obantimes)

NOW MONTHLY

SUBSCRIBE NOW

£75 UK only

Rest of World £95 (including P&P)

For subscription information see website:  
[www.wyvexmedia.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.wyvexmedia.co.uk/subscribe)  
Email: [wyvex@escosubs.co.uk](mailto:wyvex@escosubs.co.uk)  
Tel: +44 (0) 1371 851868

Hi, my name is Nicola MacPhail and I run West Property. You might have seen our purple "W" boards around Argyll.

## Are Rent Controls coming to Scotland?

The Scottish Government has published a second round of consultation on the housing bill which also considers the use of rent controls in the private rented sector.

With private renters in Scotland spending on average 23 per cent of their income on housing, the Government is currently reviewing the private rented sector (PRS) in Scotland and introducing measures to make it sustainable. According to a study by estate agents Your Move, the average rent in the Highlands and Islands currently stands at £563 per month, £14 higher than the national figure. When combined with the well-documented housing shortage, the result is increasing rents across Scotland.

While rent controls might appear to be the answer, when you review the evidence of other countries that impose rent controls, the opposite is true. If the regulation is wrong then the PRS could wither and the conditions for tenants would worsen. For example, Stockholm in Sweden uses a "utility value" - rent is proportionate to the quality and standard of the fittings and furnishings and limiting rent rises to levels negotiated between landlord and tenant associations based on housing quality and location. The result, rent controlled properties were no longer worth as much to landlords and they promptly sold them, increasing demand by lowering the supply of available properties. Waiting lists for properties can reach 10 - 20 years for a city-centre apartment. The city authority runs an official housing queue with points awarded for how many days an applicant has been on the list. Housing is allocated according to how many points an applicant has and their ability to pay for what housing becomes available, much like the long waiting lists for social housing already experienced in Scotland.

Whilst I agree with rewarding landlords that invest in their portfolios and improve the condition of properties across the PRS, landlords have borne the brunt of increased legislation in recent years - EICRs, smoke alarms, CO safety, deposit schemes to name a few. All of these regulations increase the costs of maintaining rental property and the profitability of rental investments. Any mechanism for rent controls will need to be very carefully considered to allow the PRS to be a profitable investment for landlords and ensure there is continued investment in the sector.

If you would like any advice on letting your property, you can call a member of our knowledgeable Lettings Team on 01631 569 466.

West Property Sales & Lettings

[www.west-property.co.uk](http://www.west-property.co.uk)      01631 569 466

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

Atlantic House, West Hynish, Isle of Tiree

- Extended 1 storey croft house with granny flat.
- 5 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms
- Currently sub divided into 2 self-contained holiday rentals
- Panoramic sea views
- EPC Rating C - (73)

OIEO  
£375,000

The Old Chapel, Uisken Road, Bunessan, Isle of Mull

- Stunning site with full planning permission
- Close to beaches and village
- Far reaching, uninterrupted views
- Delightful, former chapel on generous site
- Option for more ground by separate agreement

OIRO  
£65,000

Plots at West Ardu, Dervaig, Isle of Mull

- Two woodland plots
- OIRO £45,000 each
- Planning permission in principle
- Close to Dervaig village
- Option to purchase additional ground

OIRO  
£45,000

A'challtuinn, Erray Road, Tobermory, Isle of Mull

- Spacious detached bungalow
- 4 Bedrooms / 1 Bathroom
- Quiet and private situation in Tobermory
- Sheltered private garden
- Excellent family home or potential holiday rental
- EPC Rating C (70)

Fixed Price  
£230,000

Another happy customer....

"Our warmest thanks to Annabelle and the team at West Property for handling the sale of our house in Oban in such a friendly and professional manner. Even though the circumstances of the sale didn't run quite as smoothly as hoped, due to difficulties further down the chain, they kept us informed at every stage and remained positive and cheerful throughout. Throughout the entire process they were always ready to go the extra mile and make additional visits to check that everything in the house was OK, particularly after the winter storms, and let us know what was going on. We would definitely recommend their services to anyone who is intending to sell, or purchase a property."

Mr & Mrs Bell - Elmbank, Croft Road, Oban - OIRO £375,000 - SOLD

## Renting?

Rental demand continues to outstrip supply in Argyll. We are always inundated with applications for each of our rental listings and urgently need more rental properties for our overflowing tenant waiting list. Demand continues to increase through the summer months and so we have a fantastic offer for new Landlords who sign up in September.

Sign up with West Property in September and enjoy  
2 Months FREE Management

# Reach the peak of your career

## Senior Reporter The Oban Times

The Oban Times is inviting applications for a senior reporter. As the position will be based in Oban, knowledge of the area would be an advantage.

We want to hear from you if you have the appropriate experience and qualifications:

- ✓ Journalism
- ✓ Shorthand
- ✓ Ambition and enthusiasm
- ✓ Talent, self motivation and commitment
- ✓ A full current driving licence

Financial assistance for accommodation where relevant may be available for the first three months.

We offer a good, competitive salary + private health care + enhanced pension + life assurance + excellent benefits and great working conditions



Please apply by email with full C.V. and contact details to: [ali@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ali@obantimes.co.uk)



Supporting People & Communities

**Carr Gomm is a leading Scottish social care charity providing quality care and support.**

**Relief Support Assistants – £7.16 per hour**  
We are looking for Relief Support Assistants to join our teams in Oban to help support people to maintain their independence at home and enjoy a better quality of life. We have vacancies in Home Care and our Overnight Response Team.  
Full driving licence desirable, we pay mileage and travel time between visits.

**Social Care Call Handler for Social Work Emergency Service - £8.20 per hour**  
This position is out of hours

**Support Assistant – In Housing**  
£13,959 - £15,591  
Working with people affected by homelessness providing tenancy sustainment and budgeting support  
Full training will be provided

**If you are looking for a rewarding job that fits around your other commitments we would love to hear from you.**  
**For more information & to apply please contact:**  
**Liz Spence 01546 603072 Email: [lizspence@carrgomm.org](mailto:lizspence@carrgomm.org)**

Application packs are also available on our website: [www.carrgomm.org/work-for-us](http://www.carrgomm.org/work-for-us)  
Alternatively, please contact our Recruitment Team:  
**Email: [recruitment@carrgomm.org](mailto:recruitment@carrgomm.org) Phone: 0131 659 4777**

# Advertising Sales Director Designate

for  
**The Oban Times Group**

- Salary c£45-£50k + substantial bonus potential
- Range Rover Evoque/Merc C Class/equivalent
- Enhanced pension + to 35 days holiday + BUPA
- Additional benefits
- Relocation assistance – where relevant

The Oban Times Group is seeking to appoint an experienced newspaper advertising sales professional who will be based in the popular West Coast town of Oban.

The group has a stable of four weekly newspapers, including the influential Oban Times – one of Scotland's most popular titles.

The successful candidate will proactively lead the newspaper advertising sales team, with additional responsibility for a series of holiday and special interest publications, plus the development of the group's digital strategy.

The position will require regular travel throughout Scotland to develop business, and there is the potential to progress to Divisional Director.

Applications with CV and covering letter to:  
[ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk](mailto:ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk)

## WYVEX MEDIA

The Oban Times Group is part of Wyvex Media, which also has a separate magazines division based in Edinburgh, producing the leading lifestyle magazine Scottish Field and a number of b2b titles.

**O-Fish-Shell LTD**  
Ardfern  
**Looking for HGV driver, class 1**  
All enquiries to **01852 500 604**

**Iain Woodrow**  
**Electrical Contractor**  
**requires an electrician for domestic and commercial work**  
Must hold 17th Edition and SJIB grade card. This would be a permanent position based on Islay.  
**Please email CV to [iain.woodrow@btinternet.com](mailto:iain.woodrow@btinternet.com) or phone 01496810410.**

## Accounts & Administrative Assistant



**A full time position has arisen in our Oban office for an Accounts & Administrative Assistant to provide support to our busy accounts department. This role will also involve administration and hands on support for the distribution of our various products.**

Experience of working in an accounts department will be advantageous, as will the ability to work on your own initiative. Computer literacy and a careful attention to detail will be crucial in this role.

This role will involve extensive customer care similar outbound contact with our customer base and a pleasant telephone manner will also be important.

In addition to salary, we offer group personal pension plan, life and medical insurance.

A full current driving licence is essential.

**If you feel the above is you, please email your CV and a letter of application to Alison Arden, Wyvex Media Ltd, Crannog Lane, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB or email: [ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk](mailto:ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk)**

www.hie.co.uk

## ACCOUNT MANAGER

Lochgilthead, £26,229 - £29,907 per annum  
Ambitious for Scotland

Operating across half of Scotland, Highlands and Islands Enterprise is one of Europe's most highly-regarded development agencies. HIE's unique integration of economic and community development is central to its success in generating sustainable economic growth in every part of the Highlands and Islands.

In this key role you will account manage a number of local businesses and social enterprises to achieve business growth and impact in the local economy. This will be achieved through engagement with clients to keep abreast of business needs, assessing the basis for HIE engagement through appraisal of projects and making recommendations for HIE investment or support through products and services where appropriate. You will lead client facing interaction for a defined portfolio of clients.

You will bring excellent relationship building skills, an interest in economic development and experience of working with businesses or in business and, ideally, a knowledge of the Argyll and the Islands business community. In return you'll enjoy opportunities for personal growth and, through your work, lasting impact on our region.

TO APPLY ONLINE VISIT: [www.hie.co.uk/vacancies](http://www.hie.co.uk/vacancies) JOB REFERENCE: 462

FOR AN APPLICATION PACK CONTACT US: [recruitment@hient.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@hient.co.uk) T01463 244 414

CLOSING DATE: 13 September 2015  
INTERVIEW DATE: 22 September 2015



## CARE AT HOME WORKERS

£16,680 - £18,797 pro rata  
(Weekend enhancements where appropriate)  
Lochaber District

The post is responsible for supporting the provision of a Care at Home Service for vulnerable people. To provide assistance with key tasks which maintain and promote the independence for people in their own home? For further information please refer to the job specification.

HSC/15/266: Fort William, 31.5 hours per week  
HSC/15/267: Lochside (Duiskey, Treslaig, Ardgour), 10.5 hours per week (annualised)  
HSC/15/268: Morvern, 16 hours per week (annualised)  
HSC/15/276: Fort Augustus 2 x 10.5 hours per week (annualised)

Informal enquiries can be made to Sarah Madden/Jackie Stewart, Care at Home Officer, 01397 709826

Application Forms and Job Descriptions are available from and should be returned to the Admin and Personnel Team, Kinmylies Building, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NN - 01463 703547 or by emailing your name and address to [nshighland.recruitment@nhs.net](mailto:nshighland.recruitment@nhs.net)

Please quote an above reference number(s) in the subject line of your email  
**Closing date for completed applications: Tuesday 3rd September 2015**



## WYVEX MEDIA

### Advertising Sales Executive

OBAN

Due to a reorganisation of the sales department and staff changes within the company we are looking an Advertising Sales Executive.

We offer excellent pay and real career progression and benefits including BUPA, holidays to 35 days (Scale), realistic targets and achievable bonus - most sales staff receive regular monthly bonuses.

You will be responsible for calling new and existing clients to generate and maintain lasting business relationships, and you will benefit from on-going training, first class support, job stability and the opportunity to work for a professional company that believes in rewarding success and effort. A full driving licence is essential.

If you want to be part of the progressive new sales department, please submit CV and covering letter to [ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk](mailto:ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk)



## FOOD LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Scottish Sea Farms are the UK's leading producer of premium quality Scottish salmon specific for UK and International markets. Based in Argyll, across the West coast and throughout the Northern Isles, we pride ourselves in being trusted to supply Britain's most demanding retailers. Recently voted the Crown Estate Aquaculture Company of the year 2015, we are looking to recruit enthusiastic individuals with the drive and ambition to make a positive contribution to our Quality Department at South Shian, Argyll.

Reporting to the Laboratory Manager, the Laboratory Technician will work with a small team operating a comprehensive programme of microbiological monitoring of the Salmon Processing operations as well as physical and chemical characteristics of the salmon, to ensure we continue to meet the ever demanding requirements of our customers' raw material specifications. This will require continuous collection and analysis of microbiological samples as well as flesh quality assessment of the fish.

Ideally candidates will be computer literate, have good communication skills, and have the ability to interpret and act on critical data. Preference will be given to those candidates with experience in microbiological, physical and chemical monitoring and analysis within the food processing environment, but where necessary appropriate training can be provided for the right person.

The role is based on a 40 hour week with overtime, but will require participation in a rota for the weekend cover. If you are interested and confident that you can fulfil this role then please send your CV to: Claire Scott, Recruitment Coordinator, [claire.scott@scottishseafarms.com](mailto:claire.scott@scottishseafarms.com) Closing date is Friday 11th September 2015



**Oban Times** **Oban Times**  
**RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT**  
**Oban Times** **Oban Times**



**Argyll & Bute Third Sector Interface seeks to recruit an organised, motivated and enthusiastic individual to become our 'Third Sector and Volunteering Support Officer' for the Oban, Lorn & the Isles area.**

This post sits within the core functions of Argyll & Bute Third Sector Interface and encompasses support to third sector organisations at all levels and support to volunteer involving organisations. Working in partnership with third sector and public sector agencies is key to this role, as is representation of the sector.

This post is 35 hours per week.  
Salary: £20,020.00  
Annual Leave: 32 days inclusive of public holidays.  
Location: Oban based.

**For job description and application form: email [kathleen@argylltsi.org.uk](mailto:kathleen@argylltsi.org.uk) or telephone 01631 564839 for informal discussion. Closing date: 3rd September 2015.**

Argyll & Bute TSI is a Scottish Charity SC029947 and Co Ltd by guarantee 277345



## Scientific Officer

(Aquaculture) (Ref: SO AQA) & **Farm Livestock Officer**  
(Ref: FLO/602) Home-based (35 hours per week)  
Salary: £25,634 - £27,096 per annum plus benefits  
Based: Central/West Coast Scotland  
Closing date for completed applications: 17th September 2015.

Interviews to take place in Inverness.

For details and an application form please visit the careers section on our website: [www.rspca.org.uk](http://www.rspca.org.uk) or write to: [farm-animals@rspca.org.uk](mailto:farm-animals@rspca.org.uk) or Farm Animals Department, RSPCA, Wilberforce Way, Southwater, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 9RS. Please indicate which post you would be interested in applying for quoting the reference code Ref: SO AQA (Scientific Officer post) or FLO/606 (Farm Livestock Officer post).

The RSPCA is the largest animal welfare charity in England and Wales. Our purpose as the RSPCA is to end cruelty and promote kindness to animals and to alleviate their suffering.

**Caring responsible person/s required to provide assistance with day-to-day living needs of an elderly but generally fit lady.**

Based in Oban. Post offers up to 30 negotiable/flexible hours at a good rate of pay.

The post could be shared between two people. Driving license essential, care qualifications/experience preferred.

**Please call to discuss: 0778 999 7475**



## Housing Services Officer

Oban, Lorn & Isles  
Salary £27,146 - £31,427  
35 hours per week

## Repairs Officer

Lochgilthead  
Salary £27,146 - £31,427  
35 hours per week

## Repairs Officer

Dunoon  
Salary £27,146 - £31,427  
35 hours per week

## Repairs Assistant

Lochgilthead  
Salary £20,322 - £22,472  
35 hours per week

The above posts will all be subject to a Basic Disclosure Scotland check

## Community Support Assistant (Bank Staff)

Mid Argyll  
Salary £9.39 - £10.38 per hour as and when required  
This post will be subject to an enhanced PVG check  
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 11th September 2015  
For further details and to apply visit our website at [www.acha.co.uk/recruitment](http://www.acha.co.uk/recruitment)  
If you are unable to access the website contact the Recruitment Team:  
**Tel 01546 605917 or email [recruitment@acha.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@acha.co.uk)**

## Isle of Mull Abattoir are looking for an experienced or part experienced butcher to join our small team of 4 in our butchery.

Preferably 2yrs min experience although further training will be given through the Modern Apprenticeship scheme.

The individual will also be required to work within the Slaughter House alongside the Slaughterman. This position is also available on a temporary basis to the right candidate.

They must be able to start as soon as possible.  
**Please contact 01680300318 or [enquiries@mullslaughterhouse.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@mullslaughterhouse.co.uk)**

**There are some things you can't do with**




# The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

## Digital Edition

**but you can save 64% on an annual subscription**

[obantimes.co.uk/digital](http://obantimes.co.uk/digital)

\*Calculated against the cost of a printed annual subscription at £58 per year which includes postage and packaging. Please note this product does NOT work on iPhone, iPads or Tablets. Requires PC or Mac with access to the internet (Broadband recommended) with an internet browser that supports Flash.



**Regional & local press advertising gets the job done.**

Regional Press

# 'A good day' at horticultural show



Ronnie MacKillop with his winning vase of sweet peas and Duncan Black with his winning vase of lavender

OBAN and Lorn horticultural society held its annual show on Saturday at the town's Glencruitten church centre. David Hodge, show manager, said there was a good showing of entries, despite the poor weather this summer. 'Entries are down on previous years, but it was to be expected because of the weather we've had,' he said.

'The sweet peas and roses are actually up though, which is encouraging. Unfortunately, there was no honey as the bee-keepers are feeding for the winter already, because it's been so cold and wet. It's been a good day though. Thanks to everyone who came, all the entrants and a special thanks to Tommy McRae, who came out of retirement to do the judging.'



There was an impressive selection of vegetables on display 17\_135flowershow02



Some of the colourful flower entries 17\_135flowershow01



Pictured is Hugh MacLeod with his best exhibit in show

**Results**

TROPHIES: Challenge Trophy by J C Paton Oban: R MacKillop; Oban Town Council Challenge Cup: R MacKillop; Oban & Lorn Horticultural Society Challenge Trophy: D MacDougall; Challenge Trophy presented by Messrs W & H Hay Oban: W Hay; Loch Etive Challenge Trophy: R MacKillop; Mrs Willox of Dumbarton Challenge Trophy: M MacIntyre; Alistair MacLeod Memorial Trophy: D Black; Oban Times Challenge Trophy: H MacLeod; Strathcona & Mount Royal Challenge Trophy: H MacLeod; Challenge Trophy presented by Mrs H Hutten Oban: A Malloch; Challenge Trophy presented by the late Lady Campbell of Arduaine: H MacLeod; The Wills Cup: R MacKillop; Alexander Binnie Cup: H MacLeod. Cut Flowers, Herbaceous Shrubs and

Annuals: 1 Vase Mixed Shrubs: 1 R MacKillop, 2 F Morrison, 3 M Morrison; 1 Vase Hydrangeas (3 Heads): 1 W Hay, 2 R MacKillop, 3 M Lamont; 1 Vase Annual Lavatera: 1 & 2 D Black; 1 Vase Herbaceous-mixed: 1 S Black, 2 D Black; 1 Vase Herbaceous - one kind excl of Phlox: 1 D Black, 2 & 3 M Lamont; 1 Vase Annuals - excl of sweet peas and those for which separate class is provided: 1 & 2 R MacKillop, 3 D Black; 1 Vase Asters (6 Blooms): 1 & 2 A Pringle, 3 D Black; 1 Vase Scotch Marigold (6 Blooms): 1 B Brown, 2 D Black; 1 Vase African Marigold (6 Blooms): 1 D Black, 2 H MacLeod. Dahlias: 1 Vase - 3 Giant or 3 Large: 1 D MacDougall, 2 W Hay; 1 Vase Cactus Dahlias - 3 Medium or 3 Small: 1 & 2 D MacDougall, 2 W Hay; 1 Vase Décor Dahlias - 3 Medium or 3 Small: 1 W Hay, 2 D MacLeod, 3 N MacFarlane; 1 Vase Dahlias (5

Blooms): 1 W Hay, 2 D MacDougall, 3 I Brown; 1 Vase Ball Dahlias (up to 4" in diameter) 3 Blooms: 1 D MacDougall, 2 W Hay; 1 Vase Pompon Dahlias (up to 2" in diameter) 5 Blooms: 1 D Black, 2 & 3 W Hay. Sweet Peas, Gladioli, Chrysanthemums & Roses: 1 Vase Sweet Peas - single colour (not more than 12 spikes): 1 R MacKillop, 2 D Black, 3 D MacLeod; 1 Vase Sweet Peas - mixed not more than 12 spikes: 1 R MacKillop, 2 D Black, 3 W Hay; 1 Vase Gladioli - 1 Spike: 1 & 2 M MacIntyre; 1 Vase Roses (3 Blooms): 1 & 2 D MacMillan, 3 I Brown; 1 Specimen Rose Bloom: 1 D Black, 2 & 3 I Brown. Pot Plants: Plant in flower other than those named: 1 H MacLeod, 2 & 3 K Boyd; Begonia (Tuberous): 1 & 2 D MacMillan, 3 J Crerar; 1 Geranium: 1, 2 & 3 D MacMillan; 1 Fuchsia - mature bush: 1 not known 2 M MacMillan, 3 K Munro; 1 Fuchsia - in 5

inch pot: 1 K Munro, 2 K Boyd; Special: 1 Basket containing an arrangement of flowers (not to exceed 18" wide): 1 M Lamont, 2 M Morrison, 3 F Morrison; 1 Bowl of Flowerheads (not exceed 18 inches wide): 1 K Munro, 2 L Smith, 3 K Munro. Vegetables: Collection of Vegetables - 6 kinds not to exceed 4' in width: H MacLeod; Tray of Vegetables for Pot - 4 kinds: D MacLeod; 3 Leeks, Long 1 H MacLeod; 2 Pot Leeks - over 5" and under 12": H MacLeod; 3 Onion-sets: H MacLeod; 3 Onions - plants, not sets: 1 H MacLeod; 2 Heads Celery: H MacLeod; 4 Tomatoes: 1 & 2 W Hay, 3 T MacDonald; 6 Cherry Tomatoes: 1 & 2 R MacKillop, 3 P Moss; 4 Potatoes - white (one variety): 1 A Pringle, 2 D MacLeod, 3 H MacLeod; 4 Potatoes - coloured (one variety): 1 A Pringle, 2 H MacLeod, 3 P Moss; 3 Carrots - Stump: 1 D MacLeod, 2 H MacLeod,

od; 3 Carrots - long: 1 H MacLeod; 3 Beetroot: D MacLeod; 3 Pods Runner Beans: 1 T MacDougall; 6 Pods French Beans: 1 & 2 P Moss; 6 Pods Broad Beans: 1 D Crerar, 2 P Moss; 3 Parsnips: 1 H MacLeod; 1 Marrow: 1 P Moss, 2 H MacLeod; 1 Cucumber: 1 P Moss, 2 D Black, 3 K Munro; 2 Courgettes: 1 & 2 T MacDonald; 9 Pods Peas: 1 T MacDonald; 1 Pot Parsley (single plant): 1 H MacLeod, 2 F Morrison; 1 Cabbage: P Moss; 5 Shallots: 1 H MacLeod; 1 Bunch Mixed Herbs: 1 J Crerar, 2 F Morrison, 3 S Moss. Children's Class: Decorated Plant Pot: 1 A Malloch; Animal made from Fruit and/or vegetable: 1 A Malloch; Floral arrangement in a coffee mug: A Malloch; Photography Section: General: 1 R MacKillop, 2 H Wilson, 3 D Lamont; Landscape/seascape: 1 D Lamont, 2 H Wilson, 3 D Lamont; Flowers/Shrubs: 1 R MacKillop, 2 & 3 A Clark.

## Lochaber agricultural show 2015 Results:

### Sheep

Blackface sheep (local): David Parker Cup - Best Home Bred Shearing Tup, Sam MacKenzie. Glen Gloy Cup - Best Tup Lamb, Sam MacKenzie. Dr Van Voss Cup - Best Ewe in Milk, John Nudds. Braeroy Cup - Best Gimmer Bred in Lochaber, Sam MacKenzie. Major MacDonald Cup - Best Ewe lamb, John Nudds. Glenfintay Trophy - Best pair of Prime Blackface Lambs - Fergus Berardelli. Alistair MacKenzie Memorial Cup - Best Local Homebred Group, John Nudds. Ben Nevis Auction Mart Cup - Local competitor with most points, Sam MacKenzie. Welcome Foundation Shield - Best Sheep Bred in Lochaber Outwith Champion and Reserve, John Nudds. Lochel Estate Cup - Local Reserve Champion Blackface, Sam MacKenzie. Major MacDonald Cup - Local Champion Blackface (All Local 1st prizewinners to compete), John Nudds.

Lochel Estate Cup - Local Reserve Champion Blackface, Sam MacKenzie. Major MacDonald Cup - Local Champion Blackface (All Local 1st prizewinners to compete), John Nudds. Laggan Farms Trophy - Open Best Homebred Group - Fulton Ronald. Bidwells Shield - Open Reserve Champion Blackface - Kevin MacKinnon.

Blackface Sheep (open): Laggan Farms Trophy - Open Best Homebred Group, Fulton Ronald.

Bidwells Shield - Open Reserve Champion Blackface, Kevin MacKinnon. Ian Macrae Memorial Cup - Open Champion Blackface (all Open 1st prizewinners to compete), Kevin MacKinnon. Open Champion: Kevin MacKinnon. Open Reserve Champion: Kevin MacKinnon. Local Champion: John Nudds. Local Reserve Champion: Sam MacKenzie.

Cross Sheep: West Highland Oil Cup - Best Pair of Prime Cross Lambs: M & S Cameron. Highland Livestock Services Cup - Reserve Champion Cross Sheep: M & S Cameron (Gimmer). Glen Gloy Cup - Champion Cross Sheep: M & S Cameron (Ewe & Single Lamb). Cheviot: Achnasaul Bowl - Champion Cheviot: Ian MacKay (Gimmer). Keil Cup - Reserve Champion Cheviot: M & S Cameron (Ewe). Archie MacColl Memorial Cup (new) - Best Cheviot Ewe Lamb bred in Lochaber: M & S Cameron. Any other breed: David MacDonald Trophy - Best Cheviot Tup Lamb: M & S Cameron. Millennium Shield - Reserve Champion Any Other Breed: Fulton Ronald. L Macnally Open Cross Sheep Shield: M & S Cameron. Alistair MacDougall Cup - Champion Any Other Breed: M & S Cameron (Tup Lamb). Cheviot Champion: Ian MacKay (Gimmer). Cheviot Reserve Champion: M & S Cameron (Ewe). AOB Champion: M & S Cameron. AOB Reserve Champion: Fulton Ronald. Cross Champion: M & S Cameron. Reserve Cross Champion: M & S Cameron. Stan Proudfoot Memorial Cup: Champion of all Sheep Champions inc Blackface - Kevin MacKinnon (Blackface Tup).

### Cattle

Glen Nevis Trophy - Best Highland Calf: Stuart MacKay. Mary Maclean Balure Cup - Reserve Champion Highland: Stuart MacKay. Miss E. Weir - Champion Highland Animal: Maureen & Sidney O'Hara. Royal Bank of Scotland Cup - Best Pedigree Animal (outwith Highland): Malcolm Cameron. Reserve Champion: Audrey T MacDonald & Gwen MacWalter. Ewen MacPherson Cup - Best Cross Calf Bred in Lochaber: Donald Campbell. Archibald Carmichael Memorial Trophy - Best Charolais Calf Bred in Lochaber: Not Awarded. The Mr & Mrs Jock Carmichael Cup - Best Cross Cattle Exhibit bred in Lochaber: Robert & David Wright. Reserve: Donald Campbell. Major MacDonald Cup - Best Beef Calf: Donald Campbell. British Alcan Cup - Best Breeding Beef Cow (Highland, Pedigree & Cross): Robert & David Wright. Bank of Scotland Cup - Best Female Bred in Lochaber (Highland, Pedigree & Cross): Audrey T MacDonald & Gwen MacWalter. The Carmichael Cup - Best Calf of Native British Breeding: Ewen Campbell. West Highland Estates Office Cup - Best Crofters Animal: Audrey T MacDonald & Gwen MacWalter. Cross Cattle Champion: Robert & David Wright. Cross Cattle Reserve Champion: Donald Campbell. N.F.U. Salver - Best animal bred in Lochaber outwith Champion and Reserve (All 1st prizewinners bred in Lochaber): Robert & David Wright. Inverloch Castle Cup - Reserve Champion: Audrey T MacDonald & Gwen MacWalter. Hon Wills Cup - Supreme Champion: Chris Cameron.

### Horse and pony trophy winners

Highland Pony In-hand: Champion - Kirsty Mann, Ruby of Sunnynuek. Reserve Champion - Caroline MacPhail, Oransay of Whitefield. Highland Champion - Kirsty Mann, Ruby of Sunnynuek. Highland Reserve Champion - Sarah-Jane Millar, Lochiel Mingway. Deer Harness Champion - Sarah-Jane Millar, Lochiel Mingway. Tack and Turnout Shield - Jayda McCaffery, Morlich. Lead Reign Champion - Pipa Ferguson, Twinkle. Overall Champion Cup - Pipa Ferguson, Twinkle. Marion Campbell Reserve Trophy - Caroline MacPhail, Oransay of Whitefield.

### Poultry

Small Hen - Fergus Berardelli. Large Hen - Freddy Fulford. Small Cockerel - Fergus Berardelli. Large Cockerel - Ben Fulford. Young Handler (16 and Under) - Giorgio Berardelli.

### Handicraft trophy winners

Section 1 - Home Baking: Mrs Isabel Campbell Cup (most points in Home Baking) - Hydi Flux & Gregor Mews; Silver Spoon (presented by Shaw Family) Champion Baker - Hydi Flux & Gregor Mews; Mrs Van Voss Cup (runner-up in Home Baking) - Helen Leslie; Spean Bridge Hotel Cup (best exhibit in Home Baking) - Mairi MacDonald. Section 2 - Produce and Preserves: Mrs A McColl Cup (most points in Produce and Preserves) - Gregor Mews; Mrs M Bateman Cup (most points in Home Baking and Produce and Preserves) - Gregor Mews; Braeroy Estate Cup (most points in Wine and Refreshments) - Helen Leslie, Roger Brown & Catherine MacKinnon. Section 3 - Knitting: Mrs R MacLennan Cup (most points in Knitting) - Edythe Knowles; Mrs Isobel MacPhee Quaich (Runner-up in Knitting) - Helen Leslie. Section 4 - Handcraft: Lochaber Agricultural Society Cup (B Kirkbridge Cup) (most pts in Classes 39-49) - Edythe Knowles; Helen Leslie Plaque (most pts in Art & Photography Classes 50-56) - Sean Sessions; John Kerr Trophy (most points in Classes 50-52) photography - Sean Sessions. Section 5 - Floral Decoration: Mrs Ann MacCallum Cup (most points in Floral Decoration) - Ann MacPherson; The BOSS Salver (Runner-up in Floral Decoration) - Margaret Bellwood. Section 6 - Floral: Ness Motors Shield (most points in Floral Section) - Vic MacPherson; Vic MacPherson Shield (most pts for Dahlias - Lisa Bell; Section 8 - Garden Produce: P Robertson Shield (most points in Garden Produce) - Vic MacPherson; Ruth Langan Cup (Runner-up in Garden Produce) - Archie MacKinnon; The Hunter Rose Bowl (most points in Floral and Garden Produce) - Vic MacPherson. Section 9 - Children's: Lundavra Cup - Primary School with most points - Spean Bridge; Jessie Corson Cup (Nursery/Playgroup with most points) - Spean Bridge. Lochaber Show Medals (Boy and Girl with most points in each age group): Nursery/Playgroup - Girl - Ava MacLennan & Evie Chisholm Spean Bridge. Boy - Nevio Donghi, Spean Bridge. Primary 1&2 - Girl - Jessica Whyte, Spean Bridge & Isla Dennison, Banavie; Boy - Rocco Berardelli, Spean Bridge; Primary 3 and 4 - Girl - Eva Donoghue, Roy Bridge & Lila Berardelli, Spean Bridge. Boy - Sorely Swabey, Spean Bridge. Primary 5 and 6 - Girl - Faye MacKinnon, Fort William Primary. Boy - Jake Sessions, Spean Bridge. Primary 7 - Girl - Lyra Swabey, Spean Bridge. Boy - Ronnie Fulford & Giorgio Beradelli, Spean Bridge. WRI Cup - Edythe Knowles. Mrs Elma MacKellar Cup (most points in whole Handcraft Section) - Vic MacPherson with 103 points.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)

Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

**PLANNING**

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, Monday to Friday 9am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5pm. On Wednesdays, the Customer Service Points will be open at 10am. At the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk). Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
15/00863/PP	Improvements to junction and access	Land Opposite Ferlum Benderloch Oban Argyll and Bute PA37 1QS	Oban Area Office
15/02189/PP	Erection of wind turbine (46.3 metres to blade tip) with associated metre house and formation of access track	Achalic Farm Lerags Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4SE	Oban Area Office
15/02247/PP	Refurbishment of pub and managers accommodation to include creation of 5 sitting bedrooms, formation of new timber deck area and external staircase to rear of property. Erection of replacement entrance porch, landscape improvements to existing beer garden and access and parking improvements.	Tight Line Bar Lochawe Dalmally Argyll and Bute PA33 1AQ	Sub Post Office Dalmally
15/02264/PP	Erection of a timber clad field shelter and hay store for livestock	Land North East of Maple Cottage Benderloch Oban Argyll and Bute PA37 1QS	Oban Area Office
15/02276/PP	Erection of wind turbine of up to 36 metres height to blade tip	Land At Glenrogan 1.2km North West of Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Tobermory Area Office
15/02277/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land West of The Kennels Craig Dalmally Argyll and Bute PA33 1AR	Sub Post Office Dalmally

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
15/02180/LIB	Internal refurbishment/alterations and display of replacement signage.	26 George Street Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 5SB	Oban Area Office

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Lochgilphead Brae PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk). Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
15/02161/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and installation of sewage treatment plant	Land North East of Lussagiven House Lussagiven Isle of Jura Argyll	Sub Post Office Craighouse Isle of Jura

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Central Validation Team, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

**First Registration of a Croft**

Mr Ian William McTaggart has registered their croft 16 Lower Carnach, Appin & Lismore on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 23 April, 2016.

Details of the registration can be found at [www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home](http://www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home). The croft registration number is A0905.

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

**A SINGLE COMMERCIAL MOORING, PORT MOR, ISLE OF MUCK**

Notice is hereby given that Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of a single commercial mooring at:

Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude
Port Mor, Isle of Muck	56°49.773' N	06°13.545' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Port Mor on the Isle of Muck.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: [MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk), quoting reference: **MCMS/05639**

**Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd**

**69%** of the business community read the regional press

Regional Press

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

**A Mooring, North of Colonsay Pier, Isle of Colonsay, Argyll and Bute**

Notice is hereby given that Mr David Johnson has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of a mooring at:

Location	Latitude Coordinates	Longitude Coordinates
North of Colonsay Pier Isle of Colonsay Argyll and Bute	56° 04.160' N	006° 11.130' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Colonsay Post Office, Scalasaig, Isle of Colonsay PA61 7YW.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: [MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk), quoting reference: **MCMS/05618**

**Mr David Johnson**

## public notices

[www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk)

The Highland Council Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

**PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the SERVICE POINT, LOCHABER HOUSE, HIGH STREET, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6EL and online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
15/03084/FUL	Layby off A82 600m North of Letterfinlay Lodge Hotel, Letterfinlay, Spean Bridge	Continued siting of mobile snack van
15/03100/FUL	Land to the East of The Strath, Glencoe	Erection of 2 houses and detached garage block - (renewal of planning permission 12/02959/FUL)
15/03110/FUL	The Underwater Centre, Marine Walk, Carmichael Way, Fort William	Sitting of 4no. temporary portakabins for 3 years (renewal of 12/02965/FUL)
15/03140/FUL	Land East of Stone Field, Bracara, Morar, Mallaig	Provision of camping or 'Glamping' timber pod, self contained unit

Time period for comments is 14 days

ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX

Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

**Pontoon, Maclean's Nose, Pier Road, Kilchoan, Highlands**

Notice is hereby given that Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of a Pontoon at:

Location	Latitude Coordinates	Longitude Coordinates
Maclean's Nose Pier Road, Kilchoan, Highlands	56° 41.386' N	006° 05.752' W
	56° 41.360' N	006° 05.645' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Kilchoan Community Centre.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: [MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk), quoting reference: **MCMS/05641**

**Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd**

**Upper Sonachan Wind Park Proposal Public Exhibitions**

**Portsonachan Village Hall**  
Thursday 3rd September 2015 12 noon-6:30pm

**Kilchrenan Village Hall**  
Friday 4th September 2015 12 noon-6:30pm

Ecotricity are holding two public exhibitions to discuss our proposal for a nineteen turbine wind park on forested land between the B840 and the A819 near Portsonachan, Ardsbreckish and Cladich, 9.5km north of Inveraray. Members of the Ecotricity team will be there to discuss the proposals.

If you're unable to make it to either of these days please do not hesitate in contacting us at:

Email: [Upper-Sonachan@ecotricity.co.uk](mailto:Upper-Sonachan@ecotricity.co.uk)  
Call: **01463 223377**

You can find further information at: [www.ecotricity.co.uk/upper-sonachan](http://www.ecotricity.co.uk/upper-sonachan)

**ecotricity**

**LOCAL SERVICES**

**PLUMBING AND ELECTRICS**

**For all your Plumbing & Electrical needs**

**MacLeod Plumbing & Electrical**

- Low energy heating
- Low energy lighting
- Small works
- Rewires
- Servicing

Call **01546 602989**

**MACLEOD** PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL

MacLeod Construction Ltd  
Kilmory Industrial Estate  
Lochgilhead, Argyll, PA31 8RR  
Email: sales@mkmacleod.co.uk  
www.mkmacleod.co.uk

**EVERY WEEK IN THE OBAN TIMES, WE HAVE A SELECTION OF LOCAL SERVICES TO ADVERTISE HERE, PLEASE CONTACT 01631 568000 OR ADVERTS@OBANTIMES.CO.UK**

**REMOVALS & STORAGE**

**MACQUEEN BROS LTD**

Removals/Storage & Self Storage  
Full range of packing materials  
We store boats, caravans, trailers etc  
Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HG  
Tel: (01631) 564848  
www.macqueenbros.com

**STOVES**

**OBAN STOVE CENTRE**

Experienced and Established Suppliers of Heizomat Biomass Boilers

**TRADE SUPPLIES AVAILABLE**

Scotland's Premier Stove, Spares & Flue Suppliers

Oban Stove Centre, Old Crofters Yard, Soroba Road, Oban, PA34 4HU Tel: 01631 564790

**CHIMNEY SERVICES**

**ARGYLL & ISLES CHIMNEY SERVICES**

**07834 640989**

**When Was The Last Time You Had Your Chimney Cleaned?**

- AWARD WINNING POWER SWEEPING SYSTEM
- OPEN FIRES - WOOD BURNING STOVES
- OIL & GAS FLUES
- AGA & RAYBURN
- CCTV CHIMNEY INSPECTION

FULLY QUALIFIED & INSURED

Covering Oban, Lochgilhead, Inveraray, Tarbert and Kintyre, sweeping through Argyll

**SCAFFOLDING SERVICES**

All works considered, call Peter on **07557401942** or email [scaffolding@mkmacleod.co.uk](mailto:scaffolding@mkmacleod.co.uk)

- Tube/Fit & Cuplock
- Kit works & Streetworks
- Internally supplied equipment
- Design Services
- Dayworks

**COMPETITIVE RATES**

MacLeod Construction Ltd  
Kilmory Industrial Estate  
Lochgilhead, Argyll, PA31 8RR  
Tel: 01546 602989 Fax: 01546 603789  
Email: scaffolding@mkmacleod.co.uk  
www.mkmacleod.co.uk

**MOBILITY**

**Tower Mobility**

we supply a wide range of mobility products from walking sticks to scooters

Mathesons, Tweedmill, Soroba Road, Oban.  
Tel: 01631 565195 www.towermobility.co.uk

**HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION**

**scotlets.co**

Scotlets

Self Catering Holiday Owners On-line Advertising Portal For Scotland

**REMOVALS**

**WEST COAST**

Removals & Deliveries

Nationwide Coverage Including West Coast Islands

Call James: 07983 691962

**WHISKY TRADING**

Fox Fitzgerald Whisky Trading Ltd are always looking to purchase casks of whisky from Islay or elsewhere; friendly and reliable service with best prices paid for whisky of all ages.

**WE BUY CASKS OF WHISKY. BEST PRICES PAID.**

Call James: 0734632749 or eamonn.jones@fox Fitzgerald.co.uk  
www.fox Fitzgerald.co.uk www.setyourcask.com

**GARDEN MAINTENANCE**

**All Garden Maintenance**

Ground Work, exterior painting and gutter cleaning. Good rates

Telephone **07597919418**

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS**

**Gordon & Strathern Ltd HOME IMPROVEMENTS**

Roofline Fascias, Soffits & Gutters  
Conservatories/Porches  
GRP/Flat Roofs Replacement Sealed Units  
Garage Doors Doors & Windows  
Carparks and Door canopies

Ronald or Lachie 01631 720074 or 07776402550  
gordon96@btinternet.com

**OBAN TIMES LOCAL SERVICES**

**OBAN TIMES LOCAL SERVICES**

**www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk**

**SELL WITH A PHOTO FOR ONLY £15.50**

Example ad: RIDE ON LAWNMOWER. Only used once. Selling because of house move. £400. Telephone 01631 568000

Fill in the form below and hand it in to any of our offices with your chosen image (details below)

**PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE MONDAY 4.00pm**  
NO MORE THAN 20 WORDS PLEASE

ITEM: \_\_\_\_\_  
DESCRIPTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
PRICE: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**ONLY ONE ITEM PER COUPON**  
FOR MULTIPLE ITEMS INPUT YOUR DETAILS ONLINE AT [www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk](http://www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk)

OBAN: The Oban Times, Lochavilla Industrial Estate, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HP  
FORT WILLIAM: The Oban Times, Marine House, The Parade, Fort William PA33 8BA  
CAMPBELLTOWN: The Campbelltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbelltown, Argyll PA28 8AE  
LOCHGILHEAD: Argyleshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilhead, Argyll PA31 8ND

**DOMESTIC HELP**

**Private Home Help**

All domestic chores undertaken, friendly, reliable service.

Please contact Lorraine McKechnie on Mobile: 07788 983 992

**BLINDS**

**Chris Craft window blinds**

- FREE MEASURING
- FREE ESTIMATES
- FREE FITTING
- MADE IN SCOTLAND
- MADE TO MEASURE

OBAN 01852 300174 FORT WILLIAM 0800 371250  
www.chriscraft.co.uk

**PERSONAL NOTICES**

**John & Gerry Wilson**

Lochdon, Isle of Mull have celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. They were married on August 26, 1955 in St. Ninian's Episcopal Church, Pollokshields, Glasgow. John was formerly Convenor of Argyll and Bute Council. Congratulations to them both from their 2 children, 7 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

**Thank You**

Ashley MacMillan - Thank you to my mum and dad for organising my 21st party. To Amanda MacPhail for the amazing venue. To Michael Hewitt for an outstanding buffet. To Neil, Kevin, Hector and Tom for the music and photos, wow!! And a special heartfelt thank you to everyone for my beautiful gifts, cards and cake (Tina/mum) and for sharing my special night. Thanks granny for keeping mum calm.

Thanks again x

**YOU CAN NOW FIND KRISP PRINT ON FACEBOOK**

Like krisp print

**UNDER £100 NOW FREE**

Sell your unwanted items under £100 for FREE in our west coast classifieds

It couldn't be easier! Call 01631 568000 or visit [www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk](http://www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk) to place your ad.

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL TRADE LOCAL SWAP LOCAL

**WEST COAST CLASSIFIEDS** [www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk](http://www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk) **BUY LOCAL** **SELL LOCAL** **TRADE LOCAL** **SWAP LOCAL**

**BABY EQUIPMENT**

BABY SWING SEAT Fisher Price Take along Swing. Good clean condition. £10 Telephone 01631 710727.

**BICYCLES**

GENTS MOUNTAIN BIKE Avanti gent's mountain bike. 21 shimano gears. Shock absorbers. Good spec and condition. £49.99 Telephone 01499 302329.

**BOOKS**

3 \* THOMAS TANK ENGINE BOOKS set of 3 "Thomas Tank Engine" books, Close Shave, James Red Engine and Percy Runs Away. Ex Condition, can email pics(Campbelltown). £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

**BUILDING / DIY**

BLACK & DECKER cordless drill, £20 Telephone 07833 604038.  
CHRADIATOR 600mmx1100mm long double panel, unused, £20 Telephone 07934 491712.  
CH RADIATOR 600mm x 1800mm long, double panel, unused, £40 Telephone 07934 491712.

**CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES**

BLACK JUMPSUIT size 8, halter - neck jumpsuit, silky fabric, wideleg style, deep shirring to back. Can email photos(Campbelltown). £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

FAB 60'S !!! 2 DRESSES 2 fab mini dresses, both size 8. One multi colour floral, one black and white floral, 38" long. Can email photos(Campbelltown). £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

NEW WHITE JEANS size 18, bootcut, white cotton jeans with diamante trim, excellent condition, 29" inside, £7.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

RED SATIN STILETTOS/NEW IN BOX stunning red satin stilettoes, size 5 by "Queenina". 3 inch slim heel, ideal wedding. Can email photos(Campbelltown). £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

STUNNING GOLD STRAPPY STILETTO gold stiletto sandals size 4, diamante straps, 4" metallic heel. Can email photos(Campbelltown). £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

HANDBAG small, black leather Radley handbag, 33cm x 21cm, £20 Telephone 07429 490241.

LADIES JUMPSUIT size 8, claret, lovely cami strap jumpsuit, silky fabric, elast waist(having clear out). Can email pics (Campbelltown). £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

LADIES QUILTED JACKET black, 18 - 20 with hood, tartan lining, brand new. Can email photos (Campbelltown). £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

LADIES SHOWERJACKET size 16/18 lovely jacket with hood by Gabriella Vicenga. Salmon pink shade new. (clear out!) Can email photos(Campbelltown). £9.99 Telephone 01586 554537.

MOTHER OF BRIDE 2 complete quality outfits - Jacques Vert, blue/white & Phase Eight coffee/cream. Worn

once. Both 14/16. Carradale. £150 each Telephone 07729 293296.

VACUUM CLEANER Vax bagless cylinder vacuum, hardly used, 2000 watts, £35 Telephone 01586 551460.

**FIREWOOD**

LOG SPLITTER 4 tonne log splitter, as new. £100 Telephone 01583 431122.

SPLITTING AXE fibreglass shaft, £15 Telephone 01583 431122.

**FURNITURE**

COFFEE TABLE mahogany/glass with magazine shelf, 52 x 26 x16". Good condition, £10 Telephone 01631 710727.

DOUBLE BED ortho mattress, good condition, for quick sale, £30 Telephone 07879 685771.

ELECTRIC HSL RECLINER CHAIR working order, beige, £95 Telephone 01631 720452.

MAHOGANY GLASS CABINET with matching TV unit, £50 each or two for £80. Telephone 01631 720452.

METAL FRAME HIGH SLEEPER BED white frame with mattress and desk, condition used. H 156cm, W 96cm, L 206cm. Collection only, Ardrihsaig, £40 Telephone 07833 121924.

OCASSIONAL BED / LOUNGER - Excellent condition, £20 Telephone 07934 491712.

PARKER KNOLL RECLINER CHAIR grey, good condition, £50 Telephone 01631 720452.

PINE 1 DRAWER bedside table and matching 6 drawer pine dresser. Good condition, £75 Telephone 07818 828212.

ROUND DINING TABLE & four chairs, bought from Argos. Solid wood & veneer, natural stain, good condition, £60.00 Telephone 01546 606315.

SOFA comfortable two seater sofa, blue/grey floral design, £50 now Telephone 01583 431122.

**HOBBIES AND CRAFTS**

PEARLISED PAPER & CARD White, Blue and Pink colours in stock available in A3/A4/A5 sizes, from 13p per sheet. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

**KITCHEN AND BATHROOM**

6 DUNOON POTTERY COFFEE MUGS Large. Bone china. Two gold / white, 2 turquoise / gold, 2 deep red / gold, on mug "tree". Approx 4" high, waisted sides, £15 Telephone 01631 720377.

**LIVESTOCK**

EXCEPTIONAL BLACK TAIL Cockerel, Prolific brown egg strain, 25 weeks old. Fully vaccinated. Free of charge. Telephone 01852 300355.

PULLETS quality high line. Telephone 07968 259502.

PULLETS point of lay. Telephone 01499 302090.

**MAIL ORDER**

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Places include: Stirling, Fort William, Glencoe, Aberdeen, Isle of Skye, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Kelso, Aviemore, Forfar, Rum and Eigg, Shetland, Gtrentool and Dryburgh. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at [www.scottishcalendars.co.uk](http://www.scottishcalendars.co.uk)

OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Places include: Inveraray, Appin, Oban, Seil, Isle of Mull, Campbelltown, Tarbert, Machrihanish, Fort William. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at [www.scottishcalendars.co.uk](http://www.scottishcalendars.co.uk)

**MARINE UNDER £250**

ROWING PRAM DINGHY by Explorer Marine 251, rowlocks and oars, to include roof rack locking crossrails, £79 ono Telephone 01583 431677.

SEAGULL OUTBOARD Seagull outboard gearbox oil 1.5L, £12. Outboard two stroke oil 2L £12. Sell together or separate. Telephone 07772 288497.

SEAGULL SPARES 1 high tension lead, 3 sheer pins, 1 high adjuster and various other spares, £30 Telephone 07772 288497.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

CONTENTS OF SMALL GARDEN SHED, garden tools, DIY tools, dog crate, Everything must go, £99 for the lot Telephone 07833 604038.

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

PIANO excellent quality, modern style, built by Kemble, overstrung and underdamped, £495 Telephone 01631 563958 or 07500 479092.

**OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT**

ABU FLY ROD new Garcia fly rod 9' 6" two piece still cellophane wrapped, £20 Telephone 07772 288497.

COMBINED LIFE JACKET and buoyancy aid, Crewsaver, old BSI type, unused, £25 Telephone 01499 302046.

**PRINTING AND STATIONERY**

PAPER & CARD A4/A3 size, sold in reams or by the box, ideal for copiers, lasers and fax machines. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

RAFFLE TICKETS For your prize draw, numbered and perforated to your requirements. From Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

**WANTED**

ALL TYPES OF SCRAP METAL we uplift scrap cars, copper, brass, lead etc. Smaller quantities considered. Telephone 07435 589701.

**WANTED**

Baby Grand Piano, buyer can collect.  
Telephone 07785 343197

**WHISKY WANTED**

Rare/collectable. Do you have a collection for sale or an old bottle gathering dust? Interested in MacCallan, Balvenie, Glenfiddich and Cadenhead dumpy bottles, but will consider any quality malt. Will collect, cash paid. NO MINIATURES.

Telephone 0131 2208298

subscribe to **The Oban Times** A WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Subscribe from £22\*  
Call subscriptions on 01371 851868 or subscribe online at [www.obantimes.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.obantimes.co.uk/subscribe)

**The Oban Times** 2015 CALENDAR  
Oban drives parking cash

Subscribers should note that to save down the cost of postage, some special arrangements may, on occasions, be made between the subscribers and the publisher. ©2015 The Oban Times Ltd.

**BIRTHS**

**SMITH** - Peter and Lindsay are delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter Sophie, born July 28, 2015. Precious grand-daughter for both families.

**ENGAGEMENTS**

**SMITH - McNICOLAS** - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Scott and Rose. Congratulations from all the family.

**MARRIAGES**

**HARRISON - BAIRD** - The marriage has taken place at Muckairn Parish Church, Taynuilt on July 18, 2015 between Jane Harrison and Andrew Baird. Jane is the daughter of Janice and Donald Harrison, Taynuilt.

**HARRISON - HOIER** - The marriage has taken place at Bridgehouse, West Lothian on August 7, 2015 between Robbie Harrison and Marie Hoier. Robbie is the younger son of Janice and Donald Harrison, Taynuilt. A busy time for the Harrison family!

**DIAMOND WEDDING**

**DIXON - GEDDES** - On August 30, 1955 in St Columba's High Church, Ness Bank, Inverness by Rev. Stephen Frew. Helen Dixon to Charlie Geddes.

**DEATHS**

**JOHNSTON** - Peacefully at Gartnavog Care Home, Islay, on August 23, 2015, Catherine Mary Johnston (Kate). Beloved wife of the late Duncan Johnston, loved mother of Duncan and dear grandmother to David and Peter. Funeral service on Saturday, August 29, 2015 at 11:30 am in St Kieran's Church, Port Charlotte. All are welcome to attend.

**LOUDON** - A service to celebrate the life of Margaret (Mags) Loudon, (ex-Mamore), will be held in The Leven Centre, Kinlochleven on Monday, August 31, 2015 at 11am. All friends are welcome to attend and are invited to dress informally as this was Mags' wish. Anyone wishing to add a memory of anecdote to the service is welcome to phone or text George on 07708 206756. Family flowers only please. A private cremation will take place at Caddross following the memorial service.

**PENROSE** - Peacefully, on Thursday, August 20, 2015, at home, surrounded by his family, aged 84 years, John (Jackie), beloved husband of Jean and a loving dad, grandpa and great-grandpa.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**DRAKE** - The Drake family would like to thank everyone for their support and help following the sudden death of Keith. We have been overwhelmed and humbled by the kindness of friends, family and the community that we live in. The retreat collection at Keith's funeral raised £1445 for the Macmillan Cancer ward in Oban. Heartfelt thanks from the Drake family, Tobermory.

**GILLIES** - Rosie and Fiona wish to thank friends and family for their generous support following the loss of their dear mother, Mary. Grateful thanks to the staff Ward 17/31, Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Greenfield Park Care Home. Thanks also to D&A Munn for their sensitive arrangements, Rev Robert Brookes for his comforting service, Jo Service for her evocative recital, Aaron for skilful piping, The Flower Basket for beautiful floral tributes and Robin's Nest Tearoom for delicious catering. Retiring collection for Hope Kitchen and Mary's Meals raised £500.

**MACALLISTER** - Scott, Karen and Rowan wish to thank our family, friends, the people of Oban and the staff of the University of St. Andrews for their overwhelming kindness and support following the death of Rian.

**MACDONALD** - Anne, Angus, Marina and families, would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours, for their messages of sympathy and kindness to us, following the loss of our dad, Donald Archy. Thank you to Rev. Dr. Roddy MacLeod and

Rev. Dugald Cameron for their support and comforting service in Gaelic and English. Also, Ken Moncrieff - organist, for his lovely selection of tunes, to Ian MacInnes of D & A Munn for efficient arrangements and The Glen for their catering. A special thank you to all staff at North Argyll House, for the love and care they gave dad while he was with them. Thank you to the many who paid their respects at the Church and graveside. The total collection for the North Argyll House Comfort Fund was £830.62. Morant taig.

**McFADYEN** - Veronica, Clare and families would like to thank everyone who showed us kindness and support following our loss. Many thanks to Father James MacNeil for his words of comfort. To D&A Munn for their professional services. The Rowantree Hotel for an excellent buffet. Special thanks to Oban Gaelic Choir for their wonderful voices. Heartfelt thanks to all at Mears Care for their help looking after our mum Margaret. The sum of £264.41 was collected for Lorn Dementia Support Group.

**NOBLE** - George would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for cards and support following the death of his mother Olive. Thanks to Rev. Dugald Cameron for his comforting service, also to Ian and staff of D&A Munn, Petals for floral tribute and Royal Hotel for catering. To Dr. Fiona MacLennan and Shirley MacLean for their visits over the years, also to E.C.C team for their help and to hospital staff for their care to mum in her final days. To all who paid their last respects at church and contributed to Cancer Research - thank you all.

**STEPHEN** - Lynn and Andrew would like to thank all relatives and friends for the cards and kind words on the passing of our mum Fay (née Dunn). Special thanks go to Nellie, one of her dearest friends, Bishop Kevin Pearson and Geoff Headden for a fitting service, Mike McFall and Jamie Manson undertakers for their detailed care and attention. We would also like to thank the nursing/care staff of Abbeyfield Care Home for making mum comfortable in her final days. Retiring collection will be donated to St Paul's Episcopal Church and Abbeyfield resident's fund.

**MEMORIALS**

**CAMPBELL** - Thoughts of Jean our aunt and great aunt, who passed away August 27, 2014.

Sadly missed Lovingly remembered.

- The Hemming family, Edinburgh.  
**CAMPBELL** - In loving memory of Susan, who sadly passed away September 1, 2014. Our thoughts are ever with you. Though you have passed away, And those who loved you dearly Are thinking of you today.

- Kenny and family.  
**CARMICHAEL** - In loving memory of our dear mother, mother-in-law and grandmother Mary Logan, who died August 24, 1996.

Forever in our hearts, always in our thoughts.

- Inserted by Irene, Donald, Nigel and family, Islay and Glasgow.  
**MACDONALD** - In loving memory of Lena who passed away September 1, 2001.

Loved and remembered every day.  
- Ian, John, Donald, Kenneth, Karen and grandchildren  
**MACINTYRE** - In loving memory of my darling mother Mary who passed away August 31, 2014.

No-one knew the pain she bore Beneath the smile she always wore  
A loving memory dearer than gold  
Of a mother whose worth can never be told.  
Love you always  
- Marie and Neil, Neil Jnr and Sophia

**MEMORIALS**

**Stokes Memorials**  
Serving Argyll and the Highlands & Islands for over 35 years  
Established 1973 - Fraser Downie, Master Sculptor

- New and traditional memorials.
- Additional lettering.
- Cleaning and renovations.
- Pet memorials.
- Free estimates and advice.
- House signs.

312/314 Argyll Street, Dunoon • Tel/Fax 01369 702162 • Email: fraserdownie.43@gmail.com

**MACINTYRE** - Precious memories of my mum (Mary) who passed away on August 31, 2014. Forever in our thoughts.

- Love Angus, Lorraine, Iona, Duncan and Rowan xx  
**MACINTYRE** - In loving memory of Mary MacIntyre who passed away August 31, 2014. Too dearly loved to ever be forgotten  
Your life was a true blessing and your memory is a treasure. Miss you so much mum.  
God bless.

- Catherine, David and family  
**MACINTYRE** - In loving memory of my darling wife Mary (Dinag) August 31, 2014. I little knew that morning God was going to call your name, in life I loved you dearly, in death I do the same. It broke my heart to lose you, you did not go alone, for part of me went with you, the day God called you home.  
Your loving husband Angus. X Mum / Granny - You heard God's whisper calling you home, you didn't want to go and leave us alone. You loved us so much, you held on tight, till all the strength was gone and you could no longer fight.

So you gave your hand to God and slowly drifted away, knowing that with our love we will be together again some day.  
Peter, Margaret, Victoria and Argyll xxx  
**MACKINNON** - Treasured memories of a dear husband, father, father-in-law and gramps, Alexander (Andy), who died on August 30, 2009.

Loved and remembered always.  
- Kay, Colin, Sandy, Kath, Mairi and Kirsten  
**MACLEOD** - Treasured memories of our dear dad, grandfather, great-grandfather, Hugh, died August 28, 2013. Because you were so special No words can ever say  
How much we love and miss you Today and every day.  
- Rita, Johann, Morag, Ian and families

**McLENNAN** - In loving memory of our dad Alex, who died August 28, 1999 and our mum Flora, who died September 25, 1996.  
Loved and remembered every day.

- Margaret, Elsie and families.  
**NOBLE** - Olive. Mum we've missed so many years. At last now you are at peace and we can talk to each other.  
I will speak to you in my dreams. Missing you, rest in peace.  
Say hi to dad.  
- from your ever loving son John.

**OWEN** - In memory of my dear husband, Robert, who passed away on August 25, 1997. Sadly missed along life's way Quietly remembered every day.  
- Jean.

**OWEN** - In memory of our dear dad and grandpa who passed away on August 25, 1997. Forever in our thoughts and prayers.  
- Tom, Lily, Elizabeth and families.

**SORLEY** - In loving memory of our dear brother Robin, who passed away peacefully on August 26, 2005.  
Sorely missed.  
Loved and remembered always.

- Andrew, Lorna, Ronald and families  
**STEWART** - 30.5.67 - 27.8.14  
Treasured memories of my dear son Cameron (Rusty), who passed away suddenly one year ago.  
Memories of you will never fade away  
Loved and remembered every day.

- Mam xx (Jane MacKay)  
**STEWART** - 30.5.67 - 27.8.14  
In loving memory of a dear brother and brother-in-law Cameron (Rusty).  
Death leaves a heartache  
No one can heal  
Love leaves a memory  
No one can steal  
Always in our thoughts.  
- Margaret and Jon.

**STEWART** - In loving memory of Cameron (Rusty), who died August 27, 2014.  
You left a place  
No one can fill  
I miss you now and always will.  
- Ever loving Uncle Donald.

# Obituary

**Dr Alastair MacFadyen**  
Scottish country dance ambassador

ARGYLL resident, Dr Alastair MacFadyen, who died, aged 79, at the end of July, was one of the most influential and most respected personalities in the international world of Scottish country dancing. Born in Carlisle, his family on his father's side hailed from Strathlachlan on Loch Fyneside.

Alastair recalled his childhood introduction to Scottish country dancing, when his paternal grandfather and Aunt Ina were visiting in Carlisle. While Ina settled at the piano, Alastair's grandfather began striking his stick on the floor, instructing: 'And step, 2, 3...and step, 2, 3,' the boy's first lesson in the timing of the pas de basque, the step fundamental to Scottish country dancing.

Alastair was a graduate of Liverpool University, and Doctor of Philosophy through his researches in Spanish archives.

He was appointed a lecturer in history at Jordanhill College of Education, Glasgow, in 1966. Miss Dorothy Paterson, a former administrator at the college and long-time friend who resides in Inveraray, testifies to the popularity of Alastair among staff and students.

She recalls that when he took a Jordanhill class to Russia: 'Alastair's luggage contained nylon tights and soap as barter items, as well as half a dozen hard-boiled eggs in case he didn't take to Soviet fare.'

Alastair held every significant office in the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS).

He was chairman of the Glasgow Branch; elected to the executive council in 1975; appointed First Honorary Archivist in 1978; chairman of the RSCDS from 1985 to 1988; Director of the St Andrews Summer School from 1994 to 1998; and made

Honorary President of the RSCDS in 2007.

That year he was invited to a royal reception at Holyrood as one who had made a significant contribution to Scottish life and culture. In 2013, ill health forced him to retire as Honorary President. In September 2013, Alastair endured a terrifying experience when his car plunged 30 feet down a steep ravine in wild countryside near Glenbranter in Argyll on his way back from a shopping trip. The vehicle landed on its side, half-submerged in the river and invisible from the road.

He recalled: 'It was about 4 p.m. when I went off the road. I tried shouting for help, but it didn't work.'

'The food I had just bought was in the boot along with my mobile phone. I couldn't get to them. I was able to dip a handkerchief into raindrops on the outside of the vehicle to moisten my lips.'

'Every evening as it got dark I made sure I was in a position well clear of the water just in case. But then the river rose a bit so that was worrying.'

He lay in the car for over three days until rescued by a local man out picking mushrooms.

As ambassador and teacher to the worldwide family of dedicated dancers in countries including Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and America, Alastair represented the RSCDS with dignity, wisdom and wit.

But much as he enjoyed his travels and reunions with old friends, he loved the comfort and solitude of the house of his forebears on Loch Fyneside, where he cultivated a fragrant and colourful garden.

To be served his home produce, along with dancing reminiscences, was a feast. A devotee of Scottish music



**HIGHLY RESPECTED: Dr Alastair MacFadyen held every significant office in the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS)**

and frequent broadcaster on Scottish country dance, nevertheless he was interested in, and supportive of other forms of dance.

He became a trustee of the Russian Ballet Society in 1986, and was a founder member of the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust. An admirer of traditional skills, he was active in the Strachur Smiddy Museum.

The number of dancers in the pews at Strathlachlan Church who had travelled distances to attend Alastair's funeral, testified to the esteem and affection in which he was held. It seemed

fitting that his interment in the ancestral countryside he loved so much was taking place as the first week of the RSCDS's Summer School at St Andrews, another great love, was underway.

Those of us privileged to know Alastair as a friend and fellow dancer enhancing a set in the Younger Hall at St Andrews, among dancers from many lands, will miss his buoyant presence.

A bachelor, Alastair is survived by his nephews, Alasdair, and Duncan (who resides in Dunoon), and his niece, Morag.  
Dr Lorn Macintyre

**The Oban Times**

& West Highland Times  
THE REGIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE WEST HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS AND ARGYLL



The Oban Times is the best-selling weekly newspaper in the Highlands and is distributed via 1742 newsagents every week

Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB  
Tel: 01631 568000  
Fax: 01631 568001  
www.obantimes.co.uk

**Editorial**

**Chief reporter**  
Louise Glen  
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

**Reporter**  
Steven Rae  
srae@obantimes.co.uk

**Reporter**  
Emma Crichton  
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

**Reporter**  
Amanda Crawford  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

**Newsdesk**  
Oban 01631 568060  
Fort William 01397 703003  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising**

**Advertising supervisor**  
Nadine Ross  
nross@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising executive**  
Rhona McGilp  
adverts@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising executive**  
Stephanie Dunstaffnage  
sdunstaffnage@obantimes.co.uk

**Branch Offices**

**Fort William**  
Tel 01397 703003

**Lochgilphead**  
Tel 01546 602345

**Campbeltown**  
Tel 01586 554646

**Arran**  
Tel 01770 302142

www.obantimes.co.uk

Find us on Facebook  
www.facebook.com/obantimes

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

**D&A MUNN LTD.**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
EST. 1880  
BREADALBANE STREET, OBAN

24 hour Family run business  
Owned and run by Ian MacInnes and son.

TELEPHONE: 01631 562562  
EMAIL: INFO@MUNNS-OBAN.CO.UK  
WWW.MUNNS-OBAN.CO.UK

FAS Golden Charter Funeral Plans

## Thought For The Week

### Thin Places

Iona is often referred to as a "thin place" - where the veil is thin between heaven and earth. Is there any reality in this notion? Are there really some special places where those who have the time, health and money to get there may encounter God?

What is it about Iona which attracts so many spiritual pilgrims and seekers? Perhaps there is a stronger spiritual energy because it has been a place of prayer and pilgrimage for centuries, or perhaps it has something to do with the ancient rocks and a sense of timelessness. Or perhaps it is in some way subjective, as people come with high expectations, away from life's distractions and seeking a spiritual experience.

Many visitors to Iona

value a pilgrimage walk to St Columba's Bay. Before returning to the village, there is a pause at a high viewpoint to consider 'mountaintop' experiences. Jesus took three of his disciples up a mountain (Matthew Ch.17) where they saw his glory revealed. They wanted to stay there but no, they had to go back down the mountain and engage with the challenges of ordinary life. So it is for us. The thing to hold onto is the certainty that God is just as close to us in the workplace, in the humdrum business of everyday life, in a hospital bed, as he is in the mountaintop experiences of life, for Jesus has promised "I will never leave you or forsake you." Hebrews 13:5.

Rev Joyce Watson, Isle of Iona.

**CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS**  
YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited. Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

- Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
- The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
- The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
- An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
- Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
- The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
- The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, or the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
- Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
- The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
- Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
- Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
- A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

Published by Wyvex Media Limited, P.O. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB.  
Tel: (01631) 568000 Fax: (01631) 568001  
www.obantimes.co.uk and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. http://termsandconditions.wyvexmedia.co.uk

**CHARITY DONATIONS**

**MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE**  
Oban & Lorn  
Fundraising Branch  
Donations always gratefully accepted

Please contact  
Mrs Lillian Kermode  
Tynwald, Glenburn,  
Soroba Road, Oban  
01631 571009

**CANCER RESEARCH UK**  
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  
Angel Building  
407 St John Street  
London EC1V 4AD

**Oban Hospice**  
CARING FOR THE FUTURE  
Donations always gratefully accepted

Please contact  
Jack Tollan  
Birch Hill  
Achnacreebeag  
North Connel, PA37 1RE

**WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT**  
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

**GRADUATIONS**

**Ian Smith**  
Graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with a First Class BA Honours Degree in Scottish Music. Ian is the eldest son of Bernard and Margory Smith, West Hynish, Isle of Tiree. Ian is a former pupil of Tiree High School.

**Sian Henderson**  
Recently graduated from RAF Halton. Sian is the younger daughter of Richard and Joyce Henderson, Salen, Isle of Mull and grand-daughter of Allan and Margaret Black, Salen and Richard and Evelyn Henderson, Tobermory. Sian is now going on to do her Medic Training at Lichfield.

**Rachael E Murray (M.Arch & Bsc.)**  
Recently graduated with distinction from Robert Gordon University in Masters of Architecture and was also awarded the John B Johnston prize for top student of the year in Architecture. Rachael is the daughter of Ruairaidh and Mervyn Murray, Ford, and the grand-daughter of David and Amy Murray, Ford and Elizabeth and the late James Hume, Oban. Rachael was a former pupil of Kilmartin Primary School and Lochgilphead High School. She is now employed by Morgan McDonnell Architects, Edinburgh.

# MARTIAL ARTS

WITH IAIN RODGER

**Shukokai Karate**  
Argyll Martial Arts Association training has resumed after the summer break in Inveraray and Oban. Inveraray classes run on Fridays at 7 to 9 pm and in Oban High School from 6.30pm.

Anyone considering starting training with the clubs should register now to make sure of a place. Next grading will be in October 2015. Exact date to be confirmed.

Please contact Kenny Gray on kenni.gray@btinternet.com

**Kick Boxing**  
Senshi Do Kickboxing classes are continuing as normal, with Juniors at 6.30pm on Wednesdays and seniors at 7.30pm.

Sharon Dickison's women only class is on Sundays at 2pm. Sharon, along with Craig MacLachlan and Colin Campbell are stepping up their training towards their 2nd dan grading test in December. This is a gruelling test of skill, strength of character, and stamina which concludes with 40 of those being tested.

For more details or information on the kick boxing classes; contact Wullie Rodger on shihan-will@gmail.com

**Kyokushinkai Karate**

This year's junior tournament is at the planning stage and will take place later in the year in Lochgilphead, the exact date will be confirmed in due course.

The adults taking part in the British Open Knockdown tournament at the K2 Arena in Crawley are in serious training and looking strong. They will

be up against some of the top fighters in the world including several past winners of the event, with some very strong Russian fighters already entered, so it is essential they reach their peak at the correct time.

This year's beach training will take place at Kilmory Knap on August 30. Training on the beach is very popular and more students join this session each year.

Weather permitting it will be followed by a barbecue.

The clubs are currently taking on new members until the end of September this year, with the next intake being in January 2016, so if you are thinking of joining now is the time.

A minimum age of eight applies to these classes. Anyone wanting more information on Kyokushinkai classes should contact Iain Rodger on iain@ikku.co.uk

**Mixed Martial Arts**

Oban MMA has had its students continue to concentrate on fundamentals of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and MMA striking in preparation for the next competition in Motherwell on the September 4.

The Oban club generally do well at these events and we are looking forward to the results.

This Saturday (August 29) Marcos Nardini is in Oban for a two hour seminar. This is a great chance for beginners to learn from one of Scotland's top competing black belts. A full report on the seminar will be in the next column.

For more info on the MMA classes in Oban contact; Iain Potter on coogiepots@gmail.com

# Poor performance as Saints lose to 'Clyde

Inverclyde	3
Oban Saints	1
SAFL Premier Division	

ANXIOUS to improve upon their opening day showing against East Kilbride, Saints made their first away trip of the season last Saturday with the normally happy hunting ground Battery Park, Greenock the destination.

Lying in wait were newly promoted Inverclyde, themselves smarting from a 4-0 opening day defeat by Shawlands FP and anxious to get their first points on the board. Work and family commitments deprived Saints of the services of Ross Maitland, Myles McAuley and Allan MacKay for this match.

Prior to kick-off, the players observed a one minute's silence for former Scottish Amateur Football League secretary and executive committee member, Jack McConnell, who had sadly passed away during the week.

Both sides started slowly with the opening 15 minutes played out almost entirely in the middle third and no chances of note for either side.

Saints had a great opportunity when Lewis Cameron's inswinging corner from the left was met by a good run to the near post by Craig MacEwan who made good contact, but sent his powerful header over the crossbar when it looked easier to score.

Saints best chance of the half came almost exactly at the midway point. Willie Gemmell

found a gap in the 'Clyde back four and played an excellent pass sending Craig MacEwan through one-on-one with keeper, Michael Ptolomey, but Craig miss-hit his shot and the keeper saved easily with his legs.

In the 28th minute, Saints skipper, Marc MacCallum, made a hash of an attempted clearance allowing Darren McGregor the chance to run in behind the Saints back line. The 'Clyde centre forward was through on goal, but with the Saints defence regaining their ground, Marc prevented a shot by pulling back his man just outside the penalty box. The foul earned the 'Clyde striker a free kick and the Saints skipper a yellow card.

Fortunately for Saints, McGregor sent the free kick high over the crossbar, but the relief was shortlived. Barely two minutes later, McGregor made a terrific run up the right wing beating the static looking Saints defence before cutting inside and tucking a neat left foot finish just inside Thomas McCulloch's left hand post.

With five minutes of the first half remaining, Donnie Campbell was brought down twenty eight yards from goal and slightly left of centre. Willie Gemmell who already had a free kick from a similar position, charged down by the 'Clyde defensive wall. This time he almost cleared the wall, but a ricochet off two 'Clyde heads sent the ball through for



DEFLECTION: This Willie Gemmell free kick was deflected for a corner. Photo and report: Derek Black

**Football**

Ptolomey to gather safely. Attacking the Gourrock end in the second half, Saints went in search of a quick equaliser but, despite a bright opening five minutes, the breakthrough failed to materialise and the frustrations of the first half continued.

On the hour mark, Lewis Cameron made a jinking run across the face of the box picking out David McArthur in the inside left channel. David's goal bound shot was charged down bouncing agonisingly out of reach of Craig MacEwan in front of goal.

Two minutes later, Donnie Campbell got on the end of another Willie Gemmell pass and, making a good run on the right, sent over a low cross fractionally too close to keeper Ptolomey and out of reach a Craig MacEwan.

# Golf News

**Dalmally**

LADIES two clubs and putter: - net scores - 1 Alison Livingstone 75; 2 Lily McKay 80; 3 Sheila Tollan 81.

Gents: Strathorchy Trophy, positions after round 1 - 1 Gerry Davies (8) 61; 2 Billy McKay (8) 64; 3 Jim Livingstone (14) 61.

**Killin**

LADIES Greensomes Open: Saturday 22 August: Scratch - 1 Helen Holden (Cardross) and Sarah Tryon (The Carrick) 85; 2 Susie Robertson and Joan Ritchie (Elie and Earlsferry Ladies) 86; 3 Laura Aitken and Sheila Aitken (Killin) 87

Handicap: 1 Kathleen McConnell (Milnathort) and Margaret Graham (Burntisland) 68; 2 Caroline Henderson (Aberfeldy) and Liz Franklin (Pitlochry) 69; 3 Alice MacCalman and Anne MacCalman (Taynuilt) 70.

Killin Cup: (best overall handicap) Kathleen McConnell and Margaret Graham

Bridge of Lochay Salver (best local handicap) - Sheila & Laura Aitken

Dochart Trophy (best overall scratch) - Helen Holden and Sarah Tryon.

**Glencruitten**

ALAN Jamieson won the Captain of Dunstaffnage trophy with a score of 61, 70 = 131 on Saturday at Glencruitten golf club. Donald McGill was runner-up with a score of 70, 77 = 147.

Cameron Milne won the Isis trophy with a score of 66, 64 = 130. Phillip Murphy was runner-up with a score of 65, 69 = 134.

The Cameron trophy takes place on Saturday and Sunday, along with the monthly medal on Saturday and the President's prize on Sunday.

**Oban Saints youth fixtures**

**Youth football**

THIS weekend's fixtures - Kilpatrick Reds v Under 13s; Dumbarton Riverside v Under 14s; Under 15s v Helensburgh; Under 19s v Kilpatrick.

Unfortunately, it looks as if Oban Saints under 16s won't be playing football this season as there are not enough teams at that age group to form a league. They will be trying to organise friendly matches instead

# Argyll and Bute turn on the style at Aberfeldy

Aberfeldy	19
Argyll and Bute	40
Challenge match	

ARGYLL and Bute RFC made the trip to Perthshire on Saturday to take on Aberfeldy in their first ever home game. This was the second meeting between the sides in the past few weeks with Aberfeldy visiting Glencruitten in early August.

A big home crowd welcomed the two sides to an impressive new pitch and club facilities in the village of Kenmore.

Argyll fielded an experimental team with a good blend of youth and experience.

A Craig Wright penalty gave Argyll a 3-0 lead after a scrappy start by both teams. Aberfeldy hit back 10 minutes in with their first ever home try to lead 7-3. Argyll retook the lead shortly after with

a try, out wide from Niall MacFarlane to lead 10-7.

Argyll were slowly growing into the game after a rusty start. Scrum half Allan Wright and Stand Off Dom Ma, were linking up well to provide the backbone some good attacking opportunities.

Further tries from Steven Parr and Craig Wright extended the scoreline for Argyll before half-time with the hosts replying with a try of their own.

Argyll and Bute made a strong start to the second half. An impressive rolling maul, set-up in the 22 resulted in a debut try for flanker, Vlad Mihov, to put the game beyond the home side.

Both sides played out an entertaining last half an hour with some great attacking rugby on show. Argyll finished off the day with tries from Dom Ma and a

second from Craig Wright, while Aberfeldy scored a late consolation. Argyll also went close with chances from Craig Wright and Prop Tommy Sutherland.

In the end it was an impressive victory against a determined and well organised home side who should be very proud of their efforts after only eight months in existence.

Argyll and Bute continue their pre-season efforts away to Kintyre in Campbeltown this Saturday.

**Mini rugby**

Oban Lorne's Mini Rugby section will start training for the 2015/16 on Wednesday 2nd of September from 6-7pm at Glencruitten.

All new players are more than welcome to join the club. Training is open for all players from Primary 4-7. Sessions are led by

club coaches and SRU modern apprentice, Lewis MacFarlane. The club are keen to attract new players to boost playing numbers ahead of Argyll & Bute Dalriada Festivals beginning next month.

**Youth rugby**

Oban's Youth Rugby teams will be taking part in Scottish Rugby's new 'Schools & Youth' Structure for the 2015/16 season.

Oban High School's S1, S2, and S3 teams will take part in the Tier 4 West conference that will provide eight games from September to November against other West Regional Schools.

In addition to the S1, S2 & S3 teams, Oban's U16 & U18 sides will take part in Club Regional conferences that will kick off late September and will be completed prior to the Christmas holidays. It is hoped that the new struc-

**Rugby**

tures will provide an increase in fixtures for young players across the country.



TACKLE: Corrie Louw gets a tackle in during the game against Aberfeldy. Photo: Kenmore Photography



READY FOR THE OFF: Competitors line up for the start of the Mull half marathon

# New record at Mull half marathon

THE 27th running of the Mull half marathon took place recently and was certainly one of the best!

Even though the weather wasn't perfect, compared to last year, it was clement and, with the return of Adrian Fitness, the experienced bus co-ordinator, all transport with runners, supporters and baggage moved flawlessly.

With the endless commitment of all organisers, support of local businesses and organisations and the invaluable contributions of all volunteers, carrying out the many vital jobs on the day, everything went to plan.

The course was modified to make it safer as it started off the main road and ran through the

grounds of Bowman's Court.

The timing chips all worked and the results were efficiently compiled thanks to Mark Young from MYEventTiming. A good party atmosphere was evident and enhanced by three very fine young pipers from The Isle of Mull Pipe Band.

**Record**

As this was a new course, a new record time was set by Robert Gilroy from Cambuslang Harriers in 1:09:01.

But this time will be challenged next year with the £250, sponsored by CGL for breaking the record, up for grabs!

This, of course, was added to the already wonderful prize money, delightful trophies and stunning local produce baskets that are

**Half marathon**

presented to the prize-winners!

For the event to continue and to grow, more much needed support and funding is required.

Thanks go to the sponsors, Salen Hotel, Craignure Inn, West Coast Motors, Mull Eagle Watch, Scottish Water and Argyll and Bute Council.

124 Runners took part in the Half Marathon, 65 in the 10K and 42 in the Junior races.

Thanks to Ronnie Campbell MBE for comparing the event and for his charming, witty and supportive comments to finishing runners.

For results and positions, go to www.mullrunners.com

**Jock Paul sixes at Newtonmore**

**Shinty**

THE annual Jock Paul Mackintosh veterans six-a-side tournament takes place on: Saturday September 5, at The Eilan, Newtonmore, starting at 10am.

Maximum of eight players per squad, and all must be 40 years or older on the day to be eligible to compete.

Clubs can enter as many teams as they like and the organisers will also accept entries from teams which aren't affiliated to a club.

To enter or for any information, please contact: Paul MacArthur on 07851808643 or at pmacarthur@hotmail.com.

## SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

### THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £850

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.

**Easy to enter**  
Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.  
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 Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

Please tape your £1 coin here

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

..... Tel No. ....

# Kyles put pressure on 'More at the top of the premiership

## Shinty

### Premiership

LOVAT lost 3-1 at home to Glenurquhart last Friday night, despite the first half ending 0-0.

All four of the games' goals were scored in a 13-minute frenzy, with Ryan Ferguson getting on the score sheet for Lovat.

Manager, John MacRitchie, said: 'We didn't play that well. We had a few boys missing and our minds are focused on the final. But a positive to take from the game was that we never got any more injuries or bookings.'

'We have six or seven boys out again for this Saturday resting for the final.'

Lovat are now training three times a week to prepare for the Camanachd Cup final on September 19.

They take on Inveraray at home this Saturday, with a 2.30pm throw up.

**FORT WILLIAM** fought back to gain a share of the points against Oban Camanachd, with a last-minute goal from Gordie MacKinnon.

After a goal-less first half, Malcolm Clark opened the scoring in the 53rd minute, looking set to take home both points before the Fort equaliser in the final seconds.

Fort William manager, Victor Smith, said: 'Oban really deserved the two points so we were delighted to get it back in the last minute. Oban had more chances than we did, but never really hit the target.'

This weekend, Fort William welcome Kyles Athletic to An Aird to play both in the league and for the Drew Ferguson cup, in memory of a Fort William player who died in 2013.

MacKinnon will be missing from Saturday's line up but Stevie Stewart is back from suspension.

**LOCHABER** will be well rested after a free weekend ahead of their clash against Oban Camanachd on Saturday.

Ally Ferguson's men will host the match at Spean Bridge in what will be Oban's second trip to Lochaber in as many weeks, after they drew with Fort William last weekend.

Lochaber are favourites to win as they are nine points ahead of Oban, despite slipping a place in the league table this week.

**OBAN CAMANACHD** had to settle for a share of the points last Saturday after Fort William equalised in the last minute to make it 1-1.

Manager, Ian Haye, said: 'In the first half, we had four or five good chances and most of the possession.'

'In the second half, we had most of the possession again and managed to get a goal through Malcolm Clark in the 54th minute. But in the last five to ten minutes, Fort pressed on and managed to get a last minute goal.'

'I was gutted. We had 80 per cent of the possession, but just couldn't kill the game off and score a second goal.'

Camanachd are home to Lochaber this weekend with a 2.30pm throw up at Mossfield.

The end of season matches get no easier for bottom of the league **INVERARAY**. Fresh from the Macaulay Cup final defeat at the hands of Newtonmore last weekend, the Fynesiders this week face a journey to play Camanachd Cup finalists, Lovat. Inveraray will travel without the services of veteran goalkeeper, Graham MacPherson, who put in a man-of-the-match performance in the Macaulay final. Taking



Oban Camanachd's Garry Lord closely marked by Fort William's Gordie MacKinnon and Alex MacMillan during the Premiership match at An Aird which ended in a 1-1 draw  
Photo: John Paul Peebles, The Write Image



The victorious Newtonmore squad celebrate winning the Macaulay Cup at Mossfield Stadium last Saturday. Photo: Neil Paterson

MacPherson's place is likely to be promising young goalie, Scott MacLachlan.

For the second week in succession, **GLENURQUHART** took on local rivals, Lovat, last Friday evening.

After a stalemate seven days earlier, visitors Glenurquhart triumphed 3-1 thanks to three second-half goals by Neale Reid (2) and Ewen Brady.

A trip to the Kyles is never straightforward, but **KINLOCHSHIEL** put up a good showing until Matthew MacColl nicked the points for Kyles with a goal on 61 minutes. The defeat sees Shiel stay in seventh place in the premiership.

**KYLES ATHLETIC** are back on league business after their heady victory over Newtonmore in the semi-final of the Camanachd Cup the week before, as they secured a very useful home win over Kinlochshiel in last Saturday's encounter. With Newtonmore occupied on Macaulay Cup final business, the Kyles win sees the Cowal side close the gap on 'More at the top of the league to just a single point.

A potentially tricky tie awaits this weekend at Fort William, with a win surely essential for Kyles in the chase for the title.

### National Division

Thrashing Beaulieu 6-0 at home was a massive victory for **KILMALLIE**, but not enough to edge them closer to league rivals, Skye.

Liam MacDonald's four goals in the first half meant it was plain sailing for the Caol side, but another one each for John Stewart and Liam Cameron ensured there was no catching up for Beaulieu.

The high score and two points was welcome news for manager, Mark MacPherson, but it wasn't enough to put them back at the top as first-place Skye beat Ballachulish 13-0.

MacPherson said: 'That's the best we've played all season. I'm really happy with that performance, but Skye won 13-0 so we're still eight goals behind them. We'll need to score loads in the rest of our games. We know we're definitely in the play-offs but it would be good to get back to the top.'

This Saturday Kilmallie face Inverness away, without the weekend's top scorer, Liam MacDonald. They will also be without Mark Graham but MacPherson is confident he still has a strong squad.

Already sitting at the top of the league table, a move up to the premier division is looking promising for **SKYE CAMANACHD** after the team's 13-0 win against Ballachulish.

## Secretary's thanks . . .

DAVID Hamilton, secretary of the Macaulay Association, said: 'Could I please convey through your paper my sincere thanks to all the Macaulay committee, volunteers and officials who helped make the Macaulay Cup final such a success on Saturday.'

'Congratulations go to Newtonmore on their victory and commiserations to Inveraray. But all players and officials must be congratulated on their behaviour before, during and after the game.'

'It was a great day with a great crowd. The weather was good as well because it wasn't brilliant sunshine which made it easier for the players, and the playing surface at Mossfield was immaculate.'

'It was a good game and Newtonmore were favourites going into the game, but I think if Inveraray had taken their chances earlier on it might have been a different story.'

'The match being broadcast on BBC Two is obviously good as it raises the profile of the game of shinty.'

The team ran amok at Jubilee park last Saturday and stole the show with goals from Kenny Campbell (2), Jordan Murchison (5), Danny Morrison (4), Jonathan MacLennan and John Gillies.

Skye are at home to Glasgow Mid Argyll this Saturday.

**BALLACHULISH** hosted notoriously fast starters, Skye, at the Jubilee last weekend and obviously never heeded the warning as they were two down in two minutes.

Ballachulish actually competed well in early exchanges, but were no match for the free-flowing Skye team, who impressed all

'After that we weren't great, but we always knew it was going to be a hard game.'

'We have a couple of boys out for next week, but we might be lucky, we might get a few of the our players back from the seniors who could use the minutes.'

Lochside are away to Kyles Athletic this Saturday with a 1pm throw up.

**TAYNUILT** were without a fixture last weekend.

They are at home to Glenorchy this Saturday who are currently sitting bottom of the league with a 2.30pm throw up.



Inveraray goalkeeper, Graham 'Toad' MacPherson, was voted man of the match for his performance in the Macaulay Cup final.  
Photo: Kevin McGlynn

over the pitch. The home team had good showings from Cameron Sutherland in goal and Cian MacPhee making a return after suspension at full centre, but they were never going to be able to compete with the strong visiting team.

Ballachulish will look forward to seeing out a disappointing season and can only hope to build for the future. They first team have no fixture this weekend, but the seconds travel to take on Oban Lorn after drawing 3-3 at home to Tayforth last Saturday.

### South Division One

**GLENORCHY'S** game against Bute was cancelled on Saturday, as Glenorchy were unable to field a team.

Glenorchy are now sitting bottom of South Division 1.

They are away to Taynuilt this Saturday with a 2.30pm throw up.

**LOCHSIDE ROVERS** won 3-1 away to Kilmory on Saturday.

Kilmory opened the scoring after just 20 seconds, but Lochside were quick to equalise.

Lochside then scored twice before the 20 minute mark to make it 3-1 with goals coming from Scott Dempster and an Evan MacLellan double.

Manager, Gareth Evans, said: 'The scoring was done in 20 minutes.'

Oban Celtic raced into a 4-0 half-time lead on a bumpy Ganavan pitch in Saturday's league encounter with **STRACHUR**.

A reshuffle for the depleted visitors saw them instigate a little panic in the green and white ranks after clawing back two goals, but Oban Celtic held on to win 5-2.

There was another shocker at the Kyles, as Aberdeen were the latest side to hand out a thumping to **KYLES ATHLETIC'S** second string. Veteran Peter Mobeck scored for Kyles, but a brace from the Fife outfit either side of half-time ensured the points were heading back east. Another tough task awaits the Kyles team on Saturday, as they host Lochside Rovers at Kames Playing Fields.

**BUTE'S** home game against Glenorchy was postponed last



CLOSE ENCOUNTER: Newtonmore's Glen Mackintosh and Inveraray's Andrew McMurdo during the Macaulay Cup final.  
Photo: Neil Paterson

Saturday when the Dalmally side could not raise a team. This week the islanders travel to play Oban Celtic

### South Division Two

**OBAN LORN** were without a fixture last Saturday, they will take on Ballachulish at home this Saturday with a 12pm throw up.

**COL GLEN** return to league duty this weekend after having no fixture last Saturday. They travel

over the Kyles to take on near neighbours Bute at the Meadows

### Strathdearn Cup

After a free Saturday last weekend, **GLENGARRY** should be raring to go when they travel to the Bught park in Inverness to take on Newtonmore in the final of the Strathdearn Cup.

The game throws up at 3pm with referee Andy Maclean in charge

Marine Harvest Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	11	10	0	1	37	9	20
Kyles Athletic	12	9	1	2	44	14	19
Glenurquhart	14	8	2	4	32	25	18
Fort William	15	6	3	6	24	26	15
Lochaber	16	6	3	7	30	42	15
Lovat	13	5	3	5	29	28	13
Kinlochshiel	15	5	3	7	22	38	13
Kingussie	14	3	3	8	18	29	9
Oban Camanachd	10	2	2	6	11	17	5
Inveraray	12	1	2	9	12	31	4



Lovat's Ryan Ferguson is closely marked by the Glenurquhart defenders, Ali Mackintosh and Connor Golabek, during the Marine Harvest Premiership match played last Friday evening at Balthgate, Kiltarity. The Glens won 3-1  
Photo: Neil Paterson



Fort William's Alexander Cameron shields the ball from Beaulieu's MacKay Murray during their North Division One game. Fort William won 3-1  
Photo: Donald Cameron

## Fixtures

**Saturday August 29**  
**Strathdearn Cup Final**  
Glenurquhart v Newtonmore  
Andy Maclean - 3pm  
at Bught Park, Inverness

**Bullough Cup Semi Final**  
Tayforth v Inveraray  
Alan Harrison

**Marine Harvest Premiership**  
Fort William v Kyles Athletic  
John Angus Gillies - 12pm  
Glenurquhart v Newtonmore  
Evan MacRae - 12pm  
Lovat v Inveraray  
Ron Kennedy  
Oban Camanachd v Lochaber  
Robert Baxter

**Marine Harvest National Division**  
Caberfeidh v Beaulieu  
Calum Girvan  
Inverness v Kilmallie  
Innes Wood - 12pm  
Skye v Glasgow Mid Argyll  
Graham Cameron

**Marine Harvest North Division 1**  
Beaulieu v Kinlochshiel  
Ronnie Campbell  
Fort William v Strathglass  
John MacGregor - 3pm  
Lochcarron v Lovat  
Archie Ritchie

**Marine Harvest South Division 1**  
Aberdour v Kilmory  
Euan Pearson  
Kyles Athletic v Lochside Rovers  
David Mitchell  
Oban Celtic v Bute  
Lachie Wood - 3pm  
Taynuilt v Glenorchy  
Billy Wotherspoon

**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Boleskine v Strathspey  
Willie MacDonald  
Kilmallie v Inverness  
John Matheson  
Lewis v Lochaber  
Martin MacLean

**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Bute v Col Glen  
John Wood  
Glenorchy v Aberdour  
Jon Gallagher  
Oban Lorn v Ballachulish  
Scot McNeil - 12pm

Throw ups 2.30 unless stated

## Results

**Friday August 21**  
**Marine Harvest Premiership**  
Lovat 1 - 3 Glenurquhart

**Marine Harvest National Division**  
Inverness 3 - 0 Caberfeidh

**Saturday August 22**  
**Artemis Macaulay Cup Final**  
Inveraray 1 - 3 Newtonmore

**Marine Harvest Premiership**  
Fort William 1 - 1 Oban Camanachd  
Kinlochshiel 0 - 1 Kyles Athletic

**Marine Harvest National Division**  
Ballachulish 0 - 13 Skye  
Kilmallie 6 - 0 Beaulieu

**Marine Harvest North Division 1**  
Beaulieu 1 - 3 Fort William  
Lovat 2 - 0 Kingussie  
Kinlochshiel 3 - 0 Lochcarron

**Marine Harvest South Division 1**  
Bute P - P Glenorchy  
Glenorchy unable to field a team, tie to be rescheduled  
Kilmory 1 - 3 Lochside Rovers  
Kyles Athletic 1 - 4 Aberdour  
Oban Celtic 5 - 2 Strachur

**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Caberfeidh 1 - 3 Lochaber  
Inverness 3 - 0 Kilmallie  
Lewis 4 - 5 Boleskine  
Strathspey 1 - 3 Skye

**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Ballachulish 3 - 3 Tayforth



## Newtonmore win Artemis Macaulay Cup

NEWTONMORE made it two-in-a-row on Saturday, retaining the Artemis Macaulay Cup against Inveraray at Mossfield.

The win put a piece of silverware in the Newtonmore's trophy cabinet, after the disappointment of last week's Camanachd Cup semi-final loss to Kyles.

Evan Menzies shot the Premiership leaders into the lead in the ninth minute, following a majority of the play for P J Mackintosh's side.

Steven MacDonald added a brace, putting Newtonmore firmly in the driving seat, and were it not for Graham 'Toad' MacPherson's man-of-the-match display, and Newtonmore being twice denied by the woodwork, the score could well have been higher.

Inveraray, who never gave up, managed to pull a goal back in the 79th minute through Lewis MacNicol, which ended up being a consolation as Newtonmore

held on to win their 11th Macaulay Cup.

Inveraray veteran, MacPherson, who has spent 29 years as his club's first-choice keeper, announced his retirement after the game.

Newtonmore manager, P J Mackintosh said: 'I thought we started very, very well. I thought the boys played nice, open shinty. Early doors we were dragging them all over the park. I was a wee bit disappointed going into the second half only three up - I felt we could have been five or six up.'

'Getting the third one on half-time probably let us down a bit for the second-half because we fell back, almost like we thought the game was over. You don't intentionally think you've won the game, it's just the mindset that when you're three up, you don't think you'll throw away a three-goal lead.

'Nothing will avenge for last

### Shinty

week; the Scottish Cup is the one everyone wants to win. But we won the Macaulay last year for the first time in 28 years, and we're over the moon to win it again.'

Steven MacDonald, who scored a brace, said: 'In the first-half, I thought we dominated, and in the second-half we thought the game was done and Inveraray were finished, but they came straight back at us a lot harder than we expected.'

'Their keeper had some unbelievable saves. I'd say he was man of the match, he was outstanding on the day.'

'Last week we were right down in the dumps. Now we can go on and hopefully get the league wrapped up. We're always confident that we'll win every game, but it's so tight - every team's taking points off each other.'



UP FOR THE CUP: Newtonmore captain, Cameron Binnie, lifts aloft the Macaulay Cup after his team had beaten Inveraray 3-1 in the final held at Mossfield Stadium last Saturday. More photos on page 25  
Photo: Kevin McGlynn

## Six of the best for Oban Athletic

### Football

OBAN ATHLETIC kicked off their league campaign on Saturday when they travelled to take on newly formed Argyll rivals, Roseneath.

Ex Oban Saints keeper, Daniel Cassells, was on hand to help out, filling in for Graham Douglas in goals.

Athletic started the game well despite only having one substitute and, by half-time, the Oban side were 4-0 up, with Alan Buchanan scoring the first, followed by a Kris Gillies hat-trick.

The second-half began as the first ended with Athletic maintaining their dominance of possession.

Alan Buchanan scored his second of the day in spectacular fashion to make it 5-0. The teenager hit the back of the net from 40 yards with a first time volley.

Athletic were then awarded a free kick from 30 yards which Sean Ford struck into the top corner to make it 6-0.

Roseneath then took control of the possession and scored a consolation goal with 10 minutes to go, but in the end the visitors ran out comfortable 6-1 winners.

Athletic are away to Cardross next week in the second round of the league cup.



IN THE SWIM: Young Alison MacVicar powers ahead in the Kerrera to Oban swim to beat her father, Alex, home to Oban Sailing Club

## Swimmers make a splash for charity

BRAVE swimmers braced the cold waters off Oban Bay on Saturday making a splash for charity in the Kerrera to Oban sponsored swim.

The journey is half a mile long, measured from the Oban sailing club slipway to the adjacent slipway on Kerrera.

Now in its fourth year, the Island of Kerrera to Oban Sponsored Swim is run every summer to raise funds for youth development in sport.

Donna Smith, who is a youth development worker in sport at Atlantis leisure centre, has organised the event for the past three years.

She said: 'This year, once again, there's been a fantastic turnout.

We were expecting around 30 people but more than 50 took part.

'By raising these funds, it has widened the opportunities we can offer to young people to help them hit the ground running and get the best possible start in life.'

**Support**

'In the past year, we have been able to support many young people on leadership courses such as outward bound expeditions, sailing voyages with the Jubilee sailing trust and Tall Ships Youth trust.'

'We have also been able to fund courses for young people to increase their qualifications through First Aid courses, child protection, lifeguard courses,

sports coaching courses and swimming teaching.

'Without this support, many of our people in the community would not get the opportunity to show what they can achieve or realise their own capacity and accomplish things they never imagined,' Donna added.

Diane Kerr, from Oban, was one of the participants. She said: 'It was fine, you climatise quickly to the water after a few minutes. This was my second time and I'm obviously delighted to finish.'

Fellow swimmer, Sheila McGregor, also from Oban said: 'To be honest, it was awful at the beginning, but I got used to it and I'm really glad I did it.'

'The water was splashing in my

### Swimming

face but I struggled on. I was glad to do it for such a good cause and I think everyone who is capable should do it.'

Rebecca Simms, a leisure attendant at Atlantis, decided to take her wetsuit off during the swim.

She said: 'The first bit was the worst, but then I got used to it and it wasn't too bad. Once I was used to the temperature of the water, the wetsuit was just hindering me so I just took it off and it was lot easier, I got going that bit quicker. Everyone helps each other on the way as well, giving each other moral support to get through it.'

## Scottish AFL results and fixtures

### Football

LAST Saturday's results: Premier Division - Inverclyde 3, Oban Saints 1; Campbeltown Pupils free date; Premier Division One - Lochgilphead Red Star 2, Dunoon 4; Premier Division Two - Tarbert 2, Shawlands 'B' 1. Division One - Milton of Colquhoun 3, Dunoon Athletic 2.

Saturday's fixtures: Premier Division - Oban Saints v Campbeltown Pupils; Premier Division One - Lochgilphead Red Star and Dunoon, free dates; Premier Division Two - Tarbert no game; Division One - Dunoon Athletic free date.

## Ultramarathon takes place on Tiree

### Ultramarathon

THE annual Tiree ultramarathon will take place this year on Sunday September 6.

The challenge is to run round the 35 miles of one to the most beautiful Hebridean islands. The race starts at An Talla, Crossapol at 8am.

An after-race ceilidh and dance will be held in the hall along with the prizegiving. The function will help raise funds for Oban Mountain Rescue. Ultra runners get free VIP entry.

## Saints under 19s

### Youth football

SAINTS under 19s travelled to Helensburgh last Sunday to take on Ardencape in a friendly, but lost a close game 3-2. However, manager, Alan MacLeod, was delighted with the showing of his team as he fielded five new boys from last season's under 17s.



SOUP OF THE DAY: Delighted swimmers warm-up with cups of hot soup after they had completed the swim  
Photos: Kevin McGlynn

**SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES**

**NORTH WEST MARINE**  
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG  
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419  
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk

**Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban**

**Stop Press:** New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

**WEATHER**

**Thursday** Heavy rain showers  
Winds moderate south south westerly  
Temperatures 13°C to 15°C.

**Friday** Heavy rain showers  
Winds moderate south south westerly  
Temperatures 13°C to 15°C.

**Weekend Outlook** Heavy rain showers on Saturday  
Heavy rain showers on Sunday  
Winds moderate south westerly  
Temperatures 12°C to 15°C.

**TIDAL INFORMATION**

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 27, 2015** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	03.53	3.3	09.56	1.2	16.17	3.7	22.15	1.1
Fri	04.35	3.6	10.41	0.9	16.57	4.0	23.04	0.8
Sat	05.13	3.8	11.24	0.5	17.36	4.2	23.49	0.5
Sun	05.49	4.0	12.06	0.3	18.14	4.3	** **	**
Mon	00.31	0.3	06.25	4.0	12.48	0.2	18.52	4.3
Tues	01.14	0.3	07.03	4.0	13.32	0.2	19.32	4.2
Wed	01.56	0.4	07.42	3.9	14.16	0.4	20.12	4.0

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**

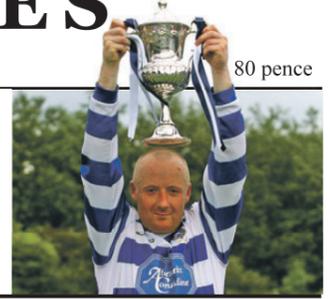
Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate



PHOTOS AND RESULTS

### Lochaber agricultural show

### Macaulay Cup match report and photos from the 2015 final



# Safety fears prompt parents to step into road crossing patrols

**AMANDA CRAWFORD**  
acrawford@obantimes.co.uk

CHILDREN crossing a busy main road are at increased risk when walking to school, because other roads have been prioritised while a crossing patroller is off sick.

Pupils walking from the south of Lundavra Road up to Upper Achintore, following the change-over from Fort William primary school, have been without a lollipop lady for almost two weeks.

Instead, parents are walking onto Lundavra Road and stopping traffic themselves to allow groups of children to cross safely.

There are currently two crossing patrollers outside the school, one on Ross Place and one on Lochaber Road.

Nicola MacMillan is a parent who walks to school. She has not been affected by the current situation, but is concerned for others.

Mrs MacMillan said: 'I have one child at primary school and I walk down from Lochaber Road. I heard someone was off sick, but you'd think they'd put a police officer or warden in place to keep

the children safe. When the new school opens, it will affect me directly. I don't see why they should have two right outside the school and none on the main road, it makes no sense to me. I have a friend who has been having to stop in the middle of the road to let her kids cross.'

Pupils are set to move once more from the school, formerly known as Upper Achintore, into the new Lundavra building at the beginning of October.

Two mums, who preferred to remain anonymous, also said they were going to contact the school. One said: 'There are work vans and road works on this road. It is dangerous for the kids.'

The other lady said: 'They are far too small to be crossing this road themselves without help and regard for their safety.'

Nick Thomson, headteacher at Lundavra primary school, said: 'I have had one parent come to complain about this issue. We have three controllers here and one is off on absence. The two people we have positioned are in places that are most in need. We are looking at replacing the third person, but it can be difficult



FEARS: lollipop lady absence is putting lives at risk claim parents 21\_1351lollipop01

to get someone to do the hours necessary, morning, lunchtime and after school.

'While it is unfortunate, we do have more children crossing at Lochaber Road. We have over 100, which is far more than those coming from Lundavra.'

There are currently 15 pupils crossing at Lundavra Road every day, and Mr Thomson did confirm that there would be a member of staff in place on the opening of the new school.

A spokesperson from Highland council said: 'One of the school crossing patrollers is on sick leave, so until a relief member of staff can be secured, the headteacher allocated the Lundavra Road/Connochie Road crossing to a patroller and asked for a census which showed 15 pupils were using this crossing.'

'As the other crossing has over 100 pupils, the headteacher made a risk-based assessment and moved the patroller to the busy crossing. The headteacher will be in contact with all parents who have children in the Grange Terrace/Road area to advise that there will be no crossing patroller at present.'

### TIMESLINE

#### Alcohol stolen from shinty club

HUNDREDS of bottles and cans of alcohol were stolen from Fort William shinty club at the weekend.

The An Aird clubhouse was broken into sometime between 1am and 10am on Sunday as thieves made off with spirits, wine, beer and cider. Three kit bags, thought to have been used to carry the alcohol, were also stolen. The theft followed a party at the clubhouse on Saturday night and club officials are appealing for anyone who witnessed suspicious behaviour to come forward. Anyone with information is asked to contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

#### Two injured in A87 collision

TWO PEOPLE were injured in a crash involving a coach and a car near Kyle of Lochalsh on Monday.

The male coach driver was airlifted to hospital in Glasgow after the incident on the A87 at Balmacara, while the female car driver was taken to Broadford hospital by ambulance. The road was closed from the time of the accident, just before 9am, until early afternoon.

#### Gritting priorities to be considered

ROADS most in need of gritting this winter are being considered by Highland councillors in the next few weeks.

Maps outlining priority primary and secondary roads have been provided to area committees, to be implemented between this October and next April. The council plans to treat the roads within the agreed budget, saving £240,000 through cuts agreed last year.



### £25m tourist masterplan for Leanachan forest

A MASSIVE tourist complex worth £25 million has been approved by Lochaber area committee.

The 'masterplan' for Leanachan Forest includes an 80-bed spa hotel, cabins, a campsite and bunkhouse on 7,300 acres of national forest land on the outskirts of Nevis Range Mountain Resort.

Highland councillors saw the blueprint this week and approved it as part of the West Highlands and Islands local development plan. This

means Forest Enterprise Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise can begin to attract developers and investors to bring the plans to life, but the proposal will still require planning permission and consultation will run until December. Ben Lennon, Forest Enterprise Scotland's district manager for Lochaber, said: 'The area being proposed is fantastic and would be a big draw to visitors who love landscapes and outdoor activities.'



PLEDGE: Nicola Sturgeon wants to see Belford hospital replaced 'on a good site and in fit-for-purpose accommodation'

### First Minister pledges backing to secure good hospital site

TESCO'S abandoned land in Fort William could become the new Belford hospital after Scotland's First Minister pledged her support in securing a site, writes Emma Crichton.

During a visit to the Oban Times on Monday, Nicola Sturgeon said the government will make a decision on funding for a new hospital following a business plan from NHS Highland.

The Blar Mor land became available earlier this year when Tesco announced it wouldn't be building a supermarket there. The site would provide easy access to both the town's medical centre and police and ambulance stations, but plans to replace the 50-year-old hospital are not due to start for another four years at the earliest.

When asked if funding could be released earlier,

Ms Sturgeon said she would help make sure the 'opportunity of a good potential site isn't lost'. She said: 'The NHS is in the early stages of putting together a business plan. For the government to make decisions about funding it we need to see the business plan first.'

'That will take its course, but at the moment there is willingness on the part of the government to see the Belford replaced on a good site and in fit-for-purpose accommodation. I can't give guarantees and I can't give timescales at the moment, but we will be willing to work with the health board locally to make sure the opportunity of a good potential site isn't lost.'

For more on the First Minister's visit to Oban, see pages four and five.

## Council under fire for length of time homes are lying empty

A REPORT that says houses are lying empty for up to two months in the Highlands and Islands has led to Highland council being criticised.

The average time for a council house to be lying void is 47.26 days, according to the report presented to the community services committee meeting on Monday.

Leader of the opposition, councillor Maxine Smith, said: 'We definitely need benchmarking because I can tell you that Albyn, another Highland housing association,

reported at its AGM this week, its average void time is 19.5 days, so why can't we achieve this?'

Councillor Smith also said she understands that Albyn, currently has under 3,000 properties, while the council has almost 20,000.

She said: 'We have just under 8,000 people waiting for a council house. Many will never see one, but leaving houses empty for longer than a month is not acceptable.'

The council target is 35 days, but councillor Smith wants to

see this number reduced to 25 days and the target to be met by 2016.

According to Highland council the high number is down to Caithness figures. A spokesperson for the council said: 'If Caithness figures were removed, then the average number of days to re-let would be 36. In the past five years the best we have achieved is 30 days in one quarter of 2011.'

Councillor Allan Henderson continued: 'While every officer and councillor looks for as quick a turnaround as possible,

sometimes repairs and the opportunity to refurbish just take a little longer. I am sure the new tenants appreciate this course of action. The number of voids in Lochaber is very low, reflecting the desperation for rented accommodation in Lochaber.'

The council spokesperson added: 'We do benchmarking already but we need to compare like-with-like. Thirty five days is our target and this can, of course, be reviewed and we will do our very best to improve this.'

## SKYE BOOK FESTIVAL FÈIS LEABHRAICHEAN AN EILEIN 3-5 SEPTEMBER 2015

THURS 3RD SEPTEMBER	FRI 4TH SEPTEMBER	SAT 5TH SEPTEMBER
ANNE MCALPINE 2pm The Silver Locket FREE	BOOKBINDING WORKSHOP 10am-4pm E45 Limited spaces	BOOKBINDING WORKSHOP 10am-4pm E45 Limited spaces
RODY GORMAN 2pm Sweeney: An Intertonguing E5   E3.50	A' GHÀIDHLIG AIR AGHAIDH NA TÌRE 2pm Place-names of Strath* E5   E3.50	THERESA BRESLIN 11am Scottish Mythical Creatures E3   E1.50
IAN G MACDONALD 3.30pm Memories of a Portree Kid* E5   E3.50	D J MACLENNAN 3.30pm Frozen to Life* E5   E3.50	POETRY WALK 2pm Limited spaces Historical & cultural event FREE
DOUGLAS ROBERTSON 7.30pm Illustrations: Herring Tales E5   E3.50	MICHAEL RUSSELL 7.30pm Lie of the Land E5   E3.50	PARA HANDY Comedy Drama 7.30pm A Highland Voyage with Iain MacLeod, Russell Hunter and Allan MacDonald E12   E10   E8
DONALD S MURRAY 8.30pm Herring Tales* E5   E3.50	VAL MCDERMID 8.30pm Splinter The Silence* E5   E3.50	*BOOK LAUNCH

### Acharacle Village Store

David, Wendy and David would like to welcome you to their new **Keystore**.  
**NOW OPEN**, on the Main Street in Acharacle. The new larger premises can now offer a wider range of products to cater every need.

- Groceries, inc Chilled and Frozen
- Wines, Beers and Spirits
- Instore Bakery
- Hot FDogs
- Hot and Cold Snacks
- Teas and Coffees
- Paypoint
- Off Sales
- Lottery
- Fishing Tackle

a warm welcome awaits...

Free fishing and last minute deals on touring and camping pitches available

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS - STUNNING VIEWS OF LOCH EIL & BEN NEVIS - PET FRIENDLY OPTION - 5 MILES FROM FORT WILLIAM - WELL PLACED FOR DAY TRIPS - BROCHURE SENT WITH PLEASURE - OPEN 15TH DECEMBER TO 31ST OCTOBER

**Linnhe Lochside Holidays**  
Corpach, Fort William, PH33 7NL  
Tel: 01397 772376  
www.linnhe-lochside-holidays.co.uk

# Sheriff bans teenage crash driver

AMANDA CRAWFORD  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

A TEENAGE driver from Mallaig who caused a crash that saw two cars burst into flames on the busy Road to the Isles, has been banned for a year.

Aimee Lawrie, of Mallaig Vaig, was found guilty of driving without due care and attention following a trial in Fort William sheriff court last Wednesday after crashing her mother's Vauxhall Corsa nose first into another vehicle.

The 19-year-old had only held a driving licence for nine months when the crash took place near Beasdale on the A830 on the evening of Friday, August 8, last year.

The court heard Lawrie and two female friends were travelling to Fort William from Mallaig to watch a football match, while the Glaswegian couple they collided with were heading to Arisaig to begin a week-long camping holiday.

Instead the parties ended up shocked in hospital when Lawrie appeared to lose control near to



DEVASTATION: the aftermath of the head on collision on the A830 road from Mallaig to Fort William

Beasdale train station. Sheriff Jim Scott heard that Lawrie came round a curve on the road and veered onto the opposite side of the road where a Toyota Hilux was towing a caravan.

The Toyota driver said during evidence: 'As I approached, I could see the top of the hill. I did

see the vehicle coming towards me. It was on the right side [of the road]. It was on my side of the road.'

Procurator fiscal, Michelle Molley, asked: 'Was there anything you could see that could have caused the car to become out of control?'

The witness replied: 'No. Speed is the only explanation I can think of. I was stopping because I saw the car on my side of the road. I don't know what speed she was doing, but she was going fast.'

Lawrie then took to the witness box to defend her case. She said

she was certain the road was 'slippery' and that she was doing no more than 30 miles per hour just prior to the collision.

The court heard she had felt the back of her Corsa slide, which took her onto the opposite side of the road as she travelled eastbound.

She said she then corrected the car and returned to her own side, but she lost control of the car again before smashing head first into the Toyota.

Unemployed Lawrie spent days in a Glasgow hospital having a broken arm and broken toe treated following the crash, while her two friends recovered in Fort William's Belford hospital.

Defence solicitor, Natalie Bruce, said: 'She felt the car slide as though it was on ice. She regained control of the vehicle and then felt it slide again.'

Miss Lawrie was found guilty and fined £200 and disqualified from driving for 12 months.

Sheriff Scott said: 'My conclusion is that the accused, driving at excessive speed, caused her to lose control. This is a very serious incident.'



Aimee Lawrie was fined £200 and banned from driving for one year.

“ This is a very serious incident. ”

Sheriff Jim Scott

## TIMESLINE

### Rescue team has busiest year ever

A RESCUE from the summit of Ben Nevis at the weekend has seen Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team (LMRT) hit 99 callouts in their busiest year ever.

The volunteers helped a 22-year-old man when gales blew him over, causing him to hurt his ankle on Sunday.

An unusually busy few months for LMRT has been attributed to poor weather this summer, seeing the team clock up their usual annual quota of 100 rescues in just eight months.

With winter on its way there is no sign of the rescues slowing down but team leader, John Stevenson, isn't worried about money running out.

He said: 'We're always looking for money. We always have to keep spending because clothes and gear wear out very quickly, especially when we're as busy as we have been.'

'It's a double-edged sword because we obviously wish we weren't this busy, but when we're busy, people are more aware of us and what we're doing, so that helps with donations.'

### Don't miss out on memorial cash

COMMUNITY groups are being encouraged to apply for funding to restore war memorials.

Highland council still has money available, following the completion of nine repair projects, with another 45 in progress.

Councillor Allan Henderson, chairman of the local authority's community services committee said: 'There is still funding available for war memorial restorations and it is vital the local people identify where the priorities are and how we can help make improvements. I would urge anyone who is interested to contact their local councillor or community council to find out how they can get involved.'

## Home swap mum welcomes VIP guests

A MUM who had to move house for health reasons, welcomed the Scottish welfare minister into her home as part of a new housing scheme launch.

Jessie Anderson, 41, of Fort William, suffers from heart disease, which forced her to give up a three bedroom house in the town when her health deteriorated. After months of consultations with Lochaber Housing Association, Highland council and medical consultants, Jessie secured a newly-built ground floor flat at McAndie court.

Miss Anderson, mum to 11-year-old Broc, said: 'I was in a big house at An Aird. My health deteriorated. I get breathless, blackouts and chest pains. They have worsened and have become more frequent. I get them every day now. Walking isn't easy for me either. In my last house I had to sleep downstairs. I thought about moving last year and, with support from the council and my consultants, it has gone really well.'

Scottish government welfare minister, Margaret Burgess, was in the area to open the 21-house estate in the town, after funding of £1.5million was granted to Glenloch Business Park to turn the old distillery into homes. Now Miss Ander-



From left: Councillor Thomas MacLennan chats to welfare minister, Margaret Burgess, and Jessie Anderson. 21\_B5minister01

son also lives below her eldest daughter, Aleasha MacDonald, 20, who provides support for her and Broc.

Mrs Burgess also attended a Fairer Scotland event at Voluntary Action Lochaber (VAL) in the afternoon. There she heard a range of third sector organisations and pupils from Lochaber high school discuss issues that are important to the rural communities of Lochaber.

## Drivers warned to expect chaos as cyclists ride A82

ROAD users have been warned to expect 'chaos and delays' by campaign group, the A82 Partnership, in the run-up to a cycling event in which a woman died last year.

On Friday, September 11, there is expected to be 800 cyclists travelling north on the road from Crianlarich to Fort William for the annual Ride Across Britain event.

The A82 partnership previously appealed to organisers, Deloitte, to re-consider the route, after it raised concerns over the amount of traffic already using the road coupled with the safety of cyclists and travellers on the day. But their appeals stating that there were no overtaking opportunities on the 10-mile stretch between

Onich and Fort William failed to budge Deloitte organisers, who went ahead anyway.

During last year's ride from Land's End to John O' Groats, mother of two, Sally Preece, 49, from Cheltenham, died when her bike collided with a car on the A85 near to Loch Earn.

Following the death of Mrs Preece, the journey was curtailed and cyclists were bussed along the A82 to their overnight stop at Torlundy, but plans look likely to go-ahead again this year.

Councillor Brian Murphy, chairman of the A82 partnership, said: 'We are all already aware of the impact on traffic flows of just two cyclists travelling between Onich and Fort William, but to have numerous groups of up to

30 will cause significant delays and will result in frustration.'

'To arrive in Fort William on a Friday afternoon is utter madness. Traffic travelling north out of Fort William on a Friday afternoon on a normal week faces significant delays, so I cannot imagine the impact of an additional 800 cyclists on this traffic flow.'

Nick Tuppen of Deloitte said: 'The safety of our riders has always been a top priority along with minimising disruption for the local communities. In view of the tragic accident last year, we have worked particularly closely with Transport Scotland and Police Scotland to understand the challenges of the area you have referenced.'

AkzoNobel

£10

BACK

WHEN YOU SPEND

£30 ON DULUX

Promotion only available in Independent Retailer stockists






Visit us at:

**Craigard Décor**

**10-12 Craigard Road, Oban, Argyll PA34 5NP**

**Tel: 01631 562680**

paint again for free

the let's colour™ guarantee



let's colour

If the colour is not right for you Dulux will exchange it for free

Promotion runs in participating outlets from 24th August through to 31st October 2015.

## Nicola's a class act say pupils as school visit leaves them on a high

SCOTLAND'S First Minister praised Oban high when she visited the school on Monday morning.

In an exclusive interview with the *Oban Times*, Nicola Sturgeon said she had visited many schools in Scotland, but in Oban she had a genuine feeling about young people's enthusiastic attitude towards education.

Ms Sturgeon posed for a photograph with the senior pupils' leadership team (pictured right) before visiting Oban Phoenix Cinema, a housing association estate and the offices of the *Oban Times*.

For a full report of the Scottish government's visit to Oban, turn to pages four and five.



## TIMESLINE

### Annual review on the cards for NHS

IT IS now less than two weeks until NHS Highland's annual review, which this year takes place in Caithness.

The review, which is being taken by the cabinet secretary for health and wellbeing, Shona Robison, is being held on Monday, September 7.

Members of the public are being encouraged to attend the open session, which is being held in the Wick Assembly Rooms at 1.30pm.

### Art society likes to display its talents

OBAN Art Society's annual exhibition in the Cadet Hall begins tomorrow, Friday, until Saturday, September 5.

The group has been holding exhibitions of its members' works for 50 years.

This year there will be over 20 contributors and over 150 items, each unique and only available for the duration of the exhibition.

### West coast canvas inspired artists

THREE Argyll artists have collaborated for an exhibition in Glasgow's prestigious Leiper Gallery next month.

Lesley Burr, Fiona MacRae and Sian MacQueen are exhibiting works which they say is inspired by life on the west coast.

The exhibition is scheduled to open on September 3.

### Early Christmas gift for the town

WITH only 120 days to Christmas, the town's premier event, 'Oban Winter Festival' has been given a funding boost of £2,000 by councillors. Organisers said this year's event will be 'better than ever'.

Find us on Facebook  
www.facebook.com/obantimes

# Jobs on the line as cuts bite

COUNCIL CALLS FOR VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCIES AS IT AIMS TO SAVE BETWEEN £15M TO £18M OVER NEXT TWO YEARS

STEVEN RAE  
srae@obantimes.co.uk

CASHED-strapped bosses at Argyll and Bute council are asking for voluntary redundancies as the authority tries to save more than £15 million.

All staff, with the exception of school teachers and social care employees registered with the Scottish Social Services council, will be invited to take a voluntary redundancy package.

The move is part of the council's bid to slash spending by between £15.7 million and £18.4 million over the next two years.

The authority's policy and resources committee endorsed the austerity plan at a meeting in Lochgilphead last week.

A report by Douglas Hendry, the council's executive director of community services, made no



TOUGH CHOICES: Councillor Duncan MacIntyre

mention of the number of redundancies which might be required to help bridge the council's budget gap.

However, the report did say:

'It is anticipated that the council will require to reduce its budget by between £21.7m - £26.m over

... at the moment the council is struggling with staff numbers ...

Duncan MacIntyre

five years with an anticipated reduction in the next two years of between £15.7 and £18.4m.

'Inevitably jobs will be affected and, given the council's policy to

avoid compulsory redundancies as far as possible, it is recommended that a letter is sent to council employees asking them to express an interest in voluntary redundancy.'

A report to the council's policy and resources committee highlighted that not all requests for voluntary redundancy would be guaranteed as the council must ensure that services continue to operate.

The council will explore further savings from different services, such as the use of fuel-efficient vehicles to reduce the budget for pool cars, pupil transport or reducing travel budgets. It will also scrutinise small central budgets for postage or publication subscriptions.

The local authority said that cuts which would affect major services would be put out for pub-

lic consultation from October, with the committee to receive feedback and recommend proposals to the council in January next year. A final decision will be announced by the council in February.

Councillor for Oban North and Lorn, Duncan MacIntyre, said that any loss of staff in the local authority would have an impact on the services delivered.

He said: 'It's very sad we have to have redundancies, but we have to be mindful that some people may want to accept the offer, and obviously have to honour that.'

'It's obviously far better than forcing redundancies on people - I suppose it's the lesser of two evils.'

'It's still a concern though, because at the moment the council is struggling with staff numbers for things like grass cutting

and street cleaning. If you start reducing numbers in areas such as that, you're going to notice a big difference very quickly.'

'That means you have to weigh these things up.'

He continued: 'Do you take people from the front line services or from higher up? There's no easy answer.'

'You could take two members of management, who are on £50,000 salaries, or five people 'on the ground' at £20,000, but the impact on these services will be noticed very quickly.'

'The reduction of three councillors in the 2017 elections, if the boundary changes go ahead, will obviously save money but that's still 18 months away.'

In 2010, a similar call for voluntary redundancies by the council received more than 900 responses.

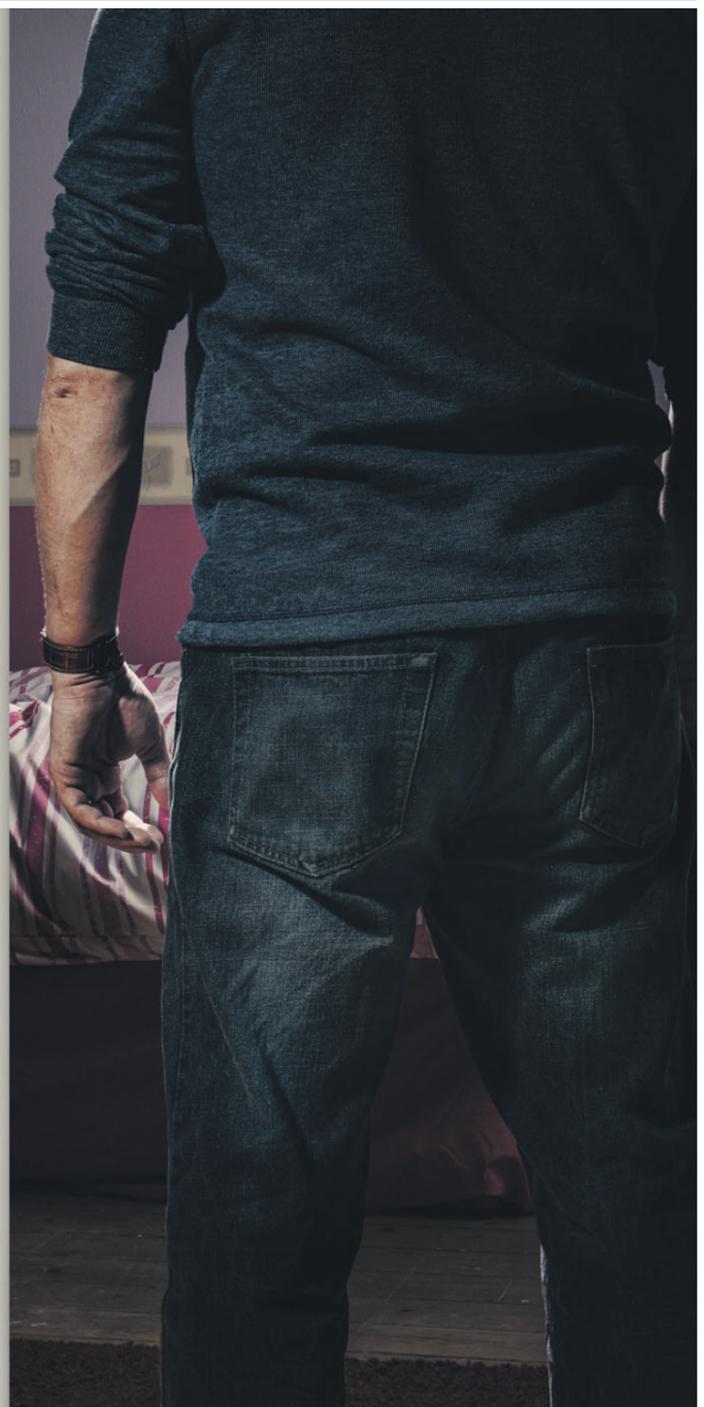


# YOU COULD BE ALL THAT'S BETWEEN KATE AND ANOTHER NIGHT OF ABUSE.

This is your chance to make a real difference to a vulnerable child's life by volunteering to sit on the Children's Panel. You don't need qualifications to apply, you just need to care.

Applications close 30th September.

To find out more visit [childrenspanelscotland.org](http://childrenspanelscotland.org)



# Lifeboat rescues fishermen before their vessel sinks

**STEVEN RAE**  
srae@obantimes.co.uk

FIVE fishermen were dramatically rescued after their vessel ran aground and capsized in the Sound of Mull on Monday.

The crew aboard the St Apollo escaped into their life-raft during the incident, which happened around 3.30am.

A rescue helicopter was sent from Prestwick, but the group were reached first by the Oban lifeboat, where they were taken ashore.

The Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) has launched an inquiry into the cause of the sinking.

A spokesman for Oban RNLI said: 'At 4.25am the lifeboat arrived at the scene and found that the crew of the fishing vessel had taken the precaution of launching their life-raft while

they were awaiting rescue. As soon as the lifeboat arrived, the crew of the fishing vessel decided to abandon ship into the raft.

'The five crew were then taken on board the lifeboat just in time to see their fishing vessel slip back into deeper water, capsize and become almost completely submerged.'

'The crew of the fishing vessel were checked for injuries and found to be no worse for their traumatic ordeal.'

A representative from the Fishermen's Mission met the crew of the St Apollo on Oban Pier to offer assistance and a hot breakfast before the five men headed home to Ayrshire.

Matthew Ramsay, superintendent said: 'Many thanks to the Regent hotel, Oban, and its general manager, Tommy Sutherland.

'Staff members Nicu, Ann and



Pictured is Oban lifeboat's XP boat, used to get alongside the fishing vessel during Monday's rescue

Irene all made sure the men were well cared for.

'They didn't bat an eyelid when asked to help so early in the morning - true West Highland hospitality and kindness at its best.'

'The mission is now on hand to offer support until the men can get back to the fishing.'

The rescue was the culmination of a busy 24 hours for the Oban crew, which had to deal with four call-outs.

On Sunday afternoon, the lifeboat was sent to help a yacht in difficulties off Craignish Point but stood down when another boat took the yacht under tow.

The crew received another callout that afternoon, but again stood down before launching.

Then in the evening, the crew set off to help a jet skier in trouble, but returned to port after the vessel was assisted ashore.

## TIMESLINE

### Teenager charged with abusive rant

A TEENAGER was arrested in Oban's Soroba Road on Saturday night after being accused of launching an abusive tirade at police.

The 18-year-old suspect was accused of using threatening and abusive language to the police at 11.15pm.

A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Accused of theft from Oban store

POLICE were called to Boots the chemist on Oban's George Street on Friday evening following a report of shoplifting.

A 47-year-old man was arrested by police after he was accused of stealing from the shop.

A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Dangerous driver reported to fiscal

A FORTY-SIX year old woman has been reported to the procurator fiscal for dangerous driving near Taynuilt.

Police stopped the driver at 5.30 on Monday morning on the A85.

### Check conditions before setting off

POLICE have appealed to drivers to take road conditions into account when they set off, even on the shortest journeys. This advice was issued after four people were killed on the roads last weekend.

### Motorist caught driving at 99mph

A DRIVER was caught almost hitting a ton last week.

Police clocked the 30-year-old man travelling at 99mph on the A82 near Tyndrum.

A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

# 'Inconsiderate' dog walkers fall foul of club

**STEVEN RAE**  
srae@obantimes.co.uk

RUGBY enthusiasts from Oban are the latest to call foul on the disgusting practice of owners not clearing up after their dogs.

As well as occasionally finding dog dirt on the pitches at Oban Lorne Rugby club, bags of dog mess have been found tied up and thrown on top of a metal container used by the club to store equipment.

Dee Bradbury, Oban Lorne president, said: 'We, as a club, are very concerned about this situation. While this is a public space, it is primarily a sporting facility.'

'Rugby requires players to go to ground and on occasion players have been covered in dog faeces. This applies to our adult and juvenile players. There is a high risk of serious infection. Who would want this to happen?'

'For those who have made the effort to pick up and then throw it on the container roof - what is wrong with you? Bins are about 10 feet away. We will seriously consider monitoring the situa-



TACKLING FOUL PLAY: Back row, from left: Oban Lorne committee member Claire McQueen, Allan Wright, Craig Wright, Craig McGuire and Julie McKenzie. (Above right) Dee Bradbury



tion from within the clubhouse and making our findings public. 'Please pick up after your dog and take the bag home.'

Argyll and Bute rugby development officer, Allan Wright, who plays for Oban Lorne, said: 'You couldn't make this up.'

'It's ridiculous that people would pick the mess up, bag it, tie the bag, and then throw it on the roof like that.'

Allan's brother, Craig, who also plays for Lorne, said: 'The thing is, the people doing it probably live nearby, but have no pride in their local area or the sporting

facilities the club uses. In the past, there's been times when senior and junior players have got dog dirt on their shoes or on their legs. Players should be able to take it for granted that there's no dog mess on the pitch.'

Craig McGuire, who is captain of the Argyll and Bute rugby team, said: 'It's disrespectful for the area, for the club and for everyone else. Others use the pitch and pick up the dirt and put it in bins. These inconsiderate people ruin it for everyone else.'

Oban community councillor, Julie McKenzie, who is a founding member of the group, Oban community action on dog fouling, met the players and discussed their concerns, as well as giving the club members anti-dog-fouling signs to put up in the grounds.

The dog fouling group is keeping going the momentum of its campaign.

Julie said: 'Anyone who is interested in helping or supporting us should come to the Atlantis leisure centre at 10am on Monday, where we will discuss our future plans with our partner agencies.'

ADVERTORIAL

## See for yourself how achievable energy efficiency can be

Green Home Energy Week from 5-13 September gives you the chance to visit over 50 homes from the Green Homes Network, including four in Argyll from Helensburgh to Lochgilphead.

Discover what it's like to live in a home with energy efficiency improvements and renewables systems. Chat to green homeowners about their experiences and find out more about the free advice and support available to help you make your home more energy efficient.

The Green Homes Network

features a broad range of low cost and innovative energy efficiency improvements; from solar powered heating to wind turbines, heat pumps to biomass boilers, wall insulation to loft insulation and everything in between.

Find out more information about the open homes, community events, technologies and measures being

showcased, as well as dates and times in your area at [www.greenhomeenergyweek.org.uk](http://www.greenhomeenergyweek.org.uk).



## Case study

Lochgilphead homeowners Amanda and Richard had a very high monthly electricity bill for heating, despite the fact that they had installed solar PV panels in early 2012 with the help of the Home Energy Scotland renewables loan scheme.

The couple were becoming increasingly conscious of the carbon footprint they were creating and the environmental impact of non-renewable heating fuels, so they made the decision to further investigate renewable technologies. This eventually led them to contact Home Energy Scotland for advice and expertise. Amanda comments: 'Our advisor was extremely knowledgeable and helped to clarify an otherwise very complicated and convoluted process.'

As well as reducing their bills and carbon footprint, Amanda and Richard were also keen to make the most of the various government schemes in operation, such as the Feed-in Tariff (FIT), the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) payments and the renewables loan.

The couple were committed to installing a biomass boiler and were fortunate that they had plenty of spare time to research the different technologies and potential installers to get the right system for them.

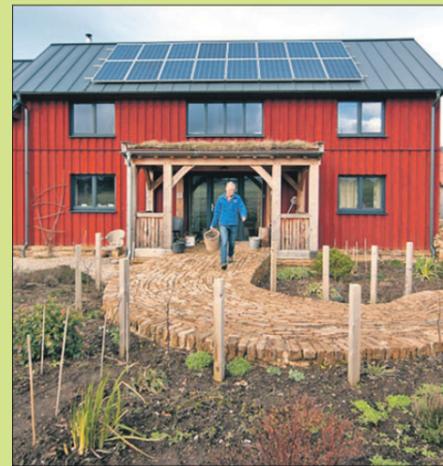
Amanda explains: 'It took a lot of patience and tenacity, but eventually our biomass boiler was installed in January of this year (2014) and we could not be happier with the system and the installers.'

The installation team were amazing and I could not recommend them highly enough. I was dreading the process as, in addition to the biomass boiler, we needed a new wet system to be installed in the property, which was a big undertaking. My fears were instantly alleviated by the professional and hard-working installers who completed the works efficiently and with minimal mess and disruption.'

For others considering installing a similar renewable system, Amanda and Richard would recommend researching the systems and the different schemes thoroughly. The couple reflect on their journey: 'The whole

pathway into renewable technology can be very daunting for a lot of people and many may be, initially, put off by the assessment and assistance structure; however, once you access the system it is very worthwhile! It would be great to see more information about renewable technologies available in a format that people can understand: a clear visual map or flow-chart which guides you through all the steps of the process.'

Amanda and Richard are keen to talk to others who are considering installing renewable systems as they understand the benefit of getting first-hand perspectives of peoples' experiences in navigating the process.



energy saving trust

# see for yourself how you could live more energy efficiently

Green Home Energy Week  
5-13 September 2015

Green Home Energy Week is a week-long showcase of living more energy efficiently. Taking place across Scotland, inspirational homeowners and community groups are opening their doors to share and chat about their experiences with you.

Choose which properties and events you'd like to visit at [greenhomeenergyweek.org.uk](http://greenhomeenergyweek.org.uk) or call **0808 808 2282**.

[HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG](http://HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG)  
**0808 808 2282**  
FUNDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

**natural scotland**  
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Please note that the Energy Saving Trust and Home Energy Scotland advice centres accept no responsibility for the home, property owner or the visitor during Green Home Energy Week visits. Visitors attending homes and community events do so at their own risk.

**Corporate stationery**  
Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, comp slips

**Personal stationery**  
Matching paper & envelopes,  
postcards, address labels

**krisp print**

Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,  
Main Street/Langrow South,  
Campbeltown PA28 6JD  
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk  
www.krispprint.co.uk

## Fort dump Deveronvale to earn first three points of the season

**Fort William 2**  
**Deveronvale 1**  
Highland League

FORT WILLIAM secured their first three points of the season with a well deserved win over Deveronvale at Claggan Park last Saturday.

The young team, who have had a tough start to the season, beat Deveronvale 2-1 at home on Saturday.

The boys started off on the front foot and took the game to the visitors right from the start.

The impressive Lewis Morrison, steered the ball in from the right before it was picked up by Danny Mackintosh, whose header left the goalie with no chance.

With the first half dominated by Fort William, the Vale took the opportunity to equalise in the 54th minute.

The local side managed to keep their cool and regained control of

the game throughout the second half and with just seven minutes left on the clock Scott Chisholm fired home from the edge of the box to make the final score 2-1.

Manager Ally Ewen was pleased with the result, as it was his first win as team manager. He said: 'This is the second time we've beaten Deveronvale. Last year we on 4-3. I think that we are on par as teams, so it was pleasing to get that first win of the season against them. We lost a lot of players from last year, so the Fort William team is quite a new one. 'The boys are training really hard for the games - twice a week - and I think that they are starting to gel now.'

Fort William travel away to play Lossiemouth this weekend and then will be back at home the following Wednesday to face Buckie Thistle.



ON TARGET: Fort trialist Glen Fell takes on Deveronvale keeper, Grant Pennet 16\_f35football02



NEW KIT: Fort William Football Club were formally presented with a new strip at the weekend. Our picture shows club vice chairman David Macdonald, Gary Duff of DM Hall Chartered Surveyors, club vice captain Darren Quigg and manager, Alistair Ewen f35footballstrip35

## Fort William ladies hold development fun day

A LADIES shinty club hosted its first family fun day in a bid to generate interest in the sport.

The women of the newly established Fort William ladies shinty team held a development league at An Aird on Saturday August 15.

The event brought youngsters from Inverness to Fort William to show off their skills. Although

other Lochaber teams failed to make the fun day the An Aird ladies were able to make up teams out of their own players and those from Inverness to let the sports continue.

Coach Yvonne Clark said: 'There are six of us involved in the development of the ladies shinty team for a number of years and we began to work hard to

build it up. Now we have built a squad of about 24 players. We are doing really well, sometimes teams struggle to field just one team.

### Successful day

'The fun day is about developing the interest of young people and kids in the sport. It was unfortunate that some of the other teams couldn't make but it has

### Ladies shinty

been a successful and busy day.'

The park was filled with players and spectators while youngster played on the afternoon and received coaching.

Families enjoyed home-baking stalls, tombola stalls, face-painting and snacks.



DEVELOPMENT: Teams of young people were selected on the day



ORGANISERS: Player Ashleigh Fraser, 19, with coach Yvonne Clark and fellow player Elaine Wink, 29. 21\_f35funday01



BOWLED OVER: Winners of this year's Duncan Gillies triples competition, held at the Fort William Railway bowling club's Inverloch green last Sunday. From left, Wilson Tain, Agnes Tain, Patrizia Gillies, who presented the trophy, and Bill Gibbons f35bowl1no

## Portree primary lifts the silverware

PORTREE primary school were the winners of The KCC primary schools six-a-side tournament that took place at the Kingussie Camanachd club's ground. The Dell on Sunday August 23. The

### School shinty

youngsters beat Newtonmore and Beauly in the semi final and final of the tournament.



WINNERS: Portree primary school shinty team f35shintyschool01no

## Supercar event raises charity cash

### Motoring

A POPULAR supercar event that raises money for Lochaber charities will be televised for the first time this year.

The 2015 Mallaig and West Coast run is set to take off on Saturday and Sunday September 5 and 6.

Mark Ryan has been organising the super car event for six years and it has grown year on year. Last year saw 53 supercars visit the Lochaber area and 35 are expected to appear this year.

Each year drivers donate cash to a local charity and over the past two years more than £600 has been shared between Glencoe mountain rescue service and the RNLI.

This year the Scottish Air Ambulance service will benefit from the generous donations.

Mr Ryan said: 'The charitable donations are our way of giving back to the community who are kind enough to allow us to disrupt their roads for a couple of hours every year to do our run.'

Drivers will be staying at Ballachulish overnight on the Saturday evening before making their way to Fort William's Ben Nevis hotel on Sunday.

Times to see the cars on the day will be 10am until 11.15am at Ben Nevis hotel in Fort William and again at 3pm.

They will be in Mallaig between 12.15pm and 2pm where the public are free to visit and view the cars.

## Welfare season comes to an end

### Welfare football

LAST night (Wednesday) marked the end of this year's Marine Harvest welfare league.

As the Oban Times went to print yesterday Mallaig were preparing to welcome Caol United for the second leg of the Duthie cup final.

Mallaig will be out for revenge after an 8-1 thrashing by their rivals when they met in the first leg on Friday night, but Caol have only lost one game this season so are favourites to pick up the cup.

## Returns from Isle of Skye Golf Club

### Golf

GOLFERS played for the Highland cup at Isle of Skye golf club on Wed August 19.

The results were:  
Category one (aged 0-12): 1. John Allan Macleod 12 (80,68); 2. John Finlayson 10 (78,68); 3. Murdo Gordon 7 (75,68).

Category two (aged 13-28): 1. Dave Macvicar 14 (73,59); 2. Robert Macaskill 27 (92,65); 3. John Marshall 14 (81,67).

On Saturday and Sunday 22 and 23 the club hosted the Benford cup competition. The results were:

Category one (aged 0-12): 1. John Finlayson 19 (73,63); 2. Alex Munro 9 (73, 6); 3. Dave Macvicar 12 (77,65).

Category two (aged 13-28): 1. Kyle Pirie 14 (77,63); 2. Gillies Nicolson 17 (81,64); 3. James Colven 24 (89,65).

like us on  
**facebook**  
www.facebook.com/obantimes

**SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES**

**NORTH WEST MARINE**  
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG  
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419  
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk

Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban

**WEATHER**

**Thursday** Heavy rain showers  
Winds moderate south south westerly  
Temperatures 13°C to 15°C.

**Friday** Heavy rain showers  
Winds moderate south south westerly  
Temperatures 13°C to 15°C.

**Weekend Outlook** Heavy rain showers on Saturday  
Heavy rain showers on Sunday  
Winds moderate south westerly  
Temperatures 12°C to 15°C.

**Stop Press:** New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

**TIDAL INFORMATION**  
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, August 27, 2015** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	03.53	3.3	09.56	1.2	16.17	3.7	22.15	1.1
Fri	04.35	3.6	10.41	0.9	16.57	4.0	23.04	0.8
Sat	05.13	3.8	11.24	0.5	17.36	4.2	23.49	0.5
Sun	05.49	4.0	12.06	0.3	18.14	4.3	** **	**
Mon	00.31	0.3	06.25	4.0	12.48	0.2	18.52	4.3
Tues	01.14	0.3	07.03	4.0	13.32	0.2	19.32	4.2
Wed	01.56	0.4	07.42	3.9	14.16	0.4	20.12	4.0

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate