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& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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The first two blades for the new wind farm arrived at the Carraig Gheal wind farm north west of Loch Awe on Monday morning. Picture - Kevin McGlynn

First Loch Awe wind farm turbines roll in

THE FIRST of 20, 46MW wind turbines, measuring up to 125m, were delivered to the new Carraig Gheal wind farm site near Loch Awe on Monday. GreenPower's site took delivery of blades, a nacelle and the first tower section at dawn

following an overnight delivery, arranged to avoid traffic disruption on the A83 and the A816. The delivery means the first of the site's turbines can now be erected. John Morgan, director of GreenPower, said: 'I'm

delighted that - after many years working on the wind farm design, taking it through planning and preparing the site - we now have the first turbines ready to go up. Transporting the turbines to the site has taken a big logistical effort, with the

construction of 28km of new forest road to reach the wind farm. It was a great moment when the first batch of Siemens and Wind Towers components arrived. 'As a Scottish company we are particularly pleased to see

the towers manufactured here in Argyll supporting local jobs and investment in the process.' Deliveries will continue for eight to 10 weeks, running from Sunday to Thursday with two convoys running per night, starting at midnight with two

hours between each departure. Updates on any changes to the schedule will be posted on Twitter @Carraig_Gheal and the website carraighealwindfarm.co.uk. The GreenPower development is due to be completed early next year.

Argyll court change concern

All sheriff and jury trials could move to Dumfries as part of new proposals

SHERIFF and jury trials will be removed from Argyll if proposals to shake up the Scottish Court Service are passed. Oban Sheriff Court currently handles these trials as well as all other court business not serious enough to be considered appropriate to be dealt with in the High Court. But a consultation document issued last week suggests that on the mainland, 16 sheriff and jury centres would be created.

These are Glasgow, Aberdeen, Inverness, Edinburgh, Livingston, Paisley, Dumfries, Kilmarnock, Airdrie, Hamilton, Ayr, Dumfries, Perth, Dundee, Falkirk and Dunfermline. All sheriff and jury business that is currently held in Oban would be shifted to Dumfries if the proposals go ahead. Campbelltown and Dunoon would also lose out on these trials. Austin Lafferty, president of the Law Society of Scotland said: 'We do have concerns around the consolidation of sheriff and jury business, in particular, around the capacity of the 16 courts earmarked for this work to manage the increased case volumes. 'We also have concerns around the deskilling of court practitioners, which may also take place with solicitors in more rural areas such as Oban less likely to receive experience of sheriff and jury work, which

Ferry services to go to tender in 2014

TENDERING for the new Clyde and Hebrides Ferries Service contract will begin in autumn 2014 and will be offered on a single contract basis, it has been confirmed.

Transport Scotland has also announced a new three year interim contract with existing operator, Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) to ensure a 'robust and thorough' procurement exercise.

Transport minister Keith Brown said: 'We have looked closely at the options available to us to drive up ferry service standards and no compelling case that tendering individual routes - or 'unbundling' the current contract - has been put to me.

'This decision will allay fears stoked by some that we are seeking to break up routes for individual operators to run.'

Road closures scheduled for Barcaldine

HIGH friction road surfacing to be applied to the A828 near Barcaldine will see four overnight road closures in November. The road between Creran Cot-

tage and Mill Farm will close on one night, from 9pm-6am on Thursday, November 1, followed by three night closures from Tuesday, November 6.

With no diversion route in place, traffic will be able to pass every two hours during 15 minute intervals, from 10pm, midnight, 2am and 4am.

Black-spot driver puts school children at risk

A DRIVER who overtook a school bus at a notorious accident black-spot near Dunbeg has been criticised for putting the safety of children at risk.

Police are appealing for information after a silver, Ssyangyong Rexton crossed double-white lines to overtake a West Coast Motors' bus on the A85 near the Half Way Filling Station at 3.55pm on Thursday last week. So alarmed was the driver of the bus that he contacted police.

Colin Craig, managing director of West Coast Motors, said the driver of the car was lucky to escape unhurt. He said: 'By overtaking at a

point where it is prohibited and where oncoming cars wouldn't have seen it, the driver of the car put themselves, our driver and the school children on board in danger.

'It was very lucky that nobody pulled out of a nearby junction as his or her actions could have resulted in a head-on collision.'

Oban Police Inspector Julie McLeish said: 'We work hard to promote the safety of all road users.

'This incident involved the safety of schoolchildren, which is particularly concerning.'

Anyone with information should contact PC Colin May at Oban Police Office.

Pub giant applies for planning permission

PUBLICANS in Oban will hold a meeting today (Thursday) after learning that pub giant JD Wetherspoon has applied for planning permission to alter premises in the town.

Wetherspoon has submitted plans to change the use of premises currently occupied by Wilderness on Oban's Railway Pier.

JD Wetherspoon confirmed to *The Oban Times* that negotiations to buy the Oban property are ongoing but a deal is yet to be completed.

Outlined in the application are plans to install new north-facing doors and a pavement café. Local licensed traders fear the

arrival of the nationwide chain will have an adverse impact on their trade. Lindsey MacDonald, vice-chair of the Oban Licensed Trade Association, said: 'There are concerns about Wetherspoon and the meeting was called on this basis. This is a small community and they are such a big group that they'll be able to offer deals that smaller businesses won't be able to match. We don't know who it will impact on most but this will be discussed on Thursday.'

Wetherspoon's spokesperson said: 'We have applied for planning permission and will await the outcome of that before applying for a licence.'

Woman injured as light aircraft crashes on Mull

A WOMAN who was airlifted to hospital in Glasgow after surviving a dramatic plane crash on Mull has returned to the island.

Pilot Linda Winstanley and companion Matthew Jackson, 47 were attempting to land a Cessna aircraft at Glenforsa airstrip when they crashed last weekend. The pair, on holiday from Essex, had to be pulled from the wreckage by airfield manager, David Howitt who saw the incident take place.

Mr Howitt told *The Oban Times* another aircraft landed just before Ms Winstanley with no problems. He advised her to watch the landing to see how she would approach.

The pilot who had just landed also radioed advice to the 49-year-old to approach 'faster than usual'.

Mr Howitt said: 'It is quite a treacherous approach, the wind was increasing and there was severe turbulence, it is not the speed of the wind that does you but the turbulence.'

He said Ms Winstanley was 'well aware' of his concerns regarding the turbulence.



The Cessna aircraft crashed while attempting to land at Glenforsa airstrip. Picture - David Howitt

'We had done everything in our power to help her,' added Mr Howitt. 'Watching the approach I was concerned the aircraft was flying far too

slowly. It ploughed into the ground, there was a violent impact. She hammer-headed straight into the ground vertically.'

As Mr Howitt approached the aircraft he feared the occupants would not have survived: 'I could hear banging on the passenger door and thought at least somebody is still alive.'

After wrenching the door open Mr Howitt freed the pilot and passenger who were both hanging upside down by their harnesses.

He said: 'Mercifully the plane did not go on fire, it took us about 10 minutes to get them out. If the thing had flamed they would have been incinerated, no question about it.'

By this point Mr Howitt had assistance from others on the airfield and commended the emergency services in getting to the scene so quickly. 'Within five to six minutes an ambulance had arrived and a helicopter was here in 20 minutes. You really have to applaud these guys for their response time,' he said.

'They are very lucky. They're fine, they're back on Mull and can enjoy the rest of their holiday.'

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Campbeltown restoration

EXTENSIVE repair and restoration work started this week on another of the target buildings in the Campbeltown Townscape Heritage Initiative programme.

The vacant tenement at 13-15 Kirk Street, which is a Category C listed building and has been the focus of comment in the media and concern among local residents, will undergo a thorough renovation by local contractors.

Lead councillor for environment, development and infrastructure John Semple said: 'This contract is a welcome boost to the local industry at a time when many firms are struggling for work.'

Bus and lorry drivers face tougher phone penalties

NORTHERN Constabulary has welcomed a new regime of tougher penalties for bus and lorry drivers using mobile phones while driving.

The Traffic Commissioner can now consider further action against any individual - and potentially a company - if a driver is convicted of such an offence.

Offenders now face the suspension or loss of licences instead of a fine and penalty points. Employers could face additional sanctions.

Acting Inspector Norman MacLeod said: 'It will hopefully get the message across not to use mobile phones. Ultimately this is about improving safety on our roads for all and I hope all motorists take today's launch as a testament of our commitment to such an unnecessary offence.'

The crackdown has the blessing of the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland.

Jimmy Savile gravestone slip-up raises a smile

JIMMY Savile's gravestone in a Scarborough cemetery has raised a smile or two - with a typo in the title of one of his most important Lochaber roles.

The engraver described Mr Savile as 'chieftan of Lochaber Highland Games' - instead of the correct spelling chieftain.

The funeral director said the £4,000 stone would be fixed soon.

Jolomo Bank of Scotland Award

WEST coast artists are being invited to take part in Scotland's biggest art competition.

The Jolomo Bank of Scotland Award 2013 was launched in Edinburgh this week with a top prize of £25,000 on offer.

Emerging artists are being asked to submit paintings of the Scottish landscape to be in with a chance of winning the cash.

Founded in 2006, the awards are presented every two years, showcasing the best new Scottish artists.

New Euro funding up for grabs

HIGHLAND fishing communities are being urged to apply to a new Euro fund for tourism, business diversification and training projects.

Highland Council is contributing £137,348 towards the £549,392 available from Axis 4 of the European Fisheries Fund up to December 31 2013.

The council has set up a Fisheries Local Action Group to allocate the funding locally. Local groups and businesses should submit expressions of interest by October 2012. A further round will be announced in due course.

Royal Society 'question time' scales the heights

A LIQUID gold sunset over Loch Eil provided a stunning backdrop for the Royal Society of Edinburgh's 'Question Time' at Nevis Range, Torlundy, last Monday night.

As Professor Tom Devine from the University of Edinburgh delivered his thought provoking take on Scottish history's revival in the nation's schools and universities, outside the elemental beauty of the Highlands was revealed in all its glory.

Hail, sleet and even snow had lashed Aonach Mor throughout the day, but the dying sun managed to lance through the clouds above Glenfinnan to light up the entire loch back towards Corpach.

A Lochaber audience of more than 100 enjoyed the evening in the Snowgoose Restaurant, 2,100 feet up the mountain.

Professor Devine and Dr Nicola Stanley-Wall, lecturer in molecular microbiology at the University of Dundee, were announced as this year's winners of the RSE Beltane prizes for public engagement.

RSE president Sir John Arbutnot presented the duo with their awards at the event.

An evening of robust discussion, argument, diverse views

By STEPHEN NORRIS
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and humour followed as Professor Devine spoke briefly before inviting questions from the audience.

As the audience took their seats, Nevis Range marketing manager Heather Negus told *The Oban Times*: 'We have never had such an eminent group of people up the mountain. We are absolutely delighted they are here. It's great from Nevis Range's point of view because it is a different market completely.'

All those attending had to take the mountain gondola up Aonach Mor, the cars swinging gently on the cable in the stiff breeze.

Kate Kennedy, RSE project officer for Lochaber, said: 'We are very pleased with how many people have come. I can't imagine we have had anywhere higher than this as a venue!'

Eminent Gaelic historian Professor Hugh Cheape, who is leading the postgraduate course in Material Culture and Highland History at Skye's Gaelic college Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, gave an address in Gaelic. Local MP Charles Kennedy chaired the event.



Golden spectacle: the sun goes down over Loch Eil, pictured from the Snowgoose Restaurant at Nevis Range. 20_139sunset01



Professor Tom Devine, Dr Nicola Stanley-Wall, Charles Kennedy MP and Sir John Arbutnot at the presentation. 20_139rse01

Ballet West dancer wins top award

A DANCER at a Taynait-based ballet school has claimed a prestigious award at a ceremony in Edinburgh.

Natasha Watson, a 16-year-old student at Ballet West, won the overall prize at the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) senior awards day held last Sunday.

Natasha won the advanced level award and the prize for best dancer overall.

This year the competition was judged by the new artistic director of Scottish Ballet Christopher Hampson.

The Senior Awards Day is a popular bi-annual event for Scottish students studying the RAD vocational syllabus.

This year more than 140 students attended the event,

including six from Ballet West. Students were judged in four levels of ability and an overall prize given to the best dancer on the day.

Natasha has been dancing since she was three years old and joined Ballet West full-time in 2011. Natasha combines her dance training with work as a TV and film actor.

She starred alongside David Tennant in the TV drama *Single Father* in 2010 and with Jason Isaacs in *Case Histories* in 2011, in the same year she won Best Actress at the Scottish Variety Awards.

Ballet West principal Gillian Barton said: 'Natasha is a very dedicated and hardworking student and I am delighted by her latest success.'



Natasha Watson with Christopher Hampson, artistic director of Scottish Ballet.

Winter electricity bill fears raised after woman's compensation claim refused

A WOMAN who has been paying out thousands of pounds a year for electricity in a small flat has been refused compensation by her landlord.

Elwira Luzack, a tenant of Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA), is spending the vast majority of her wages on her electricity bill and has begged to move house.

The woman, originally from Poland, has been told her problem is 'not urgent' and she will need to wait at least six months to be in with a chance of getting a new property.

The problems began when Elwira moved into her home in Colonsay Terrace, Oban. She was told the boiler and heating system were already set and wasn't given a manual.

Elwira had initially been placed on the

wrong tariff. This issue has now been resolved but with her estimated bill for the coming year of £2,500 and with winter approaching she is understandably worried.

Elwira said: 'My bills have always been my priority so I do what I can to pay them. But it is a big struggle as a single mother earning about £120 a week to keep up with everything.'

'I still can't afford to equip my sons' bedrooms with furniture they need. We haven't been on holidays together as a family for the last few years.'

'My children usually stay with our relatives during summer holidays while I have to work. I fear that this winter again I will spend most of my earnings on electricity bills.'

Elwira, who was so upset by the

situation it reduced her to tears, has begged Scottish Hydro Electric for help.

She added: 'I received about £130 from Scottish Hydro Electric in 2011 although they said that it wasn't up to them to check if I am on the right tariff or if I am using the right key for the meter because it is ACHA who I rent my flat from.'

'I also contacted ALenergy in Oban. They tried to help me and contacted Scottish Hydro Electric to ask if I could have a refund towards my bills.'

'I didn't get any but ALenergy got a new electric cooker that is supposed to use less electricity.'

Alastair MacGregor, chief executive of ACHA, said: 'Ms Luzack invoked the association's formal complaints process in relation to her heating and

compensation request. The association's appeals committee rejected Ms Luzack's request for compensation and if she is unhappy with this decision she has been advised to raise her complaint with the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman.'

'I would suggest that as her electricity bill has been estimated she could provide accurate readings to the utility company to enable a more precise bill to be produced.'

'With respect to Ms Luzack's request for a transfer to a different property, I can confirm that the association has a live application to transfer from Ms Luzack.'

'She has not been in contact with association staff recently but if she wishes to discuss her application she should contact the office to set up an appointment with a member of staff.'

Council praised for bringing empty homes back into use

A HOMELESS charity has praised Argyll and Bute Council's efforts in bringing empty homes back into use.

Shelter Scotland runs the Scottish Empty Homes Partnership, which provides support for councils seeking to reduce the number of empty properties in their areas.

The charity's Kristen Hubert said: 'Argyll and Bute Council should be praised for its continuing commitment to bringing empty homes back into use.'

'There are many reasons why an owner can get stuck with an empty home. Councils can help by providing advice

and support to help them get past the issues standing in their way - from lack of information through to lack of finance or skills. Bringing empty homes back into use has many benefits - it adds to the housing supply, contributes to local regeneration and supports community safety. We look forward to working with the council in tackling the problem of empty homes across Argyll and Bute.'

The council recently agreed a series of measures, representing an investment of £18 million, to ensure that people have access to sufficient and suitable affordable homes in the area.

This includes a strategy which will focus on bringing back into use Argyll and Bute's empty homes - which currently total 581.

The council has a target of ten homes per year coming back into use by offering refurbishment grants of up to £20,000 to owners providing they agree to lease the improved property to a social landlord for at least ten years.

Alternatively, loans could be made available to owners to upgrade properties, again up to £20,000 and with the condition that the home is made available for a minimum of five years.

Council pulls the plug on streetlight switch-off scheme

HIGHLAND Council has pulled the plug on a streetlight switch-off scheme in Kinlochleven and Dunvegan.

The cash-saving trial saw lights turned off between midnight and 6am to save cash - but came in for heavy criticism amid fears over pedestrian safety and increased criminal activity. A programme to convert lamps to more energy efficient white light will continue, as will the lights switch off in smaller communi-

ties where the move has proved less controversial. Annual savings of £60,000 have been achieved, the TEC Services committee heard. Chairman Graham Phillips said: 'We are learning from the experiences of the trials and will continue to liaise with communities to provide a level of service that best suits them. These trials have produced some worthwhile savings and will provide valuable information in determining future options.'

Centre awarded play equipment cash

KENTALLEN and Duror Community Centre has been awarded £9,702 to install outdoor play equipment for children up to 14.

The cash, from the Communities and Families Fund - a joint venture from the Big Lottery Fund and the Scottish Government - supports greater access to early learning, as well as play and child and maternal health support schemes.

Morvern Lines

ALTHOUGH the date may differ in other parts of the Highlands, September 20 used to be known in Morvern as 'Feill Roid' - the Day of the Roaring - the first day of the rutting season among the red deer.

It was said that if the night before was wet and the stag 'took his head wet into the rutting season' (ma bheir a cheann fliuch san fiadh) there would be a month of dry weather to follow.

The deer have now largely gone from the Morvern Peninsula - sacrificed on the altar of woodland schemes and farm-payments.

For the crime of nibbling a few saplings and walking on the same ground as their ancestors have done since the Ice Age, their numbers have been reduced through government quangos to an all time low.

They have taken with them not only many full time jobs but a traditional way of life stretching down through the centuries.

The chase was well recorded by local bards and hounds pursuing antlered stags feature on several medieval grave slabs at Kieil - a sure sign of how popular and ancient a sport it was.

Many place names, too, are being lost through lack of use or because full time stalkers have been replaced by itinerant outside contractors with no interest or knowledge of the local history.

In one glen alone, five individual corries, all with old, lovely sounding Gaelic names and meanings, have been replaced by and reduced to 'Corrie One, Corrie Two' etc.

Despite our technological age, man is still a hunter-gatherer and has in his heart the love and longing for intimate companionship with nature and wild sport. The old forests have gone, the stalkers have changed and rifles have become more accurate. We may surf the 'net', tune into the latest satellite channels, jet to foreign parts and speed through the glens on super-highways, yet when we go into the hills and see the antlers on the skyline and hear the deep-throated roaring of the rutting stag echoing round the mist-wreathed corries, our primeval blood is stirred and our imagination disappears down the centuries.

We remember the links which tie us to our own Palaeolithic past and experience again that 'call of the wild' in the strongest way imaginable. A curious phenomenon occurs in the Highlands for a few weeks every year. It is a strange, ethereal blue light, almost like smoke, which drifts through the glens. Because it only happens during the rut it is called in Gaelic 'Duish drich an Damh' - the Stag's Dust - a fitting epithet to a species that clothed and fed the nation during two major world wars.

Red deer are a national treasure, recognised across Europe and in North America as such and recently polled as Scotland's most symbolic mammal. Perhaps one day they will return to their previous numbers for without them we will have lost a vital asset.



The red deer stag's roar in Morvern has largely become a thing of the past.

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Six arrested on drugs related charges

SIX PEOPLE were arrested on drugs related charges by police in the Oban and Lorn area at the weekend.

On Friday, officers searched addresses in Oban and Benderloch and arrested two people. Later that evening a 32 year old man was arrested for possession of ecstasy tablets.

On Sunday morning a 25 year old man was found in possession of cannabis, before two men from Glasgow were arrested after their car was searched.

Oban Inspector Julie McLeish said: 'Drugs are a priority for us. No matter how big or small a quantity is seized, any seizure is positive. There are people making a lot of money out of the misuse of drugs.'

'We always encourage anyone with information to come forward.'

First for Manran and Skerryvore

CELTIC rock groups Manran and Skerryvore will play together for the first time in the Highlands when they take the stage at Oban's Corran Halls on Saturday.

Spean Bridge's Gary Innes said both bands were looking forward to the occasion, which aims to raise £15,000 for Cancer Research and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Oban band Ceol nan Aire will complete the line-up for the concert, which is being organised by Nonnie and Karen MacLennan of the DMI Cancer Trust. Some tickets are still available from the Corran Halls or Coasters.

Dunbeg father who chased son with axe fined

A FATHER who chased his son while wielding an axe before using it to smash a car windscreen has been fined and ordered to carry out unpaid work.

James MacDonald, 47, of 59 Lochnell Road, Dunbeg previously pled guilty to the offences when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court.

Sentencing had been delayed for a report to be produced which Sheriff Jamie Gilchrist described as 'positive'.

MacDonald was fined £240 and ordered to carry out 120 hours of unpaid work.

Would-be romantic weekend ends in £720 fine and driving ban

A ROMANTIC trip to Melfort arranged as part of a planned marriage proposal ended up with the would-be groom being arrested for drink driving and threatening behaviour.

Lee Anderson, 37, of 6 Hazel Drive, Bonnyrigg, appeared at

Oban Sheriff Court on Tuesday and admitted behaving in a manner likely to cause fear and alarm, shouting and swearing and also pleading guilty to driving while nearly double the legal alcohol limit on March 16 this year.

The court heard that Anderson took his partner for a drink at a holiday estate complex where he became concerned his partner was paying too much attention to a bar tender.

Anderson had crashed his car after driving off following

a heated argument with his partner.

Defending, solicitor Eddie Thornton said: 'It was to be a romantic occasion. Mr Anderson was intending to propose to his partner and took her out for a meal. Over the course of the

evening he rightly or wrongly formed the impression his partner was being chatted up. This became a matter of dispute and led to the confrontation.'

He added that Mr Anderson believed that it was a private estate and the laws of the road

did not apply.

The couple have since resolved their differences.

Sheriff Khurana said the circumstances did not excuse his behaviour and fined him a total of £720, banning him from driving for 12 months.

Gometra fish farm plan goes to local public hearing

PLANS to build a 16 cage fish farm at Gometra, Mull, will go to a local public hearing, with planners recommended to approve the proposal.

The Scottish Salmon Company's proposal has attracted 25 objections and a petition, Save Staffa Archipelago, gathered more than 1,000 signatures. However, 42 letters of support were also sent to the local authority backing the plan for the site with a combined total biomass of 2,000 tonnes.

While there has been some concern from local residents, senior planning officer Richard Kerr said there had been no objections from statutory consultees. Mr Kerr said that Mull Community Council had initially objected, then changed to a neutral stance, before finally moving to support the fish farm.

Iona Community Council objected to the plan following its own public meeting.

Councillors unanimously voted to convene a local hearing, the date of which is to be confirmed.

Oban man to pay his glass attack victim £1,000

AN OBAN man who threw a glass 'forcefully' into the face of another has been ordered to pay £1,000 in compensation to his victim.

Stephen Fox, 28, of 16 Corran Brae, Oban carried out the assault in an Oban public house on August 28 last year.

Fox had previously admitted the offence, which caused his victim to be permanently disfigured, and appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week for sentencing.

Fox was ordered to carry out 160 hours of unpaid work on top of the compensation order.

Driver charged

A WOMAN has been reported to the procurator fiscal after allegedly causing a bus to swerve out of the way after she overtook on a blind corner of the A85 near Oban.

The 23 year old woman is accused of crossing double-white lines on the trunk road when performing the manoeuvre and was charged by police after the incident at 10.40am on Friday.



Oban's Soroba House Hotel was being run by Ian and Helen Crawford as part of a charitable trust

Hotel closes doors but website takes bookings

OPERATORS of a failed Oban hotel have denied continuing to take deposits for bookings after closing the doors earlier this month.

Soroba House Hotel, which was being run by husband and wife team Ian and Helen Crawford as part of the Soroba Charitable Trust, closed on Friday, September 14.

Despite the closure, as *The Oban Times* went to press, the hotel's website is still accepting bookings and requesting deposits.

Ian Crawford told *The Oban Times* he did not want to address the closure: 'I'm not going to go into this, it is part of the closing down process that is happening,' he said. But he denied bookings were being taken, claiming it was a separate company who administered the hotel website and they had been informed of the closure. He said he would contact them again.

Asked about people who have lost deposits because of the closure he replied: 'I haven't heard of that at all.'



Ian Crawford denied deposits were still being taken

A spokesman for RA Clements Associates in Oban said they lease the hotel property on behalf of the owners adding: 'It would appear people have been taken deposits for functions and they have shut. We have had enquiries from numerous people looking for their money back.'

'Hopefully, if they have paid by credit card, they should be able to get money back.'

Former staff members have been left 'homeless and jobless' after the closure, with one ex-employee telling *The Oban Times* he had been paid 'some wages but not the proper amount'.

He said: 'I'm homeless and jobless. It's disgusting the way they have taken everything of value out of the place.'

'We had functions next month and I had taken two big Christmas bookings. There was also a wedding booked for next year and the couple have lost their deposit.'

'I feel for the local groups that used this place, they were here every week and will now have to find somewhere else'

Several local organisations used the hotel premises for weekly and monthly meetings.

Andy Crabb, a dementia advisor in Oban said: 'No-one contacted us to say it was closing.'

'The Singing for the Brain group has had to find a new venue, we also had monthly dementia lunch clubs.'

Skimmers flock to Easdale event

Island owner opens door to a possible community buy out

MORE skimmers than ever before turned up for Sunday's 15th annual World Stone Skimming Championships on Easdale, with entries closed just under the 400 mark.

Competitors from across the UK, Europe and beyond arrived en masse for the landmark event, which received a last-minute reprieve after a threat from the landowner, Jonathan Feigenbaum, to stop it going ahead in a dispute over cash and insurance.

Such was the success of this year's competition, however, that the community group behind it, Eilean Eisdale, had to close entries early, with more than 500 arriving on the island over the course of the day.

Donald Melville, the master of ceremonies at the championships and one of the organisers, says the group is now considering measures on how to either limit entries or expand its scope.

He said: 'It really was a great event - we had nearly 400 skimmers by the time we stopped taking registrations. Last year we had closer to 300.'

'I think this year might be a one-off with all the publicity, but we now seriously have to look at how we cope with it being busier.'

REPORT by STEVEN FLANAGAN sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk

'One way to do it is taking bookings in advance. The alternative is we hold it over two days.'

'We need to make sure that if we do get these numbers again we are organised and ready for it.'

This year's World Champion Tossler and winning Old Tossler was Ron Long, who adds to the Old Tossler prizes he won in 2010 and 2011. Long, from Wales, was runner up at last year's championships.

Meanwhile, Mr Feigenbaum has opened the door to a possible community buy out of the island following his dispute with Eilean Eisdale.

Mr Feigenbaum demanded £1,000 and a copy of Eilean Eisdale's public liability insurance, terms the community company could only meet thanks to a donation.

Mr Melville last week told *The Oban Times* they would look at the possibility of buying the island to safeguard the event - a proposal Mr Feigenbaum says he will consider.

He said: 'Perhaps it is time for a change in direction for the island, and I am now prepared to consider reasonable offers for the island, including the land and slate assets of Easdale Island Company Limited.'

Mr Melville welcomed the announcement but said a lot of work was required to get to that stage.

Results
Girls under 10s:
1 Natasha Keir, Scotland, 2 Alex Hunter, Scotland, 3 Jura Lewis, Scotland;

Boys under 10s:
1 John MacFadyen, Scotland, 2 Christopher Noble and Archie Riseck, Scotland, 3 Cameron Paterson, Scotland;

Girls 10-15 year olds:
1= Iona Graham, Scotland and Ellie Handmacrae, Britain, 2 Eleanor Kane, Scotland, 3 Erin Hamilton, Scotland;

Boys 10 - 15 year olds:
1 Simon Fraser, Scotland, 2 Miles Handmacrae, 3 Alan MacFadyen, Scotland;

Ladies:
1 Lucy Wood, England, 2 Aileen Campbell, Scotland, 3 Charlotte Gunner, GB;

Men:
1 Ron Long, Wales, 2 Dougie Isaacs, Scotland, 3= Simon Fraser and Chris Main, Scotland.

Teams:
Skimmy Dippers (David Moore, Tim Miller, Edward Moore & Matt Vale); Old Tossler;

Ron Long, Wales; The Bertie; Simon Fraser, Scotland.

Countries:
Italy, Australia, Hungary, France, China, New Zealand, Germany, USA, Holland, Canada, Poland, Hong Kong, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, England

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OT

Lorn Lines



Committee members Isla McColl and Louise MacLachen with the top raffle prize, 16, £39 painting

A PAINTING valued at £1,800 was raffled at the Corran Halls on Saturday raising more than £1,000 for Oban Phoenix Cinema.

Tickets for the raffle were sold in the six months leading up to the draw, which took place during the bring 'n' buy fundraiser organised by the cinema committee.

Morag MacKinnon of Oban was the lucky winner of the painting by Ernie Upton entitled 'Reefed Sails off Duart, Mull'.

A further £800 was raised at the bring 'n' buy sale, which included bottle and cake stalls.

All the money raised will go towards the continued development of the cinema, which re-opened in August.

Director of Oban Phoenix Cinema Isla McColl said: 'We are always raising money to continue the restoration of the cinema. We are hoping to open up a second screen in the future and we are also looking to buy a digital projector.'

'I'm really happy so much money has been raised for the cinema. I would like to say thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket and to everyone who donated a prize to the bottle draw or baking stall today.'

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THE SCOTTISH Conservative and Unionist Lorn Lunch Club is having its first lunch of the autumn at the Regent Hotel, Oban, on Friday September 28 when Alex Ferguson, a past presiding officer of the Scottish Parliament, will speak about Holyrood and his experiences there.

Anyone wishing to attend the lunch should book their place with Sara Rutherford on 01631 564230.

□□□



Ronnie McKillop receives the cheque from Barry MacTaggart. THE OBAN branch of a national electricity company has boosted a local charity after receiving outstanding safety reports.

Staff at the Oban depot of Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution (SHEPD) donated £250 to the town's branch of the RNLI.

The team of 80 received the reward after achieving a high standard of safety throughout 2011/2012.

Team manager Barry MacTaggart said: 'I have been a volunteer with the RNLI for over 12 years now and have seen first hand the great work they do so they were an obvious choice for the donation.'

On receiving the donation, coxswain Ronnie McKillop said: 'We would like to thank SHEPD for choosing the RNLI to receive the £250 cheque. We depend on donations to help us meet the cost of saving lives at sea.'

□□□

AN OBAN pre-school has received a grant from the Big Lottery Fund to help them provide free support to local parents. Happy House Christian pre-school has been awarded £1,517, which will be used to put two members through early years training.

After completing the training, with the Open College Network, both members will be able to assist parents in new parenting techniques.

The grants from the Big Lottery Fund also benefited another six groups which all provide a helping hand to young children and their parents.

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ARGYLL Members' Group of the National Trust for Scotland met at Oban Court House last Saturday for a talk by the Sheriff Clerk Depute.

The Oban court house is 150-years old this year and was purpose-built as a court house. In addition to the talk, held in the upstairs courtroom, members were shown the jury room and the smaller court room in the lower part of the building where they learned about the different types of cases that can be heard, how jurors are summoned and chosen, and the maximum sentences that can be applied for various offences. It proved a most enjoyable and interesting talk.

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Oban firefighters and their helpers at the car wash fundraiser. 16, 139 firefighters

OBAN Fire Brigade raised nearly £1,000 for the Firefighters Charity when they held a car wash on Saturday at the community fire station.

Members of the public were invited along to have their cars washed and organisers said it was a massive success with more people than ever before turning up.

The money will be used to help injured firemen, widows and orphans.

Dougie Black, who organised the car wash, said: 'There has been a fantastic turn out. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone that has come along and donated money.'

Send your news from Oban and Lorn to Euan Paterson
 epaterson@obantimes.co.uk
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One week from Oban BID vote deadline

'No vote is no voice in the future of our town.'

Graham MacQueen

ONE WEEK remains for businesses in Oban's 30mph zone to vote on a proposal to create a Business Improvement District (BID) in the town.

The deadline for eligible businesses to return their ballot papers on the BID proposal, which promises to transform the town, is now just eight days away.

While many have already sent back their confidential votes, those who haven't have until 5pm next Friday to have their say in what the steering group say could prove the most exciting initiative the town's business community has ever seen.

Voting papers must be with the Returning Officer by 5pm on October 5 in order to be counted, so should be posted by October 3 at the latest.

The BID4Oban steering group, which is made up of local businessmen and women from organisations of various sizes and from various sectors, has spent two years bringing the plan to this critical point.

Its chairman Graham MacQueen believes it would be a 'new dawn' for Oban if it won the support of the wider business community next week.

He said: 'I know plenty of people have already returned their ballot papers and I'm delighted by the positive feedback we're getting on the street as the process reaches its



BID4Oban steering group chairman Graham MacQueen.

climax. However, it's not enough for eligible businesses just to pledge their support verbally.

'I cannot over-emphasise the importance of the correct person filling in the ballot paper and getting it back to us by next Friday. No vote is no voice in the future of our town.'

Project co-ordinator Pauline Cameron urged businesses to make sure their vote is counted by checking that the right person signs the confidential ballot paper.

'The ballot pack which businesses have received is addressed to the eligible voter and must be returned by that person and no-one else,' she said. 'You can't get another person in your business to vote for you unless you appoint them as proxy, which can only be

done by writing to the Returning Officer at Argyll and Bute Council.

'It is vital that you contact me as soon as possible if you are not sure who is listed as the eligible voter or you think the wrong person might have signed your business's ballot paper. Your vote cannot be counted if the right person hasn't signed it.'

Underlining the importance of the BID proposal, Mr MacQueen said: 'A successful ballot will see a minimum of £840,000 being ploughed into Oban's trading environment in ways chosen by the local businesses themselves. The alternative is no additional money is spent.'

'When the two possible outcomes are so starkly contrasting, it's difficult to see how anyone with a genuine desire for Oban and its businesses to be able to reach their full potential can vote against it.'

'That's why I'm confident we'll get the support we need to kick start this new chapter for our town.'

'This is a chance for local businesses to take their future by the scruff of the neck and work together in a new dawn for the town. Let's get together and make the most of that opportunity.'

Anyone with queries about their BID vote should contact Pauline Cameron on 07930 313 172.



Juliet Hawke, holding the trophy, with some of the Argyll RDA Driving Group.

Double gold for Argyll RDA group

A GROUP which promotes carriage driving to disabled participants has taken home double gold for the first time in its history.

Juliet Hawke, part of the Argyll Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) Driving Group, was competing for the first time at the Sauchieburn RDA carriage driving regional competition and won the novice dressage and cones competition. She then went on to win the overall competition

and was presented with the Oswald Trophy. Juliet said: 'I might not be a para-olympian but it still felt absolutely amazing to win gold here.'

This now means that Juliet moves up into the intermediate category for next season where group members hope she will continue her success.

This was the tenth year of the competition and it was very well attended by numerous groups from around Scotland.

Argyll and Bute Council plan own television station

PLANS for a digital television service focusing solely on Argyll and Bute are being developed by Argyll and Bute Council.

The move comes as part of the council's commitment to communicate openly with communities. The authority will now progress with the Looking Local digital media service, pioneered by Kirkcubright Council, in the Yorkshire Pennines area of England, seven years ago.

Looking Local is designed specifically to meet the needs of local authorities and public sector organisations by presenting information through digital television, online games consoles, smart phones and social media.

Based on content from an organisation's existing website, viewers are able to access information about essential local services and use interactive features as well as keeping up to date with news in their area.

Lead councillor for com-

munications Louise Glen-Lee said: 'This is an exciting project with real potential for improved communication with people in Argyll and Bute.'

'It opens up access and offers increased possibilities to engage with the council and quickly access information about essential services. Making the best use of modern technology offers countless opportunities, especially for Argyll and Bute's rural communities. We look forward to investigating the possibilities that this offers us in serving the people of Argyll and Bute.'

The council hope to obtain the Looking Local service for use in Argyll and Bute over the coming year.

As part of the plans there are proposals to have web-casting of council meetings, improved use of video conferencing and a television channel featuring news from the council, local schools and communities across the area.

Body of Lochgilphead businessman found in canal

THE BUSINESS community in Lochgilphead and Mid Argyll has been mourning the loss of Kenneth Enoch, former owner of cast acrylic embedment company Midton Acrylics.

Mr Enoch, aged 60, from Lochgilphead, was found dead in the Crinan Canal recently; his body was discovered by boaters on the canal, near Ardrishaig.

Mr Enoch maintained shares in the company up until seven years ago, when he sold Midton to employees Ewen Cameron and Brian Johnston, who still run the business in the town's Kilmory Industrial Estate. The men have developed the company, which specialises in the production of cast acrylic embedment, to become the largest manufacturer of acrylic in Europe. A post mortem

to establish the exact cause of Mr Enoch's death will be carried out but police say there appears to be no suspicious circumstances surrounding the death.



Keills Primary School choir. 16, 138mod09

Mòd Dhailriada trophy winners

Provost Wilson Memorial Cup: Junior Prose: Equal, Rachel Johnston and Iona Scott; Crawford Cuach: Junior prose: Anna Macdonald; Mary MacCallum Cup: Solo singing eight years and under: Rachel Johnston; Steve Kerr Memorial Cup: solo singing boys 9-12 years: Ryan Johnston; Donnie Campbell Memorial Cup: solo singing girls 9-12 years: Holly Renton; Glasgow Mid Argyll Trophy: solo singing boys 13-15 years: Peter MacCallum; Madge Campbell Brown Cup: solo singing girls 13-15 years: Mairi McGillivray; Donald Ross Memorial Cup: highest Gaelic boys and girls 9-15 years: Equal Mairi McGillivray and Holly Renton; Loch Fin Rosebowl: highest music boys and girls 9-15: Equal Mairi McGillivray and Holly Renton; Neil McLean and Jenny Currie Memorial Cup: Junior duet: Hannah Prill/Emma MacFarlane; Jenny Crawford Memorial Trophy: unison singing primary: Bowmore Primary School; Mòd Dhailriada Plate: unison singing 18 years and under: Coisir Og Ghaidhlig Ile; William Buchanan Memorial Trophy, choral puirt-a-beul 18 years and under: Equal Bowmore Primary School and Coisir Og Dhail Riata; Mid Argyll Music Festival Quaich: highest music junior choral: Coisir Og Dhail Riata; Burnside Challenge Trophy, Solo singing boys and girls 16 - 18 years: Lorna Young; Dougie MacLachlan Memorial Trophy: Folk singing junior and senior: Na Seudan; Margaret Anderson Memorial Trophy: Most expressive performance junior: Mairi McGillivray; Sir William Sutherland Trophy: solo singing men: Equal Fergus Muir and Michael Henderson; Lady Elspeth Campbell Trophy: Solo singing ladies: Linn Phipps; Neil MacLntyre Memorial Trophy: Highest Gaelic solo singing men and ladies: Ann Maclean; Town Council Trophy: Highest Music and Gaelic solo men and ladies: Lynn Macdonald; Sarah Carmichael Memorial Cup: Senior solo psalm singing: Ann Maclean; Crawford MacAlpine Memorial Trophy: Solo singing prescribed men and ladies: Iain MacPherson; An Communn Cuach: Solo singing traditional men and ladies: Finlay Macdonald; Balliemore Cuach: Duet singing men and/or ladies: Linn Phipps and Iain Gordon; Provost Archibald Brown Cup: Senior choral mixed voices: Coisir Ghaidhlig Ile; Mòd Dhailriada Cuach: Highest in male voices or female voices choral: Equal Coisir Ghaidhlig Ile Ladies; John Angus Melver Memorial Cup: Adult choral puirt-a-beul: Coisir Ghaidhlig Ile; Junior Fiddle: Annual award: Eilidh Anderson; Kenneth MacRae Memorial Cup: Chanter 16 years and under: Piers Gritton; Annual Award Novice Piping: 17 years and under: Jamie McKerral; Ross Trophy: piping 17 years and under march: Christopher Coates; Hugh MacDonald Memorial Shield: piping 17 years and under Strathspey and Reel: Donnie McKerral; Caitheas Glass Bowl: Most expressive performance senior solo singing: Fergus Muir.



Bowmore Primary School choir with their Jenny Crawford Memorial Trophy for primary unison singing and the William Buchanan memorial trophy for choral singing puirt-a-beul. They also won the Mòd Dhailriada Plate with Coisir Og Ghaidhlig Ile. 16, 138mod10

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World's biggest coffee morning

THE WORLD'S Biggest Coffee Morning will be held at venues throughout the west on September 28 with residents enjoying a cuppa and cake while raising money for charity.

The annual event, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, is being promoted by former Miss Scotland Jennifer Reoch and Nieve Jennings. The charity hopes to raise more than £11m from the event UK-wide and more than £1m in Scotland.

Oban man swore at elderly neighbour

AN OBAN man who pled guilty to shouting and swearing at an elderly neighbour was told his behaviour was 'disgraceful' and ordered to carry out unpaid work.

Paul McLuckie, 36, of Firth Court, Croft Avenue, Oban, appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week. He admitted committing a breach of the peace on March 24 and shouting and swearing at a 75-year-old woman. Ordering McLuckie to carry out 75 hours of unpaid work within three months, Sheriff Gilchrist added: 'I don't regard your conduct as at all acceptable.'

81-year-old on driving charges

AN 81-YEAR old man has been charged with the careless driving, driving without a valid driving licence and insurance after allegedly crossing into the path of oncoming traffic in Oban.

Police were called to Soroba Road on Friday morning after a vehicle cut across the road at a set of traffic lights, striking an oncoming vehicle.

No-one was injured in the collision. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Mini-conference on renewables

LEADING lights from the renewables industry and local businesses will be among those attending a renewable energy mini-conference in Inverness next Wednesday.

Speakers include Garth Entwistle from the Udn Community Wind Turbine in Aberdeenshire.

Mr Entwistle will take delegates through how Udn and Pitmedden successfully overcame challenges to get their project up and running.

The afternoon conference at the Kingsmills Hotel is free and open to everyone.

Teenager kicked friend in head

A TEENAGER who repeatedly kicked his friend in the head causing wounds that required hospital treatment has been ordered to complete 120 hours unpaid community work.

Stuart McCormack, 17, of 1 Polvinster Gardens, Oban, appeared at the town's sheriff court last week having previously pled guilty to the offence.

Mull man in court

A MULL man who allegedly assaulted a woman appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week.

Lachlan Taylor, 46, of 5 Jarvisfield Road, Aros, denies the charge and will face trial on November 14. He is expected to appear again on October 16.

Boundary commission proposal would halve Lochaber

THE BOUNDARY Commission for Scotland has begun an eight-week final consultation on redrawing the country's political map under plans to cut the number of Westminster constituencies from 59 to 52 ahead of the 2015 General Election.

The move would reduce the number of seats in the Highland Council area from three to two and, controversially, cut Lochaber in two.

All three seats are currently held by LibDem MPs: Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross (John Thurso), Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathpey (Danny Alexander) and Ross, Skye and Lochaber (Charles Kennedy).

With only two seats available, Mr Kennedy and Mr Alexander could potentially be in competition for the provisional Inverness and Skye seat. The second constituency is proposed as Caithness, Sutherland, Ross and Cromarty.

North Lochaber, including Mallaig, Arisaig, residents north of the A830 to the Caledonian Canal and north and east of Aonach Mor and the Mamores would come under the Inverness and Skye seat.

However, the proposed boundary swings north along the canal for four miles, leaving Caol, Lochside, and all Fort William in the proposed Argyll, Bute and South Lochaber constituency - which stretches to Campbeltown and the Clyde west of Dumbarton.

The redrawing exercise could prove academic - should Scotland vote 'yes' in the 2014 independence referendum, the country would no longer send politicians to London.

Copies of the proposals are available at council offices and at www.highland.gov.uk



Margaret Whitton with her prizes and painting 'Boys and Buoys'. 16, 139swr1

Argyll woman wins top art award at SWRI conference

AN ARGYLL woman scooped the top art award at this year's SWRI national conference for her oil painting 'Boys and Buoys.'

Margaret Whitton, a member of Kilmore and District WRI, won the prestigious Helen Lowe trophy, which is awarded to the overall best piece of art at the conference.

On winning the trophy she said: 'I'm absolutely delighted that I won, it's fantastic.'

'The painting was inspired by a photograph taken of my two sons when they were younger. They were playing on a group of buoys and one of my sons was diving in among them. I always told them that I would use the picture of them one day.'

The artist came home with another four prizes when two more of her paintings entered in the conference received 'highly commended' certificates.

Margaret also won the Blackwood Trophy for her cross stitch work.

Oban woman threatened neighbour

AN OBAN woman 'petrified' one of her neighbours by kicking her front door and shouting at her to come out and fight.

At Oban Sheriff Court last week Isabel MacArthur, 37, of 14 Combie Court, Oban, was found guilty of behaving in a threatening or abusive manner.

Giving evidence, the victim said there had been numerous incidents of this type and the police had asked her to keep a diary of them. MacArthur had also been shouting and swearing throughout the incident on May 5, and challenging her victim to 'come out and fight'. When police arrived on the night in question they described the victim as visibly shaking and clearly 'very upset'.

Sentence was deferred on MacArthur until October 3 for the preparation of social work reports.

Man remanded

A MAN who allegedly obstructed police officers and struggled with them has been remanded in custody when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week.

David MacGillivray, 35, of no fixed abode, denies the charge and will face trial on October 17. He is expected to appear again on October 3.



Jumping for joy - SAMS-UHI's class of 2012 celebrates their graduation on Friday. 15, 139samsgrads1

Celebrations as SAMS students graduate

THERE were celebrations aplenty at Dunstaffnage's Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) last Friday as the class of 2012 graduated.

Students gathered at the Sheina Marshall Building for the graduation ceremony. Professor Nick Owens, director of the Sir Alister Hardy Foundation for Ocean Science (SAHFOS), congratulated the students on their efforts during his key note speech and highlighting the importance of the work the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) students will do during their scientific careers.

Ruth Paterson was named the SAMS UHI student of the year for 2012, while the price for best Masters project went to

Susan Evans. Karen Alexander, meanwhile, won the Johanna Fehling Memorial Prize for the best paper by a PhD student.

Johanna Fehling, a former student of SAMS, died last year at the age of 36 from a brain tumour.

This is the second year the award has been presented. Her parents, Dr Jürgen and Ga-



Karen Alexander, winner of the Johanna Fehling Memorial Prize for best paper by a PhD Student, with Johanna's parents Mine, left, and Dr Jürgen Fehling. 15, 139samsaward1



Ciera Harvey and Andy MacLeod will carry the flag for West Highland College UHI. 15, 139samsaward1

Students join UHISA executive

TWO STUDENTS from West Highland College UHI have been picked to join the UHI Students' Association (UHISA) executive committee.

Ciera Harvey and Andy MacLeod are both studying degree courses at the college's Fort William campus.

Ciera's appointment, her third as the UHISA student rep for WHC, will see her continue to represent the views of the college students within UHISA and bring any issues they may have to the association so they can be resolved.

Ciera's achievements to date include securing funding for freshers' events and the college hoodies project, both of which helped to establish a UHISA presence at the college.

Andy MacLeod, who lost his leg in an accident just over a year ago, has proved such an effective advocate for disabled students

Youth groups face closure

A POPULAR south Lochaber youth group is hopeful of securing the funding needed to save it from being shut down.

Kinlochleven-based Two Lochs Project sounded a warning last month that closure could be imminent as its financial support was due to end in November.

But the group has applied to 'four or five' charitable trusts - including the Scottish Government's Cashback for Communities programme - and are confident they will be able to carry on.

Youth worker Justin Richards, who has now been in post for three years, told *The Oban Times*: 'I'm trying to stay positive and I really think we will continue.'

Mr Richards said the group would leave a 'major hole' in the local youth community if it were to close.

He said: 'For the kids in the rural communities, the youth clubs really are a lifeline.'

LIFEBOAT stations across the west Highlands and islands have experienced a busier summer than last year, with nearly all experiencing a rise in launches.

Tobermory saw the biggest leap, rising from two between June and August last year to 15 this - making it the eighth busiest station in Scotland.

Campbeltown also saw a big leap in numbers, doubling last year's tally of seven. Mallaig, meanwhile, launched six more times, up to 17 launches between June-August.

Only Oban and Arran saw a dip in the number of lifeboat launches during the height of the season, with both launching two fewer times, down to 19 and eight respectively.

Jock Anderson, Tobermory's full time mechanic for the lifeboat *Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey*, said: 'Last year was an unusually quiet summer in terms of rescues but the last three months have been a very busy time for the station.'

'We have responded to a wide range of shouts, including medevacs, several yachts in difficulty, a fishing boat aground in the early hours and two tragic incidents which sadly saw two people lose their lives.'

'What is notable is that they are fairly diverse and it is difficult to link them to the fine weather we've enjoyed. When the pager goes off, the volunteer crew have no idea of what they are about to face but they never hesitate to respond.'

Paul Jennings, the RNLI's divisional inspector for Scotland, said: 'Once again our volunteer lifeboat crews in Scotland have shown that they are committed and courageous individuals, on stand by to save lives at sea come rain or shine.'

'Behind the crews are a huge team of volunteers, the station management volunteers, shore helpers and fundraisers, to whom we owe our thanks for ensuring the RNLI can keep on saving lives at sea.'

Alzheimer awareness in Lochaber

ALZHEIMER Scotland (AS) will be in Fort William High Street today (Thursday) as part of its week of dementia awareness activities in Lochaber.

The charity will be outside Highland Council offices for the day before moving to Mallaig tomorrow to set up stall outside the Co-op from 11am.

Bag packing in Morrison's in Fort William on Saturday will bring the awareness raising week to a close.

AS began its Lochaber tour in Caol on Monday, followed by Ballachulish on Tuesday and Strontian yesterday. The charity's south Highland dementia advisor, Geraldine Ditta said: 'There are around 4,000 people currently living with dementia in Highland, approximately 150 of those will be over 65. Gaining access to the right information and advice at the right time can make a significant difference to the lives of people with dementia and their carers.'

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The new entrants in Salen Primary's Gaelic medium unit.



Salen Primary School has three new pupils in the mainstream P1 class.



The new primary one pupils at Fort William RC Primary School's Gaelic Medium Unit.

Primary one pupils in the picture



Happy smiles from the new primary one pupils at Spean Bridge Primary School.



Bowmore's Gaelic Medium Unit primary one pupils, Robbie Brown, left, and Ronan Grant.



Bowmore Primary School's new mainstream primary one pupils smile for The Oban Times.



There is one new pupil at Keills Primary School, Isle of Islay.

ISLAY LETTER

Jura's new minister
THIS week saw the Rev Dr Rob Barlow, minister of the linked parishes of Kilarrow with Kildalton and Oa, take over as minister of the neighbouring isle of Jura which has now been officially triple-linked by the Argyll Presbytery with the two Islay parishes presently covered by the incumbent minister. The introduction of the new minister to his other island congregation took place at a special service in Jura Parish Church, attended by Argyll Presbytery officials along with representatives from the congregations involved. The Jura church has been without a minister since the sudden death of the Rev George Campbell who ministered to the island congregation on a part-time basis for more than five years.

Meur Ile officials
PORT Charlotte hotelier Grahame Allison has been elected chairman of Meur Ile of An Comunn Gàidhealach, with Keills resident John MacGillivray as his second in command. Former branch secretary Bronwen Currie takes over from Alasdair Gillies as group treasurer and secretarial duties are now the responsibility of Alison Gray who continues in her role as local Mòd secretary. Responsibility for Mòd trophies remains with David Ferguson, Moinachoire.

Quaker meetings
THE RELIGIOUS Society of Friends, better known as the Quakers, have been meeting regularly on the island for the past four years. An increase in numbers attending the meetings have made home gatherings impracticable and, as a result, meetings are now being held in Kilmeny Parish Church of Scotland on the outskirts of Ballygrant. The next get together takes place on Sunday September 30 at 2.30pm and further meetings will continue in the same venue on the last Sunday of the month. More details are available by phoning 01496 850006.

Ballet for all
TOMORROW sees the arrival on the island of members of Scottish Ballet who will be mounting their 'Find your Feet' programme which is geared towards community involvement and will take place in a variety of local venues. The programme will focus on creative dance, ballet techniques, costume and design. Included in the offerings will be a free performance in Bowmore village hall on Sunday September 30 featuring third year students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland modern ballet course. They will perform 'First Encounter', a dynamic new work created and choreographed by Chris Marney. It will also include input from local dance groups. 'Find your Feet' is sponsored by the Creative Scotland's First

in a Lifetime Fund and will also be visiting six other areas throughout the country during the autumn and winter.

Baptist deaths
MEMBERS of the local Baptist congregations were saddened to learn of the death on September 1 of 91-year-old Gwen MacCallum whose late husband, the Rev Donald MacCallum, was Baptist minister at Bowmore from 1946 to 1951. The MacCallums also enjoyed successful ministries at Granton, Stirling and Adelaide Place in the heart of Glasgow. Mrs MacCallum, who is survived by her son Peter and daughter Ruth, was a member of the well-known English evangelical Cripps family whose numbers included the eminent Labour politician Sir Stafford Cripps. The death also occurred earlier in the year of Mary Lannigan whose husband Tom was a later minister at the Bowmore Church. She leaves a daughter Anne, a member of Linwood Baptist Church and national secretary of the Scottish Baptist Women's Fellowship.

Coffee morning
MEMBERS of the Round Church will host their monthly coffee morning in Bowmore buffet hall on Saturday September 29 at 10.30am. Everyone welcome. **Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX. Tel: 01496 810658.**



Pupils enjoy first school trip
Fort William Primary School pupils had their first school trip recently when they visited West Highland Museum. P1, P2 and P3 youngsters were shown around the collection and were particularly taken with the silver spades which were used to cut the first sods when the west Highland railway was created in the late 1800s. The children were also allowed to sit inside the 101-year-old Model T Ford at the museum. The car, which was taken to the summit of Ben Nevis last summer, is on show in the museum for a year. 20_ f35fdr01

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TIREE

GADGETS, technology, computing and science will come together on Tiree next month – for Britain's most remote technology workshop.

Held between October 25 and 29, the week after the Tiree Wave Classic, it has become a popular event for scientists and designers across the UK and beyond.

A delegation from Cardiff, including product design academics and researchers, will take some prototyping

equipment to the event, while a researcher from Aberdeen will run focus groups with islanders as part of studies into rural transport.

From Madrid comes a project to install a touchable interactive surface using Microsoft's Kinect technology, more typically seen as a movement controller for the Xbox 360.

Early prototypes of the NESTA-funded Tiree Heritage mobile app and data sets will also be demonstrated.

Organised by Alan Dix, the event is rapidly gaining a reputation amongst tech design-

ers as a relaxing haven away from designers from cluttered city life and busy labs and an ideal venue to trial new ideas and innovations.

PUPILS at Tiree High School welcomed Mull Theatre last week for a presentation on stage design.

Two workshops were set up to help children create large scale maps, bunting, a copper plate crown, a wooden dinosaur and milk carton and white sheet Egyptian mummies.

Some of the items created by the pupils will be used by the company in its upcoming production of 'Scot-a-land' which is coming to Tiree in the first week of October.

Unfortunately, time ran short to complete all the designs – thanks to the fire alarm going off in the middle of the afternoon – so another slot will be found for pupils to complete the props.

Pupils in P4-7G will write short essays about the visit.

SLIGACHAN

THE SLIGACHAN Hotel has been named as 'Whisky Pub of the Year' in the Good Pub Guide 2013.

The newly-published book says: 'With an exceptional list of 350 whiskies in this mountain hotel, making an impressive display behind the counter, the Sligachan on the Isle of Skye is our outright winner. That's a whisky for almost every day of the year.'

ULLAPOOL

THE THREE-day Ullapool Guitar Festival gets underway next Friday with an evening concert with world famous Scots jazz guitarist Nigel Clark and top acoustic guitarists Peter Price and Nick Harper.

The annual festival, the 13th, features five concerts, three late night festival clubs and workshops/masterclasses on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

The first 100 weekend tickets sold are entered into a prize draw with the lucky winner receiving a fabulous Patrick James Eggle guitar.

KILCHRENAN

AVICH and Kilchrenan Community Council met last week when it was announced by the Forestry Commission that the West Loch Awe Timber Haul Route was now open from Salachry to Gate 8 on the outskirts of the village of Kilchrenan, thus avoiding timber lorries travelling through the villages of Dalavich, Inverinan and Kilchrenan.

However, two of the bridges which have been built will only be suitable for the transport of wind turbines on multi-wheeled vehicles and not timber lorries.

This means that the complete timber haul route will not be ready until next year.

CAOL

go through an inspection by an NFFF Approved Assessor who assesses the shop's presentation, hygiene and cleanliness, staff training, equipment, frying and sales skills and most importantly the quality of the cooked product.

Chip shop owner Sammy Cameron told *The Oban Times*: 'It's something we're very proud of. We feel this is the result of all the hard work the staff have put in and recognition of the high standards we set.'

Lochaber provost Allan Henderson presented the award to chip shop owner Sammy Cameron.

Provost Henderson said: 'The steady flow of repeat customers to Sammy's shows how popular this shop is. This is a well deserved award.'

A CAOL chip shop has become the first in greater Fort William to earn a Fish and Chip Quality Award.

Sammy's Fish 'N' Chip Shop was given the award by National Federation of Fish Friers (NFFF).

To qualify, each shop has to



Proud Wilma Allan with her award.

Dedicated volunteer wins caring award

THE MANAGER of a Ballachulish home has been given an award to mark her volunteering caring for older people.

Fort William woman Wilma Allan was given the Royal Patron's Award for her volunteer work with Abbeyfield, which was recently given the highest mark in the Highlands after an inspection.

Wilma was given the award at a glittering ceremony at the Hilton Hotel in Birmingham.

She said: 'I'm really proud to be receiving this award. I don't see it as a reflection of

BALLACHULISH

just my work but very much a team effort, and I feel that I am taking the award back to them. We are on the right track and I'm just so chuffed.'

Abbeyfield's Samantha Woods said: 'It was a great chance for Abbeyfield to show our appreciation and say thanks on behalf of the many people's lives Wilma has touched, and recognise the impact of her exceptional dedication to Abbeyfield.'

FORT AUGUSTUS



Kilchuimen Primary School in Fort Augustus has a new security fence around its playground next to the Caledonian Canal. Pupils are pictured above with workmen from contractors BAM Nuttall beside the new fence. Head teacher Wendy Sutherland Scollay said: 'It was very much needed. They also built new gates which will allow better access to community events on our school field. Our thanks go to Adrian Collins of Bam Nuttall for organising this to happen at our school.'

OUTER HEBRIDES

TWO NEW Outer Hebrides schools will be officially opened next month.

The Nicolson Institute in Stornoway will open on Tuesday October 2 at 2pm. The

first phase of the new secondary school, which can hold 1,100 pupils, was completed in July.

Phase two consists of demolishing the old building and construction of the new car park and bus drop off lane and is due to be finished by January.

Sir E Scott School in Tarbert on the Isle of Harris will be officially opened the following Tuesday at 1.30pm.

TORLUNDY

A TORLUNDY based educational project has received grants worth more than £1,000 to help with its work.

Lochaber Rural Education Trust (LRET) was given £500 by Miller Developments, the company behind the Blar Mhor development in Fort William, for its seed to supper programme.

The innovative scheme, which has been running for four years, teaches local primary school children how to grow their own vegetables, enter them for competition and cook them.

The cash will go towards making more lazy beds and adding further topsoil at the trust's An Clachan centre.

Lochaber Agricultural Trust also donated £500 to buy a garden shredder and equipment to help compost all its garden waste. CSV Action Earth, a Scottish charity aimed at promoting volunteering, also gave a donation towards the trust's 'Percy' project, which will see disabled children helping to make a wheelchair friendly garden and a wheelchair trail.

LRET trustee Isabel Campbell was 'delighted' with the awards. She said: 'The trust needs more volunteers to help expand the activities and would welcome new names on the volunteers' rota. The work is very rewarding and great fun.'

GLENCOE

GLENCOE House will tomorrow open its doors to the general public for the first time since closing as a hospital in early 2009.

The sandstone building, refurbished by owner Roger Niemeyer into luxury holiday accommodation, will host a 'biggest coffee morning' to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Tea, freshly ground coffee and a selection of home made cakes will be served from 10am to 2pm.

Members of the public will be able to tour some of the newly renovated rooms on the ground floor. A donation fee of £5 per person is requested, with each ticket going forward to the raffle.

INVERLOCHY

INVERLOCHY SWRI's first meeting after the summer break was attended by 23 ladies.

Guest speaker for the evening was Calum MacKinnon of the Citizen's Advice Bureau who gave an interesting and informative talk which sparked many questions from the ladies.

After tea, the competitions were judged by Mr MacKinnon.

Fruit Loaf: 1 Mrs Irene Pinkett; 2 Ms Muriel MacLennan; 3 Mrs Cathie Stevenson.

Bottle Opener: 1 Mrs Irene Pinkett; 2 Mrs Elizabeth Rennie; 3 Mrs Cathie Stevenson.

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APPIN



Appin House in 1899.

IAN Macalpine-Leny traced the story of his family in an illustrated talk to Appin Historical Society on September 15.

Beginning with young Robert Downie, who made a fortune in Calcutta at the beginning of the 19th century and, unusually for those times lived long enough to return home to spend it, the tale was brought up to the present day.

Seeking respectability as the epitome of the returning nabob, Robert bought the Appin estate in 1814 and went on to buy his way into parliament as MP for the Stirling Burghs. He was succeeded by his eldest unmarried daughter, who left the estate in trust for her three-year old great nephew, Jimmy Macalpine-Leny, who changed his name to Macalpine-Downie on his 21st birthday.

But tragedy has stalked this family.

Lieutenant Col Jimmy Macalpine-Downie was killed in France in 1918 on his 40th birthday; his oldest son died after a routine operation in Jamaica when he was only 26 and the second son Archie was drowned in Holy Loch in 1958. But their mother Mrs McClintock, who was loved and feared through out the West Highlands, lived to the ripe old age of 98.

Her grandson, Rod, a brilliant designer of catamarans - his designs held the world speed sailing record for 14 years - died of cancer, aged 53, and her granddaughter Alison, later Mrs Craig, also died of cancer 12 years ago.

The full story is included in



Lt Col J R Macalpine-Downie, Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.



Lt Col Archie Macalpine-Downie on board the Servabo.

the new book *Nouveaux Riches to Nouveaux Pauvres - the story of the Macalpine-Lenys* which is available from Waterstone's, Oban, Port Appin Co-Operative Shop, Castle Stalker View and on line at www.macalpine-leny.co.uk.



Alison Macalpine-Downie, later Mrs David Craig, Mrs McClintock, aged 93, and Kimie and Rod Macalpine-Downie in 1972.

KILMORE

THE 100 Club winners for September are M Morrison who took home £100 and S Scott who won £200.

The club, set up to fund an upgrade to Kilmore Hall, has successfully repainted, installed

insulation and carried out electrical and roof repairs.

More recently a new stage and curtains have been put in place which it is hoped will attract drama and entertainment events.

RANNOCH MOOR

A REMOTE youth hostel on Rannoch Moor has received an environmental prize in the House of Lords.

SYHA Hostelling Scotland's property at Loch Ossian won a water efficiency award at the Environment Agency and Waterwise biannual presentation ceremony.

The eco-hostel, which can only be reached on foot from Corour, Scotland's remotest train station, powers its private water supply by wind energy harvested on site and boasts solar panels and both grey water and dry toilet systems. The hostel also features re-cycled glass windows and special bat-friendly paint.

SYHA chief executive Keith Legge said: 'Guests value our eco-initiatives and the importance of travelling in a way that is sustainable.'

ARMADALE

ARMADALE'S Scottish Women's Rural Institute has handed over a cheque for more than £1,000 to the Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS).

The money was raised at a recent coffee morning organised by SWRI. The donation means the group has so far raised almost £10,000 in total for CHAS.

CHAS fundraiser Alison Rennie said: 'The continued support shown by the ladies of Armadale SWRI is fantastic. By supporting CHAS for many years, as well as raising an amazing amount of money, they have really helped to raise awareness of the work of CHAS across Skye.'

PLOCKTON

PLOCKTON and District Community Council met in Plockton Hall on September 10.

Items discussed included:

□ Dog fouling – the community council is awaiting new notices from Highland Council TEC Services.

□ Burnside housing development – the community council is pleased to see some work has started to improve access to this site.

□ Plockton railway station - a committee of high school pupils has been formed to 'adopt' and improve the station area.

□ A new fish farm south of Airigh-Drishaig has been turned down by the council.

□ Sewage problem at Nessun Dorma - still a problem with Scottish Water having to fix it weekly.

□ A generous bequest of £5,000 had been received from the late Peggy Moore.

□ A second village clean-up will be held on November 9.

□ Schools – The council is holding a meeting in Kyleakin Hall September 27 to get agreement to change the catchment areas of Plockton and Portree high schools.

Kyleakin parents have already agreed to change their primary school pupils to Plockton instead of Portree.

□ Hearing Resource Centre, Dornie – the community council hoped there would be better signs and advertising for this facility.

Next meeting: October 29.

□ PLOCKTON Small Boat Sailing Club raised £257.25 for the RNLI during their sailing season.

Edmund Mackenzie has received a letter of thanks from the Children's Hospice for raising £877.80 at his shop in Plockton. CM MacRae.



Tiree High School pupils Colin MacArthur and Lauren MacArthur were presented with copies of their art work and a special prize at last week's special assembly for the quality of their work. Colin and Lauren are pictured with Argyll and Bute Council's chief executive, Sally Loudon, who presented the prizes.

Down Your Way

South Mull and Iona

A RAFFLE was held recently to raise money to continue swimming lessons for pupils at Iona Primary School.

The parent council organised the raffle, which raised £485, to cover transport costs to the Isle of Mull Hotel in Craignure.

Staff at the school said it is important the children learn to swim but the sea around the island was really cold and dangerous.



A RECENT visit to Pennyghael woods saw pupils from Bunnassan Primary School meeting up with rangers and finding out about nature.

This is what primary three pupils Millie, Elena, Lawson, Emma, James and Bea thought about their day: 'Our P3/4 class from Bunnassan Primary went to Pennyghael woods with Mrs Cameron and Emily, the ranger.'

'When we got there we met Sue, another ranger. We did lots of challenges, like finding leaves and types of trees.'

'We made an autumn collage with as many different colours as we could. Then we learned where owls live and what they eat. We made a human model of a tree.'

'Then Mrs Cameron read us the next chapter of the book *The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark*.

'In the afternoon, back in class, Sue showed us Spook, a real barn owl. Everyone wanted to take him home. We dissected some owl pellets and found shrew, vole and mouse bones.'

'We listened to owl sounds and looked at model bird houses then we made some mice, voles and shrews with Emily.'

'It was the best day ever. We would like to say a big big thank you to Emily and Sue.'

AN APPLICATION to construct a fish farm in the south of Mull has been rejected at a recent planning committee meeting.

The application, by The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC), was to build an Atlantic salmon comprising 14 100m-circumference cages in Loch Scridain.

But Richard Kerr, principal planning officer for the council said there had been widespread local objection to the plans and only a 'small number' of supporters.

At the meeting last Wednesday, concerns were raised by planners about the impact the new fish farm would have visually on the loch.

Others at the meeting argued the plans should go ahead due to the proposed economic benefit to the area but the application was rejected by eight votes to five.



The children learn about the Faroe Islands.

OVER the last few years Iona Primary School pupils have made links with many different countries around the world.

This year is no exception as they are finding out about the Faroe Islands and working with young people from a small village called Strendur.

The children are discovering there are many similarities between Iona and Strendur: weather, wildlife and the use of ferries.

They have also found out about the helicopter that flies between the nine islands and an 'incredible' underground tunnel that links Eysturoy and Boroy.

Next week Down Your Way visits Tiree with Senior Reporter Steven Flanagan. You can contact him on 01631 568000 or email sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk

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We hope you'll get together with friends, family and colleagues on Friday 28 September and make time for what really matters.
Our ambition
 There are currently 2 million people living with cancer in the UK. By 2030 there will be 4 million. We want to make sure we're there for all of them. One in three of us will get cancer and for most

it will be the toughest thing we ever face. When you're facing the toughest fight of your life, you need a team of inspiring people in your corner with you. That's who we are. We provide medical, emotional, practical and financial support and we push for a better cancer care system. We're the team that gives you the strength and energy to face the fight and get through it.



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 Cairnmore Inn 01680 812305 Proud to support Macmillan Cancer	carolyns cafe Oban 01631 566677 Hosting Macmillan Coffee Morning 10am-12noon	 THE BARN rustic bar & restaurant 01631 564618 Hosting Macmillan Coffee Morning 11.00am	The Ferry Shop Fionnphort, Isle of Mull 01681 700470 Proudly supporting Macmillan Cancer	Park Lodge Hotel Tobermory, Isle of Mull 01688 302430 Supporting Macmillan Cancer	 DAWSONS ESTATE AGENTS 01631 563901 Are proud to donate to Macmillan Cancer Support	Hannah's Newsagent 5 Stevenson Street, Oban Happy to Help Macmillan Cancer Support	The Oyster Bar 01852 300121 Supporting Macmillan Cancer	Alba West Coast Oban Taxis 01631 563784 Proudly Supporting Macmillan Cancer
Blair Villa South 01631 564813 Delighted to support Macmillan Cancer	 HAZELBANK MOTORS 01631 566476 Proudly supporting Macmillan Cancer	 Wiltshire Farm Foods delicious meals to your door 01631 566979 Proud to Support Macmillan Cancer	 Scott Robertson Accident Repairs 01631 569441 Happy to support Macmillan Cancer	 THE CREEL 01631 562184 Happy to Help Macmillan Cancer Support	 Redshank Scotland 01499 302525 Bespoke handcrafted kilts by qualified kiltmakers. Inveraray	 TREE SHOP Cairndow 01499 600263 Delighted to support the World's Biggest Coffee Morning	Scotch Heather Shop Inveraray 01499 302033 / 2044 The Freshest flowers from the specialist florist	 THE GREEN DOOR 2 Front Street, Inveraray Gift & Coffee Shop Supporting the World's Biggest Coffee Morning
MacDougall's Garage Fionnphort, Isle of Mull 01681 700294 Proud to support Macmillan Cancer	 DUART CASTLE 01680 812 309 Macmillan Support Coffee Morning at Duart Castle 10.30am - 2pm. Everyone welcome	 Seafood Temple 01631 566000 Happy to Help Macmillan Cancer Support	 OES 01631 564203 Happy to Support the World's Biggest Coffee Morning	 Blades & Co. 01631 571777 Pleased to Support Macmillan Cancer	 Dalmally Pharmacy 01838 200465 Supporting Macmillan Cancer	 POST OFFICE Dalmally Post Office 01838 200340 Supporting Macmillan Cancer	 Shower Herring 01852 200345 Proud to Support the World's Biggest Coffee Morning	 MELFORT VILLAGE 01852 200257 Happy to Help Macmillan Cancer Support
the colintraive hotel www.colintraivehotel.com Open all year everyday for lunch and dinner	 THE GEORGE HOTEL INVERARAY 01499302111 www.thegeorgehotel.co.uk	KATES ORIGINAL KILTS www.katesoriginals.co.uk Totally Handmade Proud to support Macmillan Cancer	 AN TO BAR THE TOBERMORY ARTS CENTRE 01688 302211 Proud to support Macmillan Cancer	 Eric Smith worldchoice eric@gowestravel.co.uk Supporting Macmillan Cancer Relief	Carpet Services OBAN 01631 563684 Proud to Support Macmillan Cancer	 the Eden deli 01499 302262 Proud to Help Macmillan Cancer Support	 Arch Filling Station INVERARAY Proud to support Macmillan Cancer	 CGL PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPLIES 01631 562572 Glad to Help Macmillan Cancer Support
Flora's Hair Salon 01631 562223 Delighted to Support Macmillan Cancer	 Tralee Bay 01631 720255 Happy to Support Macmillan Cancer	 Cuilfail Hotel 01852 200274 Happy to Help	 The Oystercatcher 01700 821229 Proud to Support such an Excellent Charity	Local Shellfish The original green seafood snack 07881 418565 Supporting Macmillan Cancer	 DK LAFFERTY 01631 564712 Delighted to Support Macmillan Cancer	 COLUMBA HOTEL - OBAN 01631 562183 Proud to Support the World's Biggest Coffee Morning	 OBAN Fish & Chip RESTAURANT 01631 567000 Delighted to Support Macmillan Cancer's World's Biggest Coffee Morning	LORN TAXIS 01631 564744 Proud to support Macmillan Coffee Morning



Trophy winners line up at Caol in Bloom's presentation of prizes in Caol Community Centre. 20_539bloom01

Caol in Bloom honours garden prizewinners

GREEN-FINGERED Caol residents reaped the fruits of their labours at Caol in Bloom's 2012 garden competition awards presentation in Caol Community Centre on Monday night.

Alan Wilson kindly agreed to be garden judge this year and during August took on the mammoth task of going round both Caol and Lochside assessing

every garden, so that everyone had a chance of being a prize-winner. Caol in Bloom thanks Alan for a job well done.

Winners were - Caol residents unless otherwise stated:
Hanging Baskets - 1 Mr and Mrs I Houston, 63 Kilmallie Road; 2 Mr and Mrs W Richie, 51 Camesky Road; 3 Mrs Brown, 51 Kilmallie Road. Best Block -

160-162 Kilmallie Road (Mrs M Fraser and Mr and Mrs Nisbet). Best Street - Glenpane Street. Best Ornamental Garden - Mr and Mrs D Cameron, 6 Erracht Terrace. Best Vegetable Garden - 1 Mr Alan Smith, 12 Fern Court; 2 Mr and Mrs J Banks, 50 Glenkingie Street; 3 Mrs P Bennet, 134 Glenkingie Street. Best Easy Care - 1 Mr and

Mrs R Mathers, 85 Blar Mhor Road; 2 Mrs E MacLean, 4 Broom Drive; 3 Mr and Mrs H MacDonald, 1 Torlundy Road. Best Commercial Premises - 1 Mr and Mrs R Thomas, Ben View, Lochside; 2 Mr B Bindells, Lochan Cottage, Lochside; 3 Mr G Clelland, Lochy Bar. Best Overall Garden - 1 Mr and Mrs T Taylor, 60 Blar

Mhor Road; 2 Mrs J Gourley, 12 Ardour Road; 3 Mr G Aspinall, 5 McKay Crescent. Ten gardens were highly commended: 7 Camesky Road; 18 Cameron Place; 20 McMillan Place; 6 Glenpane Street; 8 Glenpane Street; 10 Glenpane Street; 12 Glenpane Street; 52 Castle Drive, Lochside; 40 Ardour Road; and 35 Mossfield, Lochside.

Fort William FC delight at cup tie draw

FORT William FC's under-20 side have landed a plum third round tie in the Scottish Youth Cup - Hibernian in Edinburgh on October 21.

The Fort earned their capital date courtesy of a 2-1 victory over Huntly on Sunday.

Committee member David MacDonald told *The Oban Times*: 'Everybody at the club is delighted.'

'It's a massive incentive for the boys to show what they can do.'

'In their age group in the Highland League they are probably as good as anybody out there.'

NEWSDESK
01631 568000

Police name man killed in Ben fall

POLICE have named the man who died following a fall on Ben Nevis on Friday night.

Insurance agent Andrew Tedder, 49, from Emsley, Yorkshire, tumbled into a gully while descending around 10pm.

Mr Tedder and his party were only an hour from the bottom of the hill when he slipped and fell just above the top aluminium bridge on the tourist path.

Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team leader John Stevenson said the victim had told his party his legs were sore and had been walking on easier ground near the edge.

Mr Stevenson told *The Oban Times*: 'He put his foot to the side and in a split second that was him away.'

By STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

'He fell 150-200 metres down to the bottom of the gully. When we found him around 12.30am he had not moved from where he landed.'

'The rescue helicopter from RAF Lossiemouth did a terrific bit of flying to airlift him out. It would have been really hard for us to get him out on the stretcher.'

Mr Tedder is thought to have died from head injuries.

Meanwhile, a woman was airlifted to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow with serious head injuries after falling in Glencoe on Saturday afternoon.

The woman had been descending Sgurr na h-Ulaidh, southeast of Ballachulish, with a male companion when she fell from a rock face around 5pm.

A Royal Navy rescue helicopter from HMS Gannet in Prestwick winched a Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team doctor and paramedic down to treat the casualty and secure her on a stretcher before flying her to Glasgow.

Glencoe MRT leader John Grieve said: 'It can be an awkward descent if the rocks are greasy. She fell quite a long way into a boulder field at the bottom.'

'The man was left stuck on a ledge 200 feet above her and he managed to get the 999 call out.'

Work starts on second phase of care home improvements

THE SECOND phase of refurbishment at a Highland Council-run care home in Fort William is set to get underway next week.

Works to be carried out at Invernevis House on Belford Road by Morrison Construction include improvements to electrical and heating systems, installing a biomass boiler and better wall insulation.

Bedrooms

Six larger rooms with en-suite facilities will be created, allowing a total of 32 bedrooms to be made available.

Other features include a new sprinkler system, other fire safety improvements, decoration and new floor finishes.

Work is expected to take six months.

Crofters, SNH in turf war

Battle on to keep grazings

A WOMAN is seeking support from other Highland crofters to fight what she claims are attempts by Scottish Natural Heritage to gain control of her township's common grazings.

Viv Montgomery fears if the four crofting families involved lose their battle, others could face ruin through punitive restrictions on livestock they can graze on the hill.

Ms Montgomery, 34, placed the crofters' plight alongside that of Barra's fishermen, who are fighting SNH moves to designate their waters as a special area of conservation.

The conservation quango is refusing the hill people permission to return sheep to six crofts' common grazings, claiming a blanket bog and heather needs continued protection from over-grazing.

The bitter dispute comes as a 10-year environmental deal between SNH and Craggan of Clun township comes to an end. The Newtonmore hill settlement has a population of 10, including six in Ms Montgomery's household.

The crofters voluntarily entered an Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) programme in 2002, under which they agreed to temporarily cut their hill ewe

EXCLUSIVE
REPORT by
STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

flock from 800 to 490 in return for an annual payment of £35 per sheep removed.

The move aimed to improve biodiversity on the uplands through reducing grazing pressure.

But according to Ms Montgomery, SNH's surveys found no habitat improvement, despite fewer sheep. The quango is now blocking the crofters' bid to return ewe numbers to the 853 permitted under Crofting Commission grazing rights, known as souming.

The ESA payments cease when the scheme ends next month - potentially leaving the crofters with a double financial penalty because too few ewes per hectare could mean they will not qualify for vital farm support payments. Ms Montgomery said five crofts at Strone, a mile along the hill to the east, would be in similar straits when their ESA scheme ends next year.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'SNH in my opinion are not telling the true facts and are causing ageing crofters and hill

people tremendous stress and worry. To me this is nothing short of harassment and needs to stop. The government should just look at the harm this will do, in terms of social, economic impacts and human rights. SNH provide nothing - if we had to depend on them we would starve.'

She added: It is my hope that other crofters and hill people will get in touch as this is not a fight the Craggan of Clun Crofters can fight alone. We have to protect our way of life for future generations.'

The crofters have enlisted the help of the Scottish Crofting Federation, of which they are members.

Donald Murdie, SCF crofting programme resources manager, has written to rural affairs minister Richard Lochhead asking him to intervene.

Mr Murdie told *The Oban Times*: 'This active and vibrant crofting township should be supported in its efforts to maintain a viable flock of hill sheep because a growing number of reports for government and agencies have highlighted the social, economic and environmental damage being caused across the Highlands and Islands through the loss of hill livestock.'

SNH committed to finding solution

ALMOST two thirds of Craggan of Clun's 2.5 square miles of common grazing have been part of the Monadhliath Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for 15 years.

Viv Montgomery foresaw no problems in returning to the permitted souming level of 853 ewes when the ESA agreement ended. However, Scottish Natural Heritage says the scheme 'had helped the condition of important habitats in the area'.

A spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'We are now happy to see the ESA scheme followed by some increase in sheep numbers

along with a continued level of support through a management agreement. We are keen to agree the terms of that agreement.'

'It is clear that a lot of hard work is required in order to reach a settled conclusion.'

'While we have a duty to balance the interests of the nearby site which is of European importance for its blanket bog, we are also keenly aware of the need for measures which help support the livelihoods of locals in the area.'

'That is why we are committed to working with the crofters and trying to negotiate to find a mutually acceptable solution to the challenges that lie ahead.'



Viv Montgomery.

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Clachan wind farm plan goes to local public hearing

A CONTROVERSIAL proposal for a wind farm at Clachan Seil continues to be recommended for refusal by planners, subject to a local public hearing.

Applicant Rory Young wants to build nine, 77m high turbines and a substation on the island, but there has been strong local opposition to the proposals.

Argyll and Bute Council had originally recommended the application for refusal at the start of the month, but the authority's planning department updated its position following new representation from consultants and two new letters of support.

However, it does not consider the new information changes its position.

The authority has received 858 letters of objection to the proposal, 96 for and four general representations.

The date of the hearing is to be confirmed.



Hundreds of people gathered on Easdale Island last Sunday for the 15th annual World Stone Skimming Championships, with conditions ideal for skimming on the day. 15_139stonekim2

Britain's top travel writers discover Argyll and the Isles

ARGYLL and the Isles welcomed some of Britain's highest profile travel writers at the weekend as part of a bid to increase coach tourism to the area.

Organised by the Coach Tourism Council and assisted by VisitScotland and Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac), the journalists set out from Glasgow on Friday, the 19 strong group caught the ferry from Wemyss Bay on the Firth of Clyde to Rothesay, Bute., before sailing from Rhuodach to Colintraive.

A ferry trip from Portavadie to Tarbert was followed by a coach trip to Oban via Lochgilphead and the scenic coast road.

Over the course of the weekend, the journalists took a boat trip to Fingal's

Cave, Staffa, visited the Abbey and Nunery on Iona and took in Crarae Gardens, near the banks of Loch Fyne.

Chris Wales, chief executive of the Coach Touring Council, said: 'During this trip, we wanted to show why this region is such a popular destination - especially for coach tours. Many of these journalists had not been to this part of Scotland before and have been absolutely blown away by the stunning scenery.'

David Adams McGilp, regional director for VisitScotland, said: 'I'm sure the journalists will return home with an armful of fantastic stories to help us sell the region to potential visitors across the country.'

LEADER awards local groups more than £600,000

THE ARGYLL and Islands LEADER Local Action Group has awarded 14 community groups more than £600,000 between them.

Those that were awarded money include Taynuilt Sports Council, which received £191,481 for the redevelopment of the Taynuilt sports field and pavilion.

More than £8,000 was given to the Mull and Iona Community Trust who will use the money for the Mull and Iona training skills development programme.

TREE welcomes comedy tour - and it could save lives

TREE will welcome its first ever comedy show next week - as part of a suicide awareness campaign.

Chose Life's Walking in My Shoes tour will see three of Glasgow's hottest up and coming comedians make an appearance at An Talla on Tuesday, October 2, from 8.30pm, with doors opening at 8pm.

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MSP appointed as liaison officer

MIKE Mackenzie, MSP for the Highlands and Islands has taken up a new role within the Scottish Government.

He has been appointed as a parliamentary liaison officer to Cabinet Secretary John Swinney. Mr Mackenzie said: 'I am honoured to have been chosen a parliamentary liaison officer between the backbench MSPs and the Finance Secretary John Swinney.'

Oban man swore at police officers

AN OBAN man who refused to stop swearing at another was arrested after he directed his foul language towards a police officer.

Stuart Ferguson, 22, of Argyll Mansions, George Street, Oban also pled guilty to uttering racist remarks toward the officer.

Oban Sheriff Court heard the incident, in Oban's Station Square at 2am last Saturday morning, happened after police had told two groups to leave the area. Most complied with the instruction but Ferguson refused to leave and started swearing at another man, refusing to stop when warned by police.

Sentence was deferred on Ferguson until October 1.

Alan Reid MP
Constituency Tour
Meet your local MP

Alan Reid MP will be in your area for his Constituency Tour on the following dates;

Wednesday 3 October 2012
Tiree - 12noon - 1.00pm
(Tiree Business Centre)

Saturday 6 October 2012
Appin - 9.15am - 9.45am
(Appin Village Hall)
Port Appin - 10.00am - 10.30am
Lismore - 12noon - 1.00pm
(Lismore Village Hall)

For an appointment please call 01369 704840

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The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Has Johann Lamont selected a political battlefield or minefield?

SCOTTISH Labour party leader Johann Lamont grasped the jaggy end of the political nettle this week and attacked the sustainability of Scottish Government's policies on free prescriptions for all, the freeze of council tax and the abolition of tuition fees for students in Scotland.

In a bold, or foolhardy - there is often a very thin line between the two - move Ms Lamont could not have chosen a more difficult battle ground, with her challenge on three publicly popular issues perhaps leading her party into a crucial make, or break, situation. But what were her options?

The Labour Party in Scotland was accused of not being seen to be on a firm political footing at the last election, a position that led to their traditional supporters voting with their feet and backing the current government.

With Scottish politics certain to be monopolised by the independence debate until late 2014, Ms Lamont needed a lofty peak to fly her flag from and muster support for a stance which pits the nation's poor against the middle classes. She has selected her colours based on arguments that the funding spent on free personal care could be better utilised in aiding those who need it most; that the council tax freeze was initially intended as a temporary measure and is now, a decade after its introduction, destroying local authority services; and that the abolition of student fees puts an unfair burden on the Scottish further education system without increasing entry numbers from the poorer classes.

However, any political stance has its risk and in seeking high reward there is always the threat of a tumble from greater heights. Should Labour withdraw or retreat from this week's given position it will be accused of lacking commitment and credibility. If the Scottish people view Johann Lamont's actions as threatening popular policies that hold the approval of the majority, Scottish Labour may feel the full weight of the political consequences and slide to a worse position than they find themselves in now.

GLASGOW LETTER

Land and community play

HAVING toured throughout Scotland, a new play, 'We Have Won the Land', will be performed in central areas from Saturday September 29 until Saturday October 6.

The venues for the play, under the auspices of the Islands Book Trust and Rural Nations, will be Kames Village Hall this coming Saturday, the Scottish Story Telling Centre in Edinburgh on Tuesday and Wednesday October 2 and 3, Lesser Woodside Halls, Glasgow, on Thursday October 4 and Friday October 5 and Luss Village Hall on Saturday October 6. The play starts at 7.30pm at each venue and the cost will be £10/ £8.

Clydebank ceilidh
CLYDEBANK and District Highlander's Association got its 2012-2013 season underway with a successful ceilidh in Napier Hall, Old Kilpatrick, the association's home for the past couple of years.

Cameron MacKichan, who chaired the proceedings, was also one of the Gaelic singers, the others being Sheena Walker and Gordon McKeever. The Scots singer was Anne Hepburn, the accordionist Fiona Johnston, the piper Robert Wood and the accompanist was Kirsteen Grant.

A particularly pleasing aspect of this concert was to see Mairi Howieson back in her usual role ensuring everything was in order.

Charity concert reminder

A CHARITY concert being organised by Kirsteen Grant and her husband Iain will take place in Milngavie Town Hall at 7.30pm tomorrow (Friday). Proceeds from the evening will go to the 'Help for Heroes Charity' in recognition of the support given to their son Donald whose foot was badly injured in Afghanistan last year.

The programme will have something for all tastes with many of the artists having connections with the family. Tickets costing £10, which includes a glass of wine, can be purchased by telephoning 0141 942 7603 or at the Iron Chef, Mugdock Road, Milngavie, or Purple Edge Graphics, Drymen Road, Bearsden.

Ceilidh dances

DEOCH 'n Dorus, who have been playing on the ceilidh dance scene for 10 years, continue their programme of dances this coming Saturday at 8pm in the Glasgow University Union.

Dancers of all ages and abilities are welcome to attend.

The next dance in this programme will be on November 30, although the band will also be playing at the annual dance of the Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association on Friday November 2.

Diary dates

Thursday September 27: Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Peter Morton.

Friday September 28: Milngavie Charity Concert for 'Help for Heroes', Milngavie Town Hall, 7.30pm - see above. Glasgow Skye Association Opening Ceilidh, Crawford Hall, Partick, 7.30pm. Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh, 7.30pm, The Outsite Track.

Saturday September 29: Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, Paisley Abbey, 8pm. National Treasure 6, Perth Concert Hall, 7.30pm. Ceilidh dance, Glasgow University Union - see above. Opening Concert, Stirling, Lesser Albert Halls, 7.30pm.

Sunday September 30: Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh. Acoustic Affair, Oran Mor, 7pm, Lizanne Knott.

Thursday October 4: Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Eilidh Grant.

Friday October 5: Glasgow Islay Association Opening Concert, Crawford Hall, Partick, 7.30pm.

Saturday October 6: Semi-final of BBC Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year, Coulter Hall, Biggar, 7.30pm. Acoustic Affair, Oran Mor, 7pm, The Long Notes and at O2 ABC, Bags of Rock

Pub scene
MUSIC in the Islay Inn this weekend will be played by Crooked Reel on Friday and the Keelies on Saturday while in the Park Bar it will be Eriksay Lilt on Friday, Calum Iain MacCorquodale on Saturday and Scott Harvey on Sunday.
Neil Murray. Tel: 0141 954 8105. Email: neilmurray@yahoo.co.uk.

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.

PRESS POLICY

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

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

The Oban Times adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct.

The views expressed in The Oban Times are not necessarily those of this newspaper.



Commonwealth Games relay runners

Oban Times reader C M N Campbell submitted this week's flashback photograph which features members of Oban Amateur Athletics Club in 1986. The athletes were in Tyndrum to take part in the Commonwealth Games Queen's Relay which involved carrying the baton which contained the speech to be read out at the opening of the games. The Oban Times welcomes submitted prints and images of a bygone era for publishing. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

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School transport the answer to Park parking problems

Sir,
Along with other parents, it is quite clear the source of parking problems at Park Primary School, Oban, can be found in the shortsighted decision to remove free school transport.

This has been an ongoing issue since parents, with the assistance of local MP Alan Reid, successfully overturned the initial attempt to remove the service some years ago but sadly were unable to convince the previous council administration to retain this policy.

Reinstatement of this policy would remove problems which were predicted by parents and now highlighted and experienced by local residents.

A school bus helps the environment, promotes child safety and road safety, reduces traffic congestion and supports the economy.

It is important young pupils arrive at school safely, on time, dry and ready to be educated.

It can help parents by having their children collected and dropped off at bus stops near their home thereby allowing them to extend their working day without losing travelling time to school or contributing to traffic congestion by having to undertake additional school journeys. Many parents are bemused when they observe on a daily basis empty local service buses travelling to Kerrera Terrace and departing minutes prior to the opening or closing of school.

This is further compounded by partially full school buses being used to transport pupils.

Clearly the transport capacity and capability is in place and all that is required is for politicians, full time officials, local residents, parents and the local bus company to meet and address the issue to find a relatively cost free solution. All aboard!

Colin Johnston, member of Park School Parent Council, Oban.

Developers must honour their obligation

Sir,
Kilmallie Community Council was concerned to see your article 'Debate rages over £500,000 Blar Mhor community cash', The Oban Times, September 13.

The reason Miller Developments has been allowed to build on a peat bog, both destroying a habitat of recognised European environmental importance and adding massively to the carbon footprint of our area, is because the project would bring much-needed community facilities.

If the £500,000 contribution from the developer is linked to land that costs more than that to prepare for development then effectively there will be no community benefit at all.

Tesco, Oatridge and Miller may try to interpret the Section 75 agreement that the money should stay 'on site' but that is not our understanding of what was agreed.

It is not up to David Milloy of Miller or Tesco to say what they 'want' to happen with the money. It is up to Highland Council in consultation with the community

to deliver the best possible outcome. To clear the confusion and allow all the initiatives for community facilities to progress, the developers should now make a clear commitment to honour their obligation to provide the money for community uses without trying to impose any restrictions.

Russell Leaper, Kilmallie Community Council.

RMT union versus CalMac

Sir,
Your report on the RMT's vote for possible strike action against Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) on September 20 was very misleading.

First, not all their members voted. Second it is only one of four unions recognised by the company and it represents only about one third of CalMac's workforce.

For what seems an eternity, a review of west coast and Clyde ferry services with participation from every interested party has been underway and is expected to be completed at the end of the year. It is about two years behind schedule. Even when it has been completed and a political decision made whether or not to accept its recommendations there is no question of 'selling off' any routes.

They all make losses, have onerous liabilities and no-one would buy them. It is just careless reporting to describe what may be contemplated for the next tender of these services: namely whether to tender all together in which case CalMac would probably - but not certainly - be the monopoly bidder, or whether to split the network into several parts in the hope this would promote competition between several bidders to provide better services and lower fares for islanders.

Competition is usually thought to be a good thing. CalMac might win them all so Bob Crow shouldn't cry before he's hurt.

The present services cost taxpayers £58.1 million in subsidy - fares received were £55.8m in 2010-11 - and the Scottish Government has a duty to taxpayers to get the best deal it can because there are many other areas of public services with an equal or greater claim to the money.

The present subsidy is equivalent to £4-5,000 a year per island household and is rising much more rapidly than inflation. Taxpayers, elsewhere, through the Scottish Government, are very generous to us islanders.

Crow appears to think he has a right of veto on arrangements for the next ferry tender but these should be decided by the islanders, within affordable limits, who number 40,000, not by his 400 members. Perhaps he doesn't realise we live in a democracy where the interests of the greater number are supposed to prevail? Bob Crow should count his blessings and so should his members who enjoy exceptionally generous terms and conditions and employment protection unequalled elsewhere.

James Knight, Isle of Mull.

Never forget the debt

Sir,
Going with the tone of 'Saint Michael's epistle to the Plebs', we, the electorate, should be eternally grateful to Michael Foxley

his cabal of elected colleagues, our officials, their leader Arthur McCourt, his replacement et al for all the grandiose schemes brought to fulfillment in our area and throughout the Highlands.

However, we also should never forget the debt and PFI payments they saddled us with for the next 30 years or so until we inherit these spent buildings, many of which I doubt will be of any value whatsoever to us. We should keep the latter fresh and to the forefront of our memories the next time we are called to exercise our right to vote and ensure we never ever make the mistake again of putting people like him and his ilk in positions of power over us.

Jimmy Waugh, Ballachulish.

Benefits of Mull sea eagles

Sir,
I read a member of Mull Community Council has suggested exploring the possibility of applying for licences to 'shoot eagles and other birds of prey' due to concerns about raptor predation.

In 2004 myself and three friends opted to visit after I read that golden and white tailed sea eagles were breeding there. We were particularly impressed with the views of the sea eagles at Loch Frisa. Since then, Mull has been an annual event on our calendar. We have recently returned from our ninth consecutive trip. We again went on an 'eagle watching' boat trip in Loch Na Keal, which was excellent. It was a fantastic example of the benefits this magnificent bird has undoubtedly brought to the tourism industry of the island.

In 2004 Mull looked very different from the island it is today - BBC's Springwatch programme was yet to visit, accommodation was not as plentiful as it is today and the CalMac sailings were not fully booked.

Mull then was certainly a little quieter, but hopefully much of this positive change

has been directly attributable to the increase in 'green tourism'. The sea eagles may not take all the credit, but I think they have had a massive influence. I have persuaded my family that a holiday on Mull would do them all good, so next year to celebrate our tenth anniversary I will be visiting twice.

It therefore concerns me there are those who can only see the sea eagles project for the negative aspects it may bring. In my opinion the RSPB, Scottish Natural Heritage, The Forestry Commission, Mull Eagle Watch and the crofters and residents of Mull should be very proud of all their hard work. They are to be congratulated for making Mull the fantastic place it is today.

Business award disappointment

Sir,
It must have been slim pickings when the Outer Hebrides judges sat to choose their top entrepreneur at the regional final of the 2012 Princes Trust Youth Business Scotland awards.

In a bid to recognise fresh, business talent in a competition aimed at 18 to 25 year-olds, I was disappointed that apparently the best that could be found in that area was two businessmen, meeting the age requirement on elastic rules, who invested in an old scallop dredger to operate it as, wait for it, a scallop dredger. I struggle to see the youthful entrepreneurship in that venture.

It is to be hoped that when the judging panel convenes to select the overall winner at the national finals in November, it seriously scrutinises the originality of the finalists' businesses and their environmental credentials before endorsing one with the top award. As for the young men's wish to introduce another new vessel into this destructive trade, potential financiers would be well advised to take a wide berth.

John Beaton, Oban.

Times Diary

HAVING bought a new cooker from a well-known electrical retailer, an Oban woman was delighted when she found out the company would deliver, install and check her new purchase - then remove and dispose of her old cooker at no extra charge.

Two days later, two delivery men duly arrived, disconnected the old cooker and carried it to their van before wiring and installing a shiny new cooker in the lady's kitchen.

As they were ready to drive away, the lady came rushing from her house and asked if she could see her old cooker again.

The driver opened the back door of the van and the lady climbed in, undid the securing ties and carefully removed a steak pie from the oven.

'I nearly forgot the dinner,' she explained.

DIARY couldn't help but be a bit amused at this tale of an unfortunate reveller.

A man had been out enjoying himself at a local festival but the day hadn't gone quite according to plan and he decided to complain to two police officers he spotted in their vehicle.

He approached the pair and started his moans but insisted on getting in to the car to tell them exactly what had gone wrong.

Naturally the officers refused him entry but he became insistent that he must get in the vehicle to complain.

He was refusing to give up and just wouldn't take a telling from the officers so they eventually decided to let him in the car - unfortunately for him he was arrested and couldn't get out again!



Beachd Ailein
Ailean Caimbeul

'S BEAG A BHA DÙIL agam gum bithinn a' tilleadh gu cuspair a' phoilis air an t-seachdain seo a-rithist, ach tha am murt a ghabh àite ann am Manchester gu bhith na sgòth dhorcha os cionn na seirbheis gu nàiseanta fad iomadh bliadhna. Chan eil duine ciallach sam bith aig nach bi co-fhaireachdainn leis na teaghlaichean is luchd-dàimh aig an dithis bhan-phoilis a chail am beatha as an tachartas oilte seo. Tuigear cuideachd carson a bhiodh fearg agus sreagm a' mhòr-shluagh a' dùsgadh argamaidean às ùr airson poileas a bhith a' giùlan gunnaichean gu cunbhalach agus binn bàis ath-stèidheachadh mar pheanas air cuid de dh'eucoir ann am Breatainn.

Ach a dh'aindeoin bruidealaidh na thachair an seo, feumar a bhith faiceallach nach tèid co-dhùmaidhean a dhèanamh agus laghan atharrachadh ann an cus cabhaig agus fo bhuidh mullaig agus corraich.

Chomhairlich Calum Stilleach aig Caidreachas a' Phoilis ann an Alba nach b' e seo am a bhith a' beachdachadh air ceistean den t-seòrsa seo idir agus tha mi ag aontachadh leis gu tur. Nuair a chaidh rannsachadh a dhèanamh ann meag oifigearan poilis bho chionn ghoirid a thaobh dìon, tha e coltach gun robh còrr air ceithir fichead as a' cheud an aghaidh a bhith a' giùlan gunnaichean. Am meas nan caochladh argamaid a' tha ann aghaidh, tha eagal gun adhbhrachadh seo sgaradh eadar am poileas agus a' choimhearsnachd agus cuideachd beachd gun toireadh eucoirach barrachd ionnsaigh air poileas aig am biodh gunnaichean.

A bharrachd air sin, agus mar a thuir an Stilleach cuideachd, chan eil dìon ann a sheasas ri gunna cunbhalach ann an làmh murtair diorrasach, ach cuiridh na siosacotan a poileas a' cleachdadh an-dràsta beagan bacaidh air lethidh ionnsaigh seigne.

Tha ceist binn bàis fìu's nas buaireasaiche buileach. Chaidh an crochadh mu dheireadh a dhèanamh ann am Breatainn ann an 1964 agus chaidh cur às dha binn bàis san dùthaich seo a' bhliadhna às dèidh sin. Chaidh beachdachadh air a' chuspair as a' Phàrlamaid a-rithist ann an 1997 aig am deasbad Achd Chòraichean Daonna agus bha mòr-chuid de 158 an aghaidh binn bàis a thoirt air ais.

Nuair a chaidh tagradh làrach-lìn air adhart bho chionn bliadhna a' feuchainn ris a' chuspair a dheasbad anns a' Phàrlamaid a-rithist, nochd taic làidir airson binn bàis a thoirt air ais mar pheanas airson lethidh murt chloinne agus oifigearan poilis.

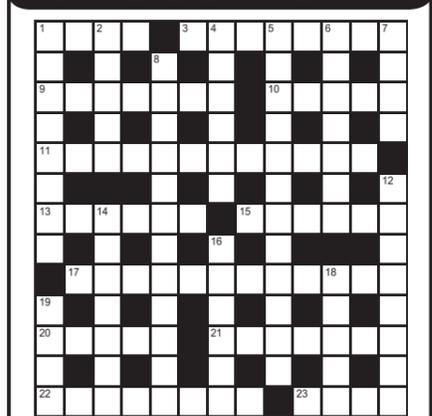
Ach ma tha Amnesty Eadar-nàiseanta ceart agus gum bheil binn bàis ag àicheadh còir beatha agus mar sin, a' dol an aghaidh Aonta Eadar-nàiseanta Chòraichean Daonna, tha fhios nach gabh an lagh atharrachadh?

RENEWED discussion on arming police, and the return of the death penalty for some crimes, is an understandable reaction to the horrific murders of two Manchester police officers.

But law makers cannot allow emotion to influence decisions, and if Amnesty International is correct in saying that a death penalty is a contravention of the Convention on Human Rights then discussion can never alter that fact, can it?

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

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



Across

- Cowboy boot attachment (4)
- One after end of marriage (8)
- Containing water (7)
- Lens (5)
- Unequally considered (3-9)
- Gentle breeze (6)
- Hitchcock classic (6)
- Don't get on (12)
- Clear (5)
- Marsupial (7)
- Opening (in a wood?) (8)
- Deer weapon (4)

Down

- Chew the fat (8)
- Excessive (5)
- Mint (6)
- Company (12)
- Serving as a guide (7)
- Simple (4)
- One who has the insurance (12)
- Frightening fellow! (8)
- Loose flower cluster (7)
- Away from the centre of a city (6)
- One singing with a deep voice (5)
- Alliance (4)

Last week's solution

W	R	E	S	T	L	E	L	O	T	T	O
I	P	R	S	I	E	L					
V	I	S	T	A	C	O	V	E	R	S	
E	J	I	O	A	O	E	R	S			
S	E	L	I	M	P	O	R	T	A	N	T
L	O	N	E	Y	E						
R	E	N	E	G	E	E	C	L	A	I	R
E											
C	R	O	S	S	E	X	A	M	I	N	E
O	U	T	H	P	A	T	L	A			
V	A	N	U	A	T	U	A	T	L	A	S
E	C	E	T	M	N	A	T				
R	E	E	V	E	L	Y	T	R	O	N	

Last call for Ardgour phone box

AN ARDGOUR community has waved goodbye to a well-known local landmark after a traditional red phone box beside Loch Linnhe was removed by BT.

The phone box had been in a state of disrepair for a number of years but locals at Blaich were unhappy when it emerged it was to be taken away.

A small note was placed inside the box around three months ago which notified the community of the plans.

Situated on a beauty spot on the loch side, the phone box is thought to have been in place for more than 60 years. Visitors travelling along to A861 through Treslaig and Achaphubuil would often stop at the phone box to take photos, despite its well-worn look.

It is known that a number of the distinctive red boxes removed by BT across the country have been put up for auction in USA.

Across in the States the boxes are regarded as valuable memorabilia and can sell for upwards of £2,000. A BT policy allows the landowner to 'adopt' the phone box for £1. Conaglen Estate is believed to own the land at Blaich but it is not clear if the estate was made aware of the policy.

A BT spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'No calls were made from this payphone last year. We consulted with the council for the removal of the box and we posted a notice in the payphone asking members of the public to get in touch with the council if they had any objections.'

'No objections were received. The Ardgour community was given the opportunity to adopt this payphone in the past but they did not take up our offer.'



Ballachulish's Karen Marshall with Moray Callum, executive director, design, Ford Americas, and the Ford Model 'A' at the factory opening.

Ballachulish car's starring role at firm's celebrations

THE BOSS of a go-ahead Scottish company looked to her Ballachulish roots to help celebrate winning a coveted export award.

Karen Marshall, formerly Sutherland, who was born and brought up in the south Lochaber village, is now Bridge of Weir Leather Company managing director.

And when news came that her firm had won a Queen's Award for Enterprise (International Trade category), she knew what she wanted at the party - the 1928 Model 'A' Ford owned by Chisholm's Garage.

The car, one of the first vehicles in the world to feature Bridge of Weir's fine Scottish leather, has been in the Chisholm family for

several decades and remains, at nearly 85 years old, in excellent condition.

Such good condition in fact, that Karen wanted the Model 'A' to have pride of place at the presentation at the leather company's new factory in the Renfrewshire town.

Karen told *The Oban Times*: 'I was born and brought up in Ballachulish and still spend much time there.'

'The Chisholm family are close friends and I have greatly admired their vintage car since childhood.'

'Their Model A Ford is a beautiful example, and made all the more so, in my opinion, by the fine Scottish leather interior!'

'The Ford represents one of the first examples of our leather featuring in an internationally recognised car, so we just had to have the Chisholm's Model A here to celebrate the Queen's Award for International Trade. Our sincere thanks to the Chisholms.'

The company's new £2 million plant was officially opened by Scottish Leather Group Chairman Jonathan Muirhead, and international Scottish car designers Ian and Moray Callum, design directors at Jaguar and Ford respectively.

The Lord Lieutenant of Renfrewshire handed over the Queen's Award after the firm's outstanding export performance and sales growth over the last three years.

Death crash a 'tragic accident'

A CRASH on the A82 near Glencoe in March which left two Lochaber men dead was a 'tragic accident', a fatal accident inquiry has been told.

At the inquest at Fort William Sheriff Court, the families of victims Stewart McGifford and Ronnie McPhee heard there was nothing to be learned from the incident to help prevent a similar tragedy in future.

Caol man Mr McGifford, aged 48, and Mr McPhee, 44, from Mallaig, both died when Mr McGifford's Ferguson Transport lorry and Mr McPhee's Fiat Punto collided at Tom Mor, half-a-mile south of Glencoe on March 8.

By RICHARD HADDOCK rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

The hushed courtroom heard Mr McPhee's car was almost a metre over the white line line at the time, while Mr McGifford had been travelling over the speed limit.

Police collision investigator Constable Scott Lemmon told the inquiry: 'The Fiat was straddling the centre line. The driver's side wheels were on the wrong side of the road, about 0.9 metres into the southbound carriageway.'

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie asked Constable Lemmon if the speed of the lorry had been a factor.

He said: 'It was travelling in excess of the speed limit, but if the lorry had been travelling at 40mph I don't think we would have seen a different outcome.'

There were no eyewitnesses to the fatal crash on a straight north of Glencoe Visitor Centre, a short distance south of a narrow bridge, but passing motorist James Dick of Airdrie was the first person on the scene.

He described seeing the lorry's cargo of wooden planks strewn across the carriageway with both vehicles lying in the ditch on the side of the road.

First aid-trained Mr Dick tried to help both men, but was unable to do anything for them.

Summing up, Ms Wylie said: 'The Crown is not seeking to

place blame on anyone. It has never been the position of the Crown to second guess what happened that day.'

Sheriff Vinit Khurana told the families he would release his findings within weeks. Mr McGifford lived with his wife Joan Farrington and had been a driver for Ferguson Transport for five years.

Mr MacPhee lived in Daliburgh in South Uist before moving to Mallaig and had worked for CalMac for 27 years.

Meanwhile, a worker with a vehicle recovery firm has lost his job after uploading images of the fatal crash to social media.

An Elgin-based company was carrying out contract work at the scene for the AA, which said the photographs were 'totally unacceptable'.

The worker's employment was terminated following an investigation into a complaint about the images, the AA said.

A spokesperson added: 'The pictures the AA saw, while showing the lorry and the cab area, absolutely did not include pictures of any deceased.'

The AA views any inappropriate or unacceptable use of social media by its employees or garage agents very seriously and our garage contracts now expressly forbid the use of images being uploaded to social media, the consequence of which is termination of contract.'

"The Crown is not seeking to place blame on anyone...I see nothing that can be learned which would prevent such an accident occurring again."

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie

Police name accident victim

POLICE have named a young man who died after the car he was travelling in crashed on the B862 Whitebridge to Fort Augustus on Saturday night.

Student Matthew Charles Ricketts, aged 17, was a passenger in a silver Citroen which left the road around 10.07pm.

The driver was in a stable condition when taken to Raigmore Hospital.

Northern Constabulary is asking any witnesses to the accident to contact them on 01463 715555.

A report is being prepared for the Procurator Fiscal. Next of kin have been informed.

Gaelic college hosts ceilidh

SABHAL Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College on Skye, is hosting a ceilidh to raise funds for international aid organisation Oxfam tomorrow night.

Acts appearing include Angus Nicolson, Anne Martin, Christine Primrose, Margaret Stewart, Decker Forrest, Duncan Overmeer, Màiri Sine Chaimbeul and students from the college. Drama performances and a raffie will also feature.

All monies will go to Oxfam's education projects in Pakistan, especially to encourage female education in disaster-hit areas of the country. The event starts at 8pm and tickets cost £8 and £5 for students.

Music for All concert date

LOCHABER Music for All will hold its first concert of the 2012/13 season in Kilmallie Hall, Fort William, on Saturday at 7.30pm.

The Maxwell Quartet will perform a programme including music from Dvorak, Haydn and Wolff. Cellist Duncan Strachan is originally from Roy Bridge.

The concert follows LMFA's lunch fund-raiser in St Andrews Hall on September 15, which raised nearly £400 towards its forthcoming musical programme.

The charitable organisation brings professional musicians from all over the world to Lochaber.

Newsdesk
01397 703003

Storms lash Lochaber

LOCHABER roads were badly affected by the autumnal storms battering the Highlands on Tuesday.

Highland Council staff cleared trees from the A861 west of Strontian and a mile south of Ardgour, while the Loch Arkaig road also had to be cleared after a tree came down.

The B863 north of Kinlochleven was open to cars only while a contractor cleared away fallen timber and footpaths at Lochyside and Highbridge near Spean Bridge were also blocked. In Fort William, the Fassifern loop and Alma Road were closed after the gale brought down more trees.

Young chef area final

THE AREA final of the Rotary Club of Lochaber's Young Chef competition will be held at Lochaber High School next Thursday.

Finalists will include Rebekah Gunn and Danielle Campbell, who won through from the heats at Kinlochleven High School last Tuesday.

Judges will be professional chefs and others involved in the hospitality industry in Lochaber.

Club president Sheana Fraser said: 'Our club believes that it is highly important to encourage and develop creativity in young people, and this includes creativity in the kitchen.'

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Hill walkers urged to call police first

HILL walkers are being urged to call police first if they get into difficulty rather than other emergency services.

The issue was raised at a recent meeting of Mull Community Council where concerns were voiced over the way a recent incident was handled.

Sergeant Mark Stephen told those present if the ambulance is called out police are often not informed for an hour that there is an incident taking place or are sent to the wrong area.

He also pointed out that if the mountain rescue teams are needed they are not insured if called by the ambulance service.

He added: 'If police call them they are covered by the police insurance and their own insurance.'

Drug addict avoids jail sentence

A RECOVERING heroin addict with a long history of drugs offences found in possession of cocaine has escaped jail.

Craig Duffy, 37, of 19 Glenfoot Terrace, appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week after previously admitting possessing cocaine on May 5 last year.

Defence solicitor Laura Russell said her client had long been fighting heroin addiction, which had caused him health problems and he had been offered cocaine during a 'particularly difficult' time in his life.

Visiting Sheriff Khurana said: 'You have pled guilty to a serious offence and it's against a backdrop of a number of similar drugs offences. However, I'm persuaded to impose a community payback order of 18 months.'

'This is a direct alternative to a custodial sentence. If you don't co-operate then you will come back here.'

Police appeal after attempted theft

POLICE are appealing for information after an attempted robbery in the Craigard Road area of Oban.

Police were called at around 6.30am last Wednesday after someone was heard trying to break into a locked cupboard in a common close.

Anyone with information should contact Sergeant Mike Wood at Oban Police Office.



Oban woman Audrey Campbell with her surprise package 15_138audrey1

'Oops' by Boots leaves Audrey new car

AFTER receiving two separate deliveries of drugs intended for Boots the Chemist, Oban woman Audrey Campbell returned home last week to find a brand new car in her driveway.

Unfortunately, the car was not gifted to the Soroba Park Terrace resident by the way of apology for previous errors, but was yet another failed delivery intended for the pharmaceutical retailer on Soroba Road.

Previously, Boots had delivered a box of drugs to the Soroba Park Terrace address, later delivering several prescription drugs intended for someone thought to be seriously ill.

The delivery of the £13,000 Vauxhall Astra on Tuesday afternoon meant yet more disruption for Audrey, pictured, as she becomes increasingly frustrated by the company.

She said: 'I actually had someone at my door three weeks ago checking the address and I told them what had happened. They said it was terrible and

they'd make sure it wouldn't happen again. Then, it happened again. Boots say the problem is Google - but does my house look like a chemist?'

A spokesperson for Boots UK said: 'We apologise for any inconvenience caused by deliveries made to the wrong address. We are investigating this issue and would ask any customers with concerns regarding deliveries to contact our customer care team.'

Lockups are also part of the proposals and a special request was made at the meeting that they be 'wide enough to be able to open both doors on a rally car at the same time and still be able to walk around it'.

Starter business units are planned for the site, these will be about 50 square metres in area and have a roller door, office, toilet and kitchen area with a 'sensible' amount of space for businesses to start or grow.

Isle of Mull business park plan takes shape

PLANS for a light industrial park near Tobermory are taking shape after businesses put forward their own proposals.

A recent public meeting in Tobermory was hailed a 'great success' by Richard Thorne, of Mull and Iona Community Trust, who is leading the project.

He said: 'There was representation from most of the key island business groups. This enabled a good exchange of ideas and some lively discussions.'

'The plan for an open storage area, where islanders can keep their trailers, caravans, boats and horseboxes was well received, as was the plan for secure, fenced and gated storage areas which will be ideal for builders and fishermen to store equipment and materials.'

Containers will also be available for rent for short term storage. Mr Thorne said everything would be available at 'reasonable rates'.

There will be a further meeting, expected to be held in early November, to discuss progress and how the project can move forward.

Mr Thorne added: 'The plan is for these to be rentable, but there was discussion about them being available to purchase as well.'

'It was also suggested that a group of people could rent a unit and keep and work on cars in there. At the moment anything is possible and the more suggestions that are received the better.'

MICT are still investigating the feasibility of this project and are keen to design the site so it will accommodate a business from start-up right through to being fully established.

The site will also benefit islanders without businesses by offering a place to store large items like caravans, boats and trailers.

There will be a further meeting, expected to be held in early November, to discuss progress and how the project can move forward.



Eye to eye with John Wallace

Macular Degeneration Treatments

One of the saddest situations optometrists have to deal with is when a patient develops Age Related Macular Degeneration (ARMD). For the majority of patients this means an inexorable deterioration of vision. I have written previously of the changes in treatment of ARMD. Ever since I qualified in the mid 70's ARMD has been classified as untreatable which severe vision loss the inevitable consequence. Only recently has any form of treatment been possible.

ARMD is classified into two types; wet and dry. Wet ARMD typically caused sudden massive vision loss. In the last few years it has become possible to treat wet ARMD with injections into the affected eye which seal the leaky vessels in the retina that cause wet ARMD. Astonishingly, this treatment now accounts for 1% of the entire UK health budget with each injection costing at least £1000.

The most common form of

ARMD is the dry type. This is a consequence of the aging process causing a build-up of toxins in the retina. Currently there is no treatment to stop the process of dry ARMD. Research has found lifestyle modification to be beneficial. Eating low glycaemic index foods, a minimum of two portions of oily fish per week and plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables daily are beneficial in reducing the progress of dry ARMD.

Recently, a laser based treatment has been developed for the treatment of early ARMD. This involves firing a nanosecond pulse of laser at the retina. Traditionally laser destroyed retina by burning large areas. This technique called "Rejuvenative Laser Therapy" gently destroys a small number of cells in the treated area and stimulates the retina to replace the damaged cells, thus "rejuvenating" the retina. This treatment is shortly entering clinical trials and offers much hope for the future treatment of dry ARMD.

John Wallace BSc (Hons), FCOptom, DipCLP
Wallace Optometrists
The West Highland Orthokeratology Clinic
11/12 Argyll Square, Oban
Tel: 0845 230 3937 (EYES)
www.wallaceoptometrists.co.uk

Dutch-based tall ship berths in Oban Bay

A 120 FOOT tall ship, the *Flying Dutchman*, docked at Dungallan Park, Oban this week after arriving from Holland.

The vessel, captained by Klaas Van Twillert, is operated as a charter business out of Holland and is sailing around the Scottish coast.

On board this week were 12 travellers and a crew of four. Captain Klaas said: 'The ship dates back to 1903. I bought it nine years ago and renovated it. This is the first year we have come to Scotland and it's a dream come true, it's a beautiful country and Oban is a fantastic town.'



The Flying Dutchman at Dungallan Park 16_139tallship

Oban man jailed after two court appearances in 48 hours

TWO OBAN men who were remanded in custody for 'serious' drug related offences have been ordered to comply with random drug testing.

Duncan MacWhirter, 26, and David MacGillivray, 35, both of 52C Soroba Road, Oban previously appeared from custody at Oban Sheriff Court on August 22. MacWhirter was accused of allowing his home to be used for supplying heroin while MacGillivray was accused of supplying the drug to others.

The pair both pled guilty to reduced charges when they ap-

peared last week.

The pair were placed on drug treatment testing orders until October 16.

But MacWhirter appeared back in court two days later to plead guilty to theft from an Oban shop.

Sheriff Jamie Gilchrist saying: 'He can't even stay out of trouble for 12 hours.'

Sentencing MacWhirter to four months in prison Sheriff Gilchrist added: 'How long do the shopkeepers and others of Oban have to tolerate his criminality?'

Man fined after damage to hotel

A MAN who was staying in an Oban hotel ended up in police cells after smashing a mirror, glass in a door and brandishing a screwdriver at others.

Graham Sibbald, 24, of 55 Dunvegan Avenue, Elderslie, was working in Oban on April 25, when the incident took place. The court heard Sibbald, who pled guilty to the crime, had been agitated and aggressive through the incident.

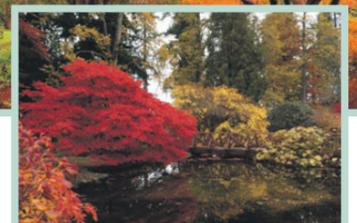
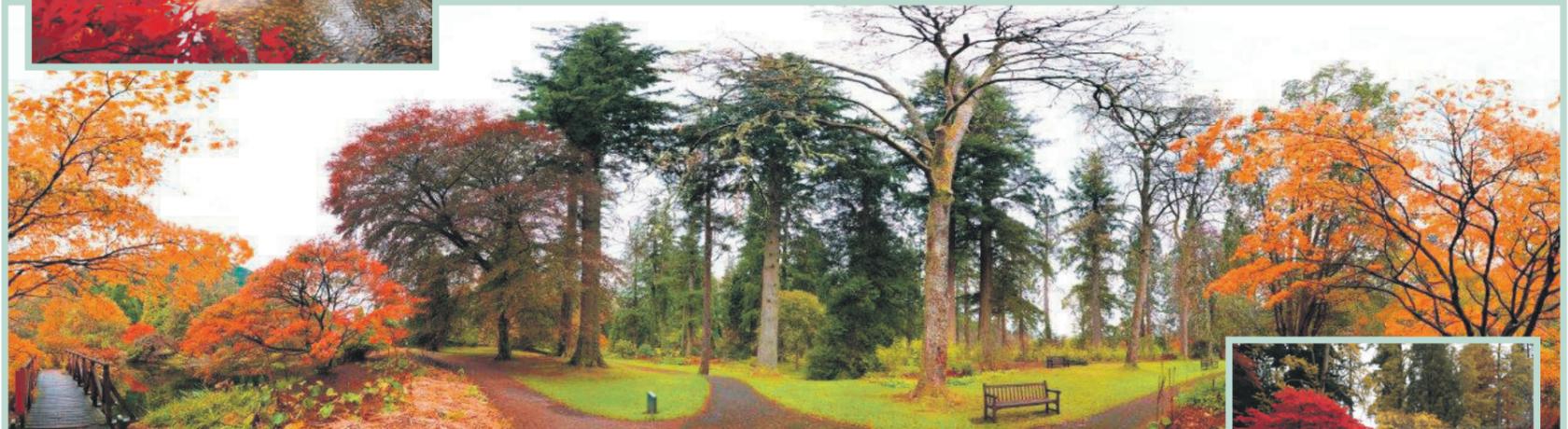
He was fined £200 for his actions.

The court heard the damage to the hotel had already been covered by his employers.

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OCTOBER EVENTS

Fungi Foray

With senior mycologist Stephan Helfer. Thurs 4 Oct at 2pm. £3/£2 members. Book on 0131 552 5339. Garden admission applies.

Cowalfest Guided Walks

Join an experienced Garden Guide and learn about the plants and trees that make Benmore so special. Fri 5 Oct at 11am; Sat 6 Oct at 2pm; Tues 9 Oct, Thurs 11 Oct, Fri 12 Oct & Sun 14 Oct at 2.30pm. Cost £4.95 includes garden admission. For further details visit www.cowalfest.org

Autumn Highlights

There are guided walking tours every Tues & Sun. The Benmore Explorer runs on Weds & Thurs. All tours begin at 2pm and are included in the garden admission price.

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Alvin Stardust plays charity gig at Corran Halls

ROCK legend Alvin Stardust is bringing his 'I love Rock 'n' Roll' show to Oban this weekend in a one off charity gig to raise money for a new Scottish charity.

Fans of the rocker can see him play at the Corran Halls on Friday, September 28.

This will be the singer's first show in Oban as he helps raise money for a new Scottish charity, Rainbow Valley.

The My Choo-Ca-Choo singer said: 'I was approached by a good friend of mine, Caroline, who has a lot to do with the charity and thought this would be a fantastic opportunity.'

'I get to put on a great show, raise money for charity and

visit Oban. It's really a triple whammy for me. I love playing the smaller gigs its a fantastic opportunity to go out and meet the fans.'

Fans of the singer will not be disappointed as he performs hits songs from the last six decades.

He said: 'I'll be playing a bit of everything on the night. I have a fantastic band and we will be putting on a great show.'

'There will be music from across the decades, a bit of Queen and there's a great rock version of Duffy's Mercy, so there is something for everyone. My hits from the 70s and 80s will be in there as well.'

This concert will be the first of many fundraising ventures

by Rainbow Valley as it aims to raise more than £1 million to open a new centre for those affected by cancer.

The charity was set up by the family of the late Johanna MacVicar to fulfil her wish that a centre focusing on holistic therapies would be built.

Johanna campaigned throughout her 11-year battle with cancer to encourage more people to donate bone marrow.

Caroline MacFarlane, who organised the gig said: 'We hope to raise a lot of money and open the centre which was Johanna's vision. The gig will take place on what would have been her 35th birthday so it all seems quite fitting.'



Alvin Stardust performs at a recent gig.

Oban Phoenix Cinema

The Watch
Fri 28th, 20:30 • Sat 29th, 21:00 • Sun 30th, 18:00

Total Recall
Thurs 27th, 20:30 • Fri 28th, 20:30 • Sat 29th, 18:00 • Sun 30th, 20:30

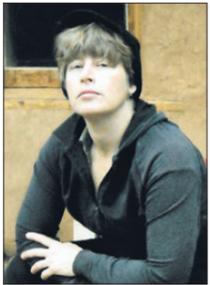
The Three Stooges
Fri 28th, 16:00 • Sat 29th, 13:00, 15:30 • Sun 30th, 13:00, 15:30

Anna Karenina
Mon 1st, 17:45, 20:45 • Tues 2nd, 17:45, 20:45 • Wed 3rd, 20:30
Thurs 4th, 17:45 • Sat 6th, 18:00 • Sun 7th, 15:00

Avengers Assemble
Wed 3rd, 17:30 • Thurs 4th, 20:45 • Fri 5th, 16:00, 19:00 • Sat 6th, 15:00
Sun 7th, 18:00

Dredd
Fri 5th, 22:00 • Sat 6th, 21:00 • Sun 7th, 21:00 • Mon 8th, 20:30
Tues 9th, 21:00

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Myshkin returns to Lochaber

US SINGER-songwriter Myshkin and her special brand of gypsy New Orleans folk-noir will headline at Lochaber's own Watercolour Music at the first of its popular house concerts of the new season next Sunday.

The underground legend made a huge impression on the Ardgour studio's Nick Turner and Mary Ann Kennedy when she first visited Scotland in the early 2000s - and they're delighted to welcome her back for a long-awaited return tour.

Mary Ann told The Oban Times: 'Myshkin has it all. Anyone that's been to a Watercolour house concert in the past will know that we present a huge range of roots and acoustic music, but always with the emphasis on quality. I was bowled over when I first met Myshkin and heard her perform in Glencoe - songs, stage presence, the lot - so when the opportunity came up to bring her back to the Highlands on this visit, we jumped at the chance.'

Myshkin will be touring this autumn with her new album 'That Diamond Lust' - her seventh album. Five years in the making, the album is a mix of dark and delicate revolutionary love songs.

Myshkin will also be recording an exclusive session for Mary Ann's late night BBC Radio 3 show, 'World on 3'.

Myshkin said of her return to Lochaber: 'One of my sweetest tour memories of all time is the boat ride up the Loch Shiel with the pipes floating up and out across the water.'

The house concert takes place on Sunday, October 7 at 3pm.

Ghana drummers entertain at Banavie

BANAVIE Primary was alive with the sound of drums when a group of expert drummers from Ghana visited the school last week.

The Kakatsitsi Drummers, who have trained for many years, gave a demonstration to the whole school in the morning before explaining how the drums were made and the different techniques used for playing them.

Teacher Collette Smith said: 'The pupils enjoyed clapping and dancing in time with the music the drummers created. Everyone had a brilliant time and found out a little about another culture.'



Banavie pupils look on as the Kakatsitsi Drummers perform



The swimmers that took part in the Kerrera Swim celebrate

IT MAY have been a frosty morning, but that didn't deter several brave souls from swimming from Kerrera to Oban Sailing Club on Saturday.

The event was arranged to help raise funds for Atlantis Leisure's Youth Work in Sport initiative, with the cash raised to be used for events throughout the year.

The swimmers took the plunge just after 11am, with the fastest swimmer, Colin Kupris, completing the challenge in just over 12 minutes. It wasn't a race though and the biggest cheer of the day went to Yvonne MacHugh, who had only learned to swim in April. The money raised will help the Youth Work in Sport initiative hold more events throughout the year. Organiser and Youth Work in Sport co-ordinator, Donna Smith, thanked everyone for taking part and congratulated the swimmers for their efforts.

Children's author visits Fort William library

CHILDREN'S author Chae Strathie visited Lochaber on Sunday and Monday to hold free events for adults and children.

First posting for Chae under the Highlife Highland and Scottish Booktrust-funded initiative was Fort William Library on Sunday, when he gave tips to those looking to explore the craft of writing for children.

Chae, whose book 'The Loon on the Moon' was shortlisted for the 2011 Scottish Children's Book Award, discussed his writing career, his journey to becoming a published author and what it's like to perform at events.

He then answered questions from the audience of local teachers, amateur and professional writers,



Chae with Lochaber schoolchildren in Fort William Library on Monday

and Fort William primary schools.

He discussed his stories and what it is like to be an author, with the children making up their own planet and alien. The pupils had prepared excellent questions and thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the fun event before giving Chae some of their own drawings to take home.

Network librarian Amy McDougall said: 'It's brilliant that we have the opportunity, through Highlife Highland and The Scottish Booktrust, to bring authors to the Fort William area.'

It has been fantastic to see so many adults and children turn out to hear what such an accomplished author has to say. We look forward to bringing more authors to the library in the future.'

The Three Stooges (PG)
While trying to save their childhood orphanage, Moe, Larry, and Curly inadvertently stumble into a murder plot and wind up starring in a reality TV show. Based on the ever popular shorts but dropping Moe, Larry and Curly right in the middle of modern life, this film gives you everything you would expect from great slapstick comedy and then some.

The Watch (15)
Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn, Jonah Hill and The IT Crowd's Richard Ayoade star as sub-urbanites bored with their regular day routine so decide to form a neighbourhood watch to keep their streets safe. Little do they know that their patrols are soon to unearth a threat greater and more dangerous than they could possibly imagine, putting not only their small town at risk but the whole planet too!

Anna Karenina (12A)
Keira Knightley reunites with director Joe Wright, following their award-winning box office successes Pride & Prejudice and Atonement, for this international peace keeping agency. The agency is a who's who of Marvel Super classic novel. Adapted by Academy Award winner Tom Stoppard, Anna Karenina tells the tragic tale of a society woman torn between loyalty to her husband and the desires of her heart. With strong performances by Knightley as the eponymous Anna, Jude Law as the vengeful Alexei and Kelly McDougal as loyal Dolly, the film is guaranteed a few nominations at next year's Oscars.

Total Recall (12A)
Remake of the 1990 sci-fi sensation sees Colin Farrell stepping into the rather large shoes of Arnold Schwarzenegger's leading role. A factory worker, Douglas Quaid, begins to suspect that he is a spy after visiting Rakal - a company that provides its clients with implanted fake memories of a life they would like to have led. Think you know the res? Think again as this new adaptation of Philip K Dick's original novel catapults you into the future of action and espionage.

Avengers Assemble (12A)
Nick Fury is director of S.H.I.E.L.D., an international peace keeping agency. The agency is a who's who of Marvel Super Heroes, with Iron Man, The Incredible Hulk, Thor, Captain America, Hawkeye and Black Widow. When global security is threatened by Loki and his cohorts, Nick Fury and his team will need all their powers to save the world from disaster. A timeless story of heroes and villains, this star-studded, action packed film is sure to amuse and thrill in true Marvel fashion.

Dredd (18)
The future America is an irradiated wasteland. On its East Coast, running from Boston to Washington DC, lies Mega City One - a vast, violent metropolis where criminals rule the chaotic streets. The only force of order lies with the urban cops called 'Judges' who possess the combined powers of judge, jury and instant executioner. Known and feared throughout the city, Dredd is the ultimate Judge, challenged with ridding the city of its latest scourge - a dangerous drug epidemic that has users of 'Slo-Mo' experiencing reality at a fraction of its normal speed. Judgement is coming, his name is Dredd and audience and critics alike are praising this true-to-fiction adaptation of Leo Tolstoy's

COMING SOON: Mirror Mirror, Arriety, Now is Good, We Bought a Zoo, The Campaign, Lawless and Rio so be sure to visit www.obanphoenix.com or call our box office for all show information!

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Friday 9th
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Doors 7pm
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Box Office 01631 567333

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Celebrating Lindsay and Pauls 5th Anniversary in Markie Dans

Thursday 27th Cheesy Disco with DJ Darren
Friday 28th Open Mic Night
Saturday 29th Brass Monkeys
Sunday 30th Killer Pool Competition with Cash Prizes and Free nibbles
Quiz Night with a chance to win £100

Monday 1st Actual Anniversary
Scottish Music with Donnie Files and Maurice Duncan
Grand Raffle - big prizes
Complimentary Drink on arrival and Nibbles from 8.00pm
Disco with Stevo
Friday 5th Party and Locals night
Saturday 6th Party and Locals night with live music from Crooked Reel

All live music starts at 9.30pm

Thanks to all the locals for a fantastic five years

See facebook for promos

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Charity Car Boot Sale
Co-op Car Park
Sunday 30th September
10am - 2pm

Friends of Auchindrain Open Day
Sat 29th Sept 2012
2.30 pm
at Auchindrain
ALL WELCOME
RSVP if possible
friends@auchindrain.org.uk

Highlands & Islands Music & Dance Festival
Soup Lunch
Saturday
28 September
12 noon - 2pm
Kilmore Hall
£3 adults, £2 children
Baking, Raffle, Music

FORT WILLIAM ACCORDION & FIDDLE CLUB
Musical Evening
on Tuesday 2nd October 2012
at 8pm
GUEST ARTISTS:
STEVEN CARCARY TRIO
Railway Club Inverlochy
All Welcome
Admission £4.00 ... Tea & Raffle Extra
IN THE EVENT OF A LAST MINUTE CANCELLATION BY ANY GUEST ARTIST THE COMMITTEE WILLING AN ALTERNATIVE ARTIST

Oban Congregational Church
Coffee Morning
(with lunchtime soup)
Saturday 29 September
10.30am - 2.00pm
Tea/coffee + home baking £2.50
Soup/bread £2.00
Lunchtime Special
Soup/bread followed by tea or coffee and cakes only £4
Sales Stalls
Accordianist playing traditional Scottish music
All in aid of church funds

Oban Accordion and Fiddle Club
Monthly Club Night
Thursday 4th October 2012
Argyllshire Gathering Hall
7.30pm
Audience and players welcome
Special Guest Artist
Deoch 'n' doras ceilidh band
Admission £3
Come along and enjoy the music

Oban U3A
Tuesday, 2nd October, 2012
at 10.30am
Regent Hotel,
Corran Esplanade, Oban
A warm welcome to members new and old for our Monthly coffee and chat meeting.
*Please note change of venue

Fasnacloich Gun Club
Open Shoot
Saturday 29th September
12.00 start

Advertise in the Community Notice Board for just £14.95 (plus VAT)
This section is available to charitable organisations with a charity number.
All AGM's will be placed on the Public Notice Page
Please ask for details

The Oban Times
A WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Pet Idol

Last chance to vote

This is your last chance to vote for your favourite pet! Votes must be registered by 12 noon, Monday, October 1, 2012.

This is your last chance to get your votes in for any of your favourite pets that you have seen over the last seven weeks in our Pet Idol competition. All votes must be registered by 12 noon, Monday, October 1, 2012. Remember, you are voting for the pets you would like to see in next week's Grand Finale. There will be one finalist from each of the previous weekly rounds.

How to vote
Readers can vote for their favourite pet by post, using the coupon provided here, or by text. Please make sure you quote the number that was stated on the pet's photograph when voting.

By text:
To vote by text, text the word **OTPET** followed by a space then the three digit number stated on the top left hand side of the pet's photograph to **88010**. Text messages cost **£1** plus one message at standard network rate.

By coupon:
Complete the voting coupon provided here and send it to The Oban Times, Pet Idol Vote, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Photocopied coupons will not be accepted.

The Oban Times
A WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Pet Idol

Final voting coupon

I would like to vote for:

Pet's number:

Pet's name:

Please post to The Oban Times, Pet Idol VOTE, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.
Photocopied voting coupons will not be accepted and will not count as one vote. You can post multiple coupons in one envelope. Votes must be registered by 12 noon, Monday, October 1, 2012.
For full terms and conditions visit www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol.

Terms & conditions: Photocopied voting coupons will not be accepted. Only voting coupons from printed editions of the paper can be accepted. Text messages cost £1 plus one message at standard network rate. The deadline to receive votes by is Monday, October 1, 2012 at 12 noon. One text counts as one vote. One coupon counts as one vote. The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. For full terms and conditions visit www.obantimes.co.uk/petidol.

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This double bill from these two talented young performers is coming to Mull Theatre on October 2.

Simply answer the following question and fill in your details below to be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets and take part in an entertaining and thought provoking live experiment.

Winners will be notified by telephone on Monday October 1.
Winner's tickets can be picked up at the Box Office at Mull Theatre
Entries must be received by noon on Monday, October 1.

Question: On which island is the performance taking place?

Answer

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

Please post your entries to Mull Theatre Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB. Entries to be in by 12 noon Monday October 1.
Normal Oban Times rules apply. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. No cash alternative.

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Preparing your home for winter

This winter you will want to be safe in the knowledge that your home is warm and cosy, draught-proof and unlikely to cause you any problems at all.

Now is the time to make sure of your winter comfort by pottering about your property testing, checking and remedying when and where necessary. Most of the jobs you can do yourself so it won't cost you a great deal more than time, effort and a few inexpensive items from your local DIY store.

Inside the house, check on draught-proofing. Check round the windows, under the doors and around the skirtings. There are draught-proofing materials for doors and windows that are clean and easy to fit. Gaps under skirting boards can be filled with strips of wooden battening.

Don't overlook the possible draughts that can come into the house through the letterbox. Make sure this is properly masked. An enclosed box is the best solution. It will also prevent your post dropping to the floor and getting trodden on or chewed by the dog!

Check the insulation in the loft to make sure it is evenly distributed over

the whole loft area, and see the space immediately under the water tank is left un-insulated so the heat from the house below will prevent the tank from freezing. Check all pipes are properly lagged. Cold water pipes should be lagged of course but the hot water ones should be also. There is a great deal of expensively heated water in a hot

water pipe, lagging will ensure it stays hot. While you are checking the water system, make sure there are no dripping taps. If there are, replace washers where necessary.

Furnishings can help keep a home cosy, especially thick, lined curtains. In fact the more layers at your windows the better, so see what you can do there to improve matters.

Finally inside, there is the heating system. It will need checking if you haven't yet had it done. It's best to get an expert in for this. If you use solid fuel in any capacity, make sure the flues are swept clean. This is a job you can do your-

self if you have a set of brushes and rods. It is an outlay now to be sure but the rods can double as drain rods so it is doubly useful and will pay for itself in no time. If you can't envisage yourself doing this, book a local sweep before he starts getting busy.

Outside the house you will need to check around doors and windows to ensure mortar has not loosened and fallen away. Damp and frost will get in such areas and cause wider damage before the winter is out. Replacing mortar is a simple enough job.

Check the paintwork is in good repair. It is all that keeps your exterior woodwork from rotting away in the winter.

Gutters and drains can be a source of problems over the winter if they have become blocked. Both get blocked by leaves and gutters can also become blocked by nesting birds. Hire a set of ladders or scaffolding tower and get up to roof level. Clear the gutters and the down pipe access holes. Ensure the down pipes are clear by pouring water down. It should flow easily and quickly out at the bottom. Back at ground level, drains may need

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ANNUAL RUNNING COST COMPARISON

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20 m ² ROOM	NOMINAL POWER	% RATIO OF CONSUMPTION	EFFECTIVE RUNNING COST	NOMINAL POWER	RUNNING COST	NOMINAL POWER	RUNNING COST
	1,600 W	40%	£108.19	3,000 W	£507.15	5,950 W	£402.34
	Set to 21°C			Set to 18°C		Set to 21°C	

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In general, the manufacturers of the above, traditional heating methods have either not measured the equivalent ratio of no consumption of their products, or - if they have - have not made public the results.

Comparison is made according to the following calculations:
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PANEL HEATER: Normal Electricity tariff (£0.115) x 7 hours a day x 7 days a week x 30 weeks
STORAGE HEATER: Economy 7 Tariff (£0.046) x 7 hours a day x 7 days a week x 30 weeks

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Breeding ewes in demand at Dalmally

UNITED Auctions held their annual breeding sheep sale at Dalmally Auction Mart when they had a catalogued entry of more than 6,500 head. All sections in the sale enjoyed spirited bidding from start to finish.

Gimmers averaged £88.39 against £93.68 last year. Ewes averaged £66.95 against £67.88 last year and ewe lambs averaged £47.96 against £53.60. The entry of ewe lambs comprised

of many lots of small Blackface weighing around 23/25kilo's. An excellent entry of cast Blackface and Swale cross ewes were keenly bid for and enjoyed the best trade of the day.

Crofters warned to make sure of successions

Council tries to target croft as asset to pay for care home charges

CROFTERS have been warned to make immediate arrangements for croft successions after a Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) member was threatened with the loss of his croft in order to pay his elderly mother's residential care costs.

The SCF says although the crofter had worked the holding for more than 20 years as an important part of his livelihood, the croft remained in his mother's name until a year before she went into residential care.

The family had not seen the need to arrange an assignment as their mother's will made clear her intentions. However, the local authority claimed that despite the assignment, the croft was the lady's financial asset for the purposes of assessing her liability for care home charges.

SCF vice-chair Fiona Mandeville said: 'We strongly urge crofters to consider whether they could be caught in this trap. 'We know of cases where crofts remain nominally in the hands of very elderly people while providing homes and income for younger relatives. 'These people could be faced with losing their crofts due to a very harsh interpretation of government guidelines on the part of certain councils. 'If the councils had any sense of the history around crofting they wouldn't be doing this. The best advice is to sort out your croft succession and to do it now.'

Stirling

UNITED Auctions sold 743 suckled calves and 6,242 breeding sheep at their Perth show and sale at Stirling on Monday.

Bullocks averaged 219.4p (+15.8p on the year) and sold to 313.6p per kg and £1,800 for a 574kg Limousin cross from Monzie Farms. Heifers averaged 200.4p (+8.9p on the year) and sold to 263.2p per kg and £1,200 for a 456kg Limousin cross from Monzie Farms and £1,200 for a 502kg Limousin from Ballechin Farms.

Mule gimmers averaged at £128.83 (-£9.41 on the year, with Mule ewe lambs averaging £83.81 (+£9.18 on year). Mule ewe lambs from Kildalio and Greenshields sold to £98, and £97 from Quinloch and Dalbhraddan. Ewe lambs from Clunbeg East, Laighpark, Low Glenramkill, Dyke and Auchernivoch sold to £96.

Mule gimmers from Grange of Kineff and Drumtee sold to £152 with one crop Mule ewes from Drumharrow fetching £126. Clockeild sold 3-crop Mule ewes to £93 and one-crop Cheviot cross ewes to £112.

Fort William

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 4,588 store sheep of all classes at Fort William last Friday when an excellent show on offer met a satisfactory trade.

Lambs sold to £77 for a Suffolk from Breakachy, Laggan while ewes sold to £84 for Suffolks also from Breakachy.

Gimmers sold to £78 for Cheviots from Wood Cottage Croft, Tobermory.

Feeding sheep sold to £70 for a Cheviot ram from 5 Mill Park, Isle of Raasay and Hillside, Kilchoan.

Lochboisdale

UNITED Auctions held their second sale of all classes of lambs and sheep at Lochboisdale Auction Mart.

Quality bred lambs were keenly bid for whilst plainer woollier kinds were again harder to cash.

Sale average was £42.74 against £45.80 last year.

However, most lots of quality barer type lambs were recording rises between £3 and £4 on the year.

All classes of feeding ewes, wedders etc were keenly bid for. A small show of suckled calves sold in keeping with current mainland values.

Oban

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd had forward 4,566 store and feeding sheep at Oban Livestock Centre on Tuesday when the average trade for lambs showed a rise of £4.29 per head on the year.

Store lambs averaged £42.79 (+£4.29 on the year) and sold to £75.00 for Suffolk crosses from G Black, Torbhlaren, Lochgilphead.

Texel lambs averaged £55.27 and sold to £69 from Knock, Isle of Mull, with Suffolks averaging £52.46.

Mule lambs averaged £47.48 and sold to £57 from Sithean, Isle of Iona, while Cheviots averaged £44.41 and sold to £58.50 from Scoor, Mull.

Blackface lambs averaged £35.68 and sold to £50 twice from Scammadale and Arden-castle.

Feeding ewes averaged £37.03 (+£1.05 on the year) and sold to £72.00 for Texels from I Campbell and Son, Aird, Ardfarn.

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WWW.CALEDONIAN-MARTS.COM

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OCTOBER SALES 2012

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FRIDAY 5th OCTOBER
MULL - Sale of Calves, Store, Breeding & OTM Cattle

SUNDAY 7th & MONDAY 8th OCTOBER
SHOW & SALE OF HIGHLAND CATTLE

WEDNESDAY 10th OCTOBER at 11.00am
500 BREEDING TUPS 500
Great Annual Show & Sale of Blackface, Cheviot, Texel, Suffolk Rams & Ram Lambs
Show Commences at 10am prompt
Please Note Entries for this sale close Friday 5th October at 5pm
Unfortunately No Late Entries can be Accepted

TUESDAY 16th OCTOBER at 11.00am
2000 SHEEP 2000
Special Sale of Store Lambs, Breeding & Feeding Sheep

TUESDAY 23rd OCTOBER at 11.00am
1100 CATTLE 1100
Great Annual Show & Sale of Luing, Sim/Luing, Saler, Shorthorn, Highland and Aberdeen Angus Calves, Bulling and In-Calf Heifers
also Cows In-Calf and with Calves, Store, Breeding and OTM Cattle.
Show kindly sponsored by N.F.U. Scotland

For further information on these sales contact:
Alastair Logan - 07713 342514
Ronnie Maccormick - 07717 435248 or 01631 570631

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Corn buntings' future in doubt as Corncrake numbers rise

Corn buntings have distinctive dialects

TWO BIRDS of the machair are experiencing very different population trends in the Western Isles.

According to the latest RSPB Scotland figures, corncrakes have more than doubled from their early 1990s low point of 250 calling males to 515 in 2012.

But the corn bunting appears in serious trouble after surveys found just 76 territorial males. The birds are both classes as 'priority species' by the conservation charity.

Welcoming the corncrake revival, local RSPB site manager Jamie Boyle said: 'There is no doubt that the intensive research that we put into trying to understand what influences corncrake breeding success has paid off.'

'With the help and support of crofters corncrakes now seem to have an assured future in the Western Isles where I know they are greatly valued by local people and visitors alike - even if they can be a bit noisy at night.'

However, Mr Boyle expressed 'grave concern' about the corn bunting's future.

He said: 'Corn buntings are great wee birds - known to generations of crofters as 'gealag-bhuachair'. Although maybe not much to look at, they have a very distinctive jangling call, which they utter during the spring months.'

'What concerns us is that the researchers are picking up evidence of the different dialect groups beginning to mix together. This could well be a reaction to the overall population decline.'



Corn bunting numbers are at critical levels

'It would be very sad indeed if we lost them. Ultimately we managed to turn round the fortunes of the corncrake and we will not rest until we have secured a future for the corn bunting too.'

Mr Boyle revealed that research being conducted by Aberystwyth University revealed corn buntings, like island Gaels, have distinctive dialects.

He said: 'Just as it is possible to tell whether someone is from North or South Uist by listening carefully to their voices, so it is possible to do the same with corn buntings.'

The RSPB is reviewing methods used to conserve the birds, with the help of local crofters, in order to reverse the downward trend.

Mr Boyle said the birds need seed during the winter months to survive and had been provided with corn stacks and bruised barley. Other seed types will be tried this winter.

Market reports

DALMALLY

United Auctions

Warranted ewes
Blackface: £87.00 Braglenmore £84.00
Eden Taggart and Littleport £82.00
Corrylorn and Crunachy £81.00 Braglenmore
£80.00 Eden Taggart £79.00 Duncroisk
£78.00 Succothmore, Clachan Farm and
Brackley £76.00 Musdale £75.00 Innisaig
and Crunachy £74.00 Crunachy £72.00
Braglenbeg and Castles Estate £71.00
Ormsary Farmers, 2 Treslaig and Braefoot
£70.00 Musdale and Clachan Farm.
TextelX: £68.00 Barguilean.
CheviotX: £62.00 Maam and Blackmount
£60.00 Maam.
Mule: £78.00 Barguilean.

Gimmers

Blackface: £240 Pole Farm £200 Succoth-
more £150 Pole Farm £130 Succothmore
£120 Achnamara £110 Keilator £105 Bali-
liemacnoch £102 Blackcraig and Drissag
£100 Dall, Pitcastle Estate, Drissag, Pole, 2
Treslaig, Succothmore and Achnamara.
TextelX: £100 Stronachullin.
CheviotX: £90.00 Baluchrach.
Mule: £130 Stronacroibh £126 Glen-
shellach and Stronacroibh.
Ewe lambs
Blackface: £91.00 Keilator £90.00 and
£68.00 Millpark £64.00 Crunachy.
Mule: £79.00 Garraron and Melfort Farms
£73.00 Goatfield £70.00 Garvachy and 10
Killeonan.

OBAN

Caledonian Marts

Lambs:
Suffolk: £60 Torbharen; £59 Achna-
creebeg; £58 Strongorm; £55 Achuran,
Lismore; £55 Dalvore;
Textel: £69 Knock, Mull; £69 Sithean, Iona;
£57 Knock, Mull; £57 Sithean, Iona; £55
Ardaehy;
Mule: £57 Sithean, Iona; £51 Knock, Mull;
£50 Baravullin Beag; £50 Balure of Shian;
£48 Dalcairn.
Cheviot: £58.50 Scoor, Mull; £54 & £53
Strongorm; £51 Ardnacross, Mull; £50
Drinnin;
Continental: £64 Ballimackilichan, Lismore;
£64 Birchfield; £62 Achnacreebeg;
£59 & £58 Achuran, Lismore;
Blackface: £50 Ardencaple & Scammadale;
£49 Gorsteneorn; £48 Sunipol, Mull; £45
Achnacreebeg; £44 Achnacloch;
Ewes:
Textel: £72 Aird
Cheviot: £68 Strongorm;
Suffolk: £70 Torbharen;
Mule: £68 Frackersaig, Lismore; £62
Stornorm;
Cross - £60 Drumvore;
Blackface: £50 Sunipol, £47.50 Sithean,
Iona, £45 Frackersaig, Lismore.

FORT WILLIAM

Dingwall and Highland Marts

Lambs:
SuffolkX: Ardour Estate, £61, Blargie
Farm, Laggan, £58;
CrossX: Coille Beag, East Drummond,
£60; 9 Bunlossit, Roy Bridge, £53.50;
CheviotX 2 Ardery, Strontian, £56; An-
bank, Acharach, £53.50,
CharollaisX: Glenborrodale Farm, Ach-
arach, £55.50; 12 Bentalla Crescent, Aros,
£53.50;
LleynX - Torlundy Farm, Fort William,
£53.50, Craighard Cottage, Langal, £43.50;
Blackface: Fersit, Roy Bridge, £50.50;
Kyleron, Isle of Raasay, £50;
BeltexX: 19 Blarmafaldach, Fort William,
£44.50;
TextelX: Glendoe Estates, Fort Augustus,
£43.50;
Mule: Glendoe Estates, £41.50.
Ewes:
Cheviot: Wood Cottage Croft, £64;
Mule: Greenfield, Invergarry, £58;
Cross - Portanaisieig, Glenborrodale, £50;
Blackface: Fersit, 45;
SuffolkX: 19 Blarmafaldach, £36.

Gimmers

Blackface: Ardoch, Whitebridge, £55;
Cross: 4 Muirshearlich, Banavie, £50;
Hebridean: Ardoch, £40.
Feeding sheep:
Lleyn: Torlundy, £60;
CharollaisX: Greenfield, £53;
Cross: 1 Kinsadel, Morar, £45;
Blackface: Seaview, Mallaig, £42.

LOCHBOISDALE

United Auctions

Cattle
Simmental bullocks: £810, £805, £790,
£760 and £750 Druimtorrach, Hougharry.
Limousin bullocks: £820 Druimtorrach,
Hougharry.
Cast Cows
£1080 and 123p per kilo No344 North
Boisdale
Sheep
Lambs
SuffolkX: £70.50 and £60.00 271
Daliburgh £59.50 Doon and 414 Smerdale
£58.50 269 Daliburgh, 371 Southboisdale
and 302 Kilpheder £57.50 392 Garryna-
monie, 303 Kilpheder and 271 Daliburgh
£55.50 Doon.
TextelX: £55.50 392 Garrynamonie, 350
North Boisdale and 8 Peninerine.
CheviotX: £62.00 and £60.00 Doon and 2/3
Airdhmuillinn £59.50 330 NorthBoisdale
£58.50 254 Daliburgh £56.50 St Mary's
Bornish £55.50 203 Stoneybridge.
Cross: £65.00 Doon and 3 Bunavullin
£57.50 9 Milton £56.50 Doon and 68
Ardnamonie £55.50 Doon.
Blackface: £66.00 1 Peninerine £58.00
5 Howmore and 1 Peninerine £56.00 5
Howmore £54.50 44 Liniue £53.50
304 Kilpheder £52.50 Doon £51.50 6
Ormiclate and 350 North Boisdale £50.00
5 Milton.
Ewes
TextelX: £61.00 6 Rhughasinish.
CheviotX: £69.00 - 203 Stoneybridge.
Cross: £64.00 - 3 Howbeg £58.00 - 6
Milton £57.00 - 6 Gearadubb, 3 Howbeg
and 88 Bualadubb.
SuffolkX: £70.00 - 269 Daliburgh £65.00
- 271 Daliburgh.
Blackface: £46.00 - Clachan.
Wedders: £78.00 271 Daliburgh £60.00
203 Stoneybridge £56.00 8 Peninerine.
Rams
Textel: £170 6 Rhughasinish and 335 North
Boisdale.
Cheviot: £110 10 Frobost.

STIRLING

United Auctions

Bullocks:
251-300kgs; Drumelzier £620, 223.8p;
301-350kgs Drumelzier £730, 211p;
351-400kgs Newton of Logierait £1110,
277.5p;
401-450kgs Newton of Logierait £1160,
269.8p;
451-500kgs Monzie Farms £1260, 263p;
501-550kgs Ballechin £1260, Formal
242.2p;
551-600kgs Monzie £1800, 313.6p.
Heifers:
251-300kg Glenkilrie £620, 206.7p;
301-350kgs Glenkilrie £690, 216.3p;
351-400kgs Loanhead of Duchally £890,
Rannagulzion 237.1p;
401-450kgs Monzie Farms £1060, 241.5p;
451-500kgs Monzie Farms £1200, 263.2p,
501-550kgs Ballchin Farms £1200, 239p
Sheep
Scotch Mule ewe lambs: Greenshields £98,
Kildalloig £98, Quinloch & Dalbraddan
£97, Clunebeg East, Laighpark, Low
Glenramkill, Dyke and Auchenroch £96,
Gartincaber
Scotch Mule gimmers: Grange of Kineff
and Drumtee £152; Clyne £150, Farden
& Hangingshaw £148, West Carse £144,
Eastfield (SuffX) £132
Scotch Mule ewes: Drumharrow (1crop)
£126, Strichen Mains (1crop) £124, Strichen
Mains (2 crop) £110, Clockeil (Scrop)
£93, Ashintully (4crop) £91, West Lundie
(4crop) £87.
CheviotX ewes: Clockeil (1crop) £112.

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PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at 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 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Refval	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/01144/PP	Siting of storage container	Dungallan Parks Gallanach Road Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4PD	Oban Area Office
12/01908/PP	Erection of 4 semi detached dwellinghouses	Land East Of Lynwood North Connel Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 1RA	Sub Post Office Ledaig
12/01916/PP	Installation of a micro hydropower scheme	Land North West Of Druimavaic Cottage Appin Argyll And Bute PA38 4BQ	Sub Post Office Ledaig
12/01922/PP	Formation of harbour and floating pontoons	Land North East Of Ardenstur Kilmelford Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4XD	Sub Post Office Kilmelford
12/01939/PP	Alterations and formation of raised patio	An Cladach North Connel Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Ledaig
12/02012/PP	Erection of replacement detached garage with first floor accommodation accessed by external stair	The Haven North Connel Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 1RD	Sub Post Office Ledaig

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at Whitegates Office, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, PA31 8SY, or by logging on to the Council's website at 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.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2011

NOTICE UNDER REGULATION 18 PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE NUMBER: 11/02553/PP PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT LAND SOUTH OF GLEN LONAN BETWEEN LOCH NELL AND BEINN GHLAS EAST OF KILMORE BY OBAN ARGYLL AND BUTE

Notice is hereby given that additional information in relation to an environmental statement has been submitted to Argyll and Bute Council by Wind Prospect Developments Ltd relating to the planning application in respect of Windfarm comprising 11 turbines (121metres high to blade tip) erection of meteorological mast, switchgear building, construction compound, access works and ancillary development, notified to Argyll and Bute Council.

A copy of the additional information together with the environmental statement and the associated planning application may be inspected during office hours in the register of planning applications kept by the Planning Authority, at Whitegates Office, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, PA31 8SY; and by logging on to the Council's Website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and going through the 'Online planning and Building Standards Application Information' system during the period of 28 days beginning with the date of this notice.

Copies of the environmental statement may be purchased from Wind Prospect Developments Ltd, 13 Rutland Street, Edinburgh, EH1 2AE at a cost of £20.00. CD copies can also be provided free of charge.

Argyll and Bute Council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <http://planning.scotland.gov.uk>. The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Office Whitegates Road Lochgilphead PA31 8SY. 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.

COUNCILLORS SURGERIES

Councillor Roddy McCuish (E.W.4 Oban South and the Isles)
Councillor Roddy McCuish will be holding a council surgery in the Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban on FRIDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2012 from 3.00pm - 5.00pm
Councillor McCuish can also be contacted by phoning the Members Services Unit of Argyll and Bute Council (01546 604305) or by email roderick.mcuish@argyll-bute.gov.uk
Councillor Louise Glen-Lee - E.W.5 Oban North and Lorn
Councillor Glen-Lee will be holding surgeries during the month of OCTOBER as follows:-
Every Monday morning during the month of October (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th) 4.00pm - 5.00pm in the Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban.
Councillor Glen-Lee can also be contacted by phone - Tel: 01631 567 955 or by e-mail - louise.glen-lee@argyll-bute.gov.uk

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (A AND B CLASS ROADS)(SPEED LIMIT REVIEW) (30MPH AND 40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 201_

Following a review of speed limits on A and B class roads, Argyll and Bute Council proposes to introduce new speed limits as follows:-

1. Reduce the existing 40mph speed limit to a 30mph speed limit on the A816 through the village of Kilmelford;
2. A 30mph speed limit on the B844 at Clachan Seil;
3. A 40mph speed limit on the A816 at Kilmore; and
4. A 40mph speed limit on the A819 at Inverary.

Full details of the proposals together with Plans, and a Statement of Reasons for proposing to make this Traffic Regulation Order, are available for inspection during normal office hours Monday to Friday inclusive at the offices of:

- (i) Kilmelford Post Office, The Village Store, Kilmelford;
- (ii) Balbaric Store and Post Office, Isle of Seil;
- (iii) Inverary Post Office, Arklund, Inverary;
- (iv) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban;
- (v) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT, by 26th October 2012.

Sandy Macgarrig, Executive Director, 1A Manse Brae, LOCHGILPHEAD PA31 8RD

PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS JOINT USER FORUM - OCTOBER 2012

Development Management and Building Standards will be holding joint forums in October 2012 at the following locations:

- Victoria Halls, Helensburgh Tuesday 2 October at 2pm
- Queens Hall, Dunoon Wednesday 3 October at 2pm
- Community Hall, Lochgilphead Thursday 4 October at 2pm
- Corran Halls, Oban Friday 5 October at 2pm

The purpose of the forums is to engage with our key service users, provide you with an update on the departments and get your feedback on how you have found working with us over the past twelve months.
Refreshments will be available from 2pm. Please contact Manse Brae Council Office, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead on 01546 604618 if you would like to attend.

RWE npower renewables ltd

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2000

Notice is hereby given that RWE npower renewables ltd, (whose registered office is at Auckland House, Lydiard Fields, Great Western Way, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN5 8ZT, Company Number 02550622) has applied to the Scottish Ministers for consent to construct and operate a hydroelectric generating scheme on the Allt Hallatier watercourse at Glenkinglass near Bridge of Awe (Central Grid Reference NN 154 375 and for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted. The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be 1.9 MW.
RWE npower renewables ltd has now submitted to Scottish Ministers further information in the form of an addendum including a Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI) document to the Hallatier Hydroelectric Generating Scheme Environmental Statement (2004).

Copies of the addendum supplementing the Environmental Statement has been provided explaining the Company's proposals in more detail are available for inspection during normal office hours at

Argyll and Bute Council, Planning and Environment Municipal Building Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW	RWE npower renewables ltd, North Range East Lodge, Mill Road, Stanley Mills, Stanley, Perthshire, PH1 4QE	The Post Office Tayntill Main Street Argyll PA35 1JE
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The Addendum can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ. A copy of the further information has been made available to Argyll and Bute Council for public inspection.

Copies of the addendum may be obtained from RWE npower renewables ltd (tel: 01738 825 110) at a charge of £100 hard copy and £5 on CD. Copies of a short non-technical summary are available free of charge.

Any representations should be made in writing to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow G2 8LU or emailed to representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk identifying the proposal and specifying grounds for objection or support, not later than 26th October 2012. Representations should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making representations. Only representations sent by email to the address stipulated will receive acknowledgement.

All previous representations received in relation to this development remain valid.

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For patients of the Lorn Medical Centre we are running drop in clinics in the Church of Scotland Centre, Glencruitten Road, Oban on

Tuesday 2nd October
Tuesday 30th October
Tuesday 6th November
from 9.30am-12.30pm

Please come along if you are aged 65 or over or suffer from lung or heart problems, diabetes, kidney or liver disease, low immunity due to treatments, or are a carer for a disabled or elderly person.

www.highland.gov.uk



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY and 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
12/03509/FUL	4 Marine Place Mallaig	Erection of house (amended design to 12/00136/FUL)
12/03515/PIP	Land 70M SE of Fuaim Na Mara, Onich	Erection of house and garage
12/03529/PIP	House Plot 20 Metres West of Caberfeidh, Onich, Fort William	Erection of house (renewal of 09/00366/PIPLO)
12/03553/FUL	Land 100M North of Druim An Al, Isle of Eigg	Installation of 3 further photovoltaic panels
12/03554/FUL	3 Hill Terrace Kinlochleven	Change of use of land to garden ground and engineering operations within garden ground
12/03560/FUL	Land 50M South of Heron Bay, Fort William	Erection of house (renewal of 09/00253/FULLO)
12/03582/FUL	Land North of Clevehurst Spean Bridge	Erection of house (renewal of 09/00349/FULLO)
12/03602/FUL	Land At Croft 4 (Plot E) Sanna, Kilchoan	Erection of house and workshop

Time period for comments is 14 days
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING APPLICATIONS

Applicant, Croft, Extent/ Purpose, Case number

*Mrs I Wilson
12,13,14,15 & 16 Unachan, Kilmornaig
0.201 ha - Site for a dwelling house
4.86.40369
*Mrs I Wilson
12,13,14,15 & 16 Unachan, Kilmornaig
0.201 ha - Site for a dwelling house
4.86.40370

Comments can be made to the Crofting Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land, within 28 days of the date of this newspaper. Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

Applications marked with an asterisk - Interest can be expressed in obtaining the tenancy of the area subject to the application.

DECROFTING DIRECTION ISSUED

Name, Croft, Extent/Reason, Conditions, Case number
Mr J T Redman & Ms H R Epps
Whin Hill, Kilchoman
0.130 ha - Site for a dwelling house
4.86.39647
Conditions: 1, 2 & 3

Conditions

- (1) To provide a site for a dwellinghouse
 - (2) Complete enclosure of the land with a stock proof fence within 4 months of the proposed development completion
 - (3) That fence shall be maintained in good order and repair by each successive owner or occupier of the land.
- Any person with an interest in the application may appeal against a decision to the Scottish Land Court within 42 days of the date of this advert.

Proposed Let of a Croft

Mr Ian Jackson is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to let the tenancy of the croft known as North Ardnachach, Appin to Mrs Caroline Webber, 22 Vernacher Avenue, Callander, Perthshire, FK17 8JQ.

If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township, or if the

Commission consider that you have a direct interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW (e-mail info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk) within 28 days from the date of publication of the advert.

Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry. Frivolous, vexatious or unreasonable comments cannot be accepted.

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Scottish Field

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Working as part of our advertising sales team based in Edinburgh you will get to know our existing customers as well as identifying new ones, to offer advertising solutions within the magazine and online at www.scottishfield.co.uk

Experience in a sales environment would be useful but is not essential as training will be provided.

Key requirements are a clean driving licence, a good knowledge of Scotland and an ability to work well under pressure. A good sense of humour is also helpful.

INTERESTED?

Please apply today enclosing your CV and a covering letter.
 Send by email to bcameron@scottishfield.co.uk or by post addressed to
 Brian Cameron, Scottish Field, Craigcrook Castle,
 Craigcrook Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3PE
 or call me on **0131 312 4550** if you want any further information.

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H&M Forest Works Supervisor Standing Sales

Lochgilthead
£20,323 - £23,777 plus benefits

To apply, please visit our website
www.forestry.gov.uk/vacancies

0131 314 6520 or

jillian.chapman@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Please quote ref 0021-5. Closing date: Monday 15 October 2012.

No recruitment agencies please.

We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all sectors of our diverse community.

www.forestry.gov.uk/vacancies

Trainee Environment Protection Officer

Fort William Ref: OP358115
 The salary band for this post is Trainee, £23,059 to £23,614 starting salary will be on the base of the salary scale, £23,059

An opportunity has arisen for a graduate with a degree in an environmental science to join SEPA as a Trainee Environment Protection Officer in our Fort William office, which provides environmental regulation and enforcement services for the Lochaber, Skye and Lochalsh and Isle of Mull areas. A good awareness and understanding of the key environmental issues facing SEPA in these locations will be an advantage in applying for this post.

You will undertake a structured training course designed to provide the required competencies needed to deliver effective regulation and enforcement across a range of environmental legislation. Upon successful completion of the training programme, within a maximum period of three years and subject to satisfying the training assessment criteria, you would be appointed to a permanent Environment Protection Officer post based in the Fort William office.

A current UK driving licence and access to a suitable vehicle are essential and the ability to work flexibly is crucial. We'll expect you to be a team player with excellent communication skills.

Closing date: Thursday 4 October 2012.

To find out more or apply visit our website or call 01786 452555.



www.sepa.org.uk/vacancies



marineharvest
 excellence in seafood

**Assistant Manager
 Kingairloch/Glencripesdale
 Salary - £24,700 - £26,947 plus overtime**

Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd is currently seeking a highly motivated and strong individual for the post of Assistant Manager to work between our Seawater sites at Kingairloch and Glencripesdale.

Applications are invited from individuals who are genuinely interested in developing their career within the organisation. Potential candidates should have at least two to three years practical knowledge and experience of fish farming. Initiative, the ability to manage and motivate personnel, good planning, organisation & computer skills and a proven ability to achieve results without close supervision are some of the necessary skills required for this post.

The successful candidate will be expected to attend the necessary training courses to gain sufficient knowledge on feed & stock management, harvest & grading planning, asset management, performance and HSEQ management.

If you consider yourself to have the commitment, enthusiasm, willingness and underlying capability to become a Manager then please apply in writing, no later than Friday 12th October to: Vicky Ferguson, Human Resources Manager, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Limited, Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William PH33 7PT.

WYVEX MEDIA

Subscriptions Administrator

A vacancy has arisen within our Accounts Department.

This is a full time position based within a small friendly department at our Oban office.

You would be responsible for the administration of the subscriptions base, covering all our publications, which would include the updating of customer details on an ongoing basis and dealing with enquiries mainly by telephone or incoming mail.

Experience in the use of computer packages, ideally Sage Accounting, Excel Spreadsheets and other Windows based packages, would be desirable.

The successful candidate must be accurate and work in an organised manner. Other accounts department duties may also be required.

A full, current driving licence is essential.

We offer a competitive salary, pleasant working conditions, generous holiday entitlement, company pension, life and medical insurance.

Please apply with full CV and covering letter to Ali Arden, Wyvex Media Ltd, Crannog Lane, Oban, Argyll. PA34 4HB or email: ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk

Argyll Mausoleum Limited Part-time Activity Co-ordinator.

This charity based near Dunoon has raised the funding to enable renovation of the Argyll Mausoleum and provide visitor facilities. We are now seeking an energetic individual to assist with this project; working with volunteers to increase community involvement through events and the visitor facility.

The post is part-time for an average of 16 hours per week, for up to 2 years. The salary is £27,000 per annum pro rata.

We are seeking someone with excellent people skills, who is innovative, has good report writing and good IT skills.

For further information/job description contact Dinah McDonald on 01369 706591 and look on www.argyllmausoleum.org. Send us your cv. and tell us on a single page why you are suitable for the job. E-mail your application to dinah.mcdonald@btconnect.com by 10th October. Interviews will be held in the area on 16th October.

This post is part funded by Heritage Lottery Fund and Argyll and Bute Leader.

THE HIRE CENTRE

(FORT WILLIAM) LTD.

Office administrator Part time

Sage experience preferred

Please send CV's to
info@hirecentreltd.com

Hire Centre (Fort William) Ltd
 Ben Nevis Industrial Estate
 Fort William
 PH33 6PR

We are looking for a mature, self motivated individual to manage our new venture in Oban. The successful candidate will carry out the following duties :

Direct sales including dealing with commercial and retail customer enquiries by phone and face to face, liaise with manufacturers and installers. Plan and organise surveys, installations and trade shows and get involved in advertising. Produce quotes, raise invoices, order goods. Handle money.

The candidate must have a confident and friendly manner, must be responsible, organised, able to work on their own and as part of a remote team – communication and organisation skills are key, work to tight deadlines and be able to cope under pressure.

The position is full time and includes weekend work. Salary will be in line with experience. Full training in all aspects of our business will be given and candidate will need to maintain and develop product knowledge.

Cover letter and CV to Suzie Todd at suzietodd@yahoo.com

References will be contacted.

Administrator – Bunesan Surgery Two afternoons per week

We wish to recruit a new member of staff who will provide administrative support and services to the Practice team.

- Experience of working in the health sector is useful, but not essential. Greater consideration will be given to candidates with appropriate IT skills (please detail these in application).
- We are looking for someone who is able to show initiative, and has a willingness to learn new skills.

Please apply with a covering letter and CV to m.astill@nhs.net. Closing date 12/10/2012. A detailed job description can be obtained on request.



Supporting People & Communities

Carr Gomm is a national charity and not-for-profit company. The main focus is Supported Living - supporting people to lead their lives, access services and achieve their hopes and dreams. The first service started in 1998.

SUPPORT WORKERS - OBAN

£15,515 - £17,527 pa plus on-call

You will have some experience of supporting people in a person-centred way to enable them to remain at home. You will be able to work with people to identify the aims and desired outcomes from their support. You will have an understanding of developing support plans and risk assessments and putting these into practice in people's homes.

An SVQ 3 or equivalent qualification would be an advantage

Please quote Job Reference Number: 234 when applying for this post

SUPPORT ASSISTANTS - OBAN

Full time or Part time: £13,548 - £15,133 pa plus on-call
 Relief: £6.95 per Hour

Support Work covers the whole range of tasks to help people live in their own homes safely, to follow their interests, develop friendships and deal with health issues. If you believe that everyone has a right to live the life they want, we would like to meet you. You may be experienced and be looking to develop your career, or you may be new to this work and have the right personal qualities to build on. Either way, this is a chance to help people to make a real change to their lives.

Please quote Job Reference number: 230 when applying for this post.

HOMECARE ASSISTANTS - OBAN

Full time or Part time: £12,315 - £13,140 pa
 Relief: £6.31 per Hour

You would be assisting people with practical tasks while supporting them to maintain an appropriate level of independence.

- No experience necessary - full training given, including opportunity to complete SVQ2
- Paid travel time

Please quote Job Reference number: 235 when applying for this post.

We offer competitive terms and conditions including: pension, enhanced annual leave and sickness, and training opportunities. We aim to provide services and recruit staff without discrimination.

For an application pack visit our website: www.carrgomm.org, e-mail: recruitment@carrgomm.org, Tel: 0131 659 4770, or contact Carr Gomm, SPACE, 11 Harewood Road, Edinburgh EH16 4NT. Closing Date: Noon, Monday 8th October 2012



A company limited by guarantee in Scotland: SC 236436 Scottish charity: SC 033491

Oban Community Development Worker Fixed Term for 3 years 25 hours per week initially

An exciting opportunity to develop and coordinate community projects in Oban in accordance with the Salvation Army's mission to save souls, grow saints and serve suffering humanity

The successful applicant should have:-

- a passion to communicate the gospel in relevant ways
- Strong motivational and communication skills
- Ability to engage with people of all ages and from all walks of life.

The successful candidate will be a practising Christian with a good general education, excellent organisational, administrative and interpersonal skills, a working knowledge of Microsoft Office and enthusiasm.

Applicants must be in sympathy with the aims and objectives of The Salvation Army.

Offers will be made subject to satisfactory PVG / Disclosure Scotland checks, satisfactory references, and eligibility to work in the UK.

Salary £17738 Pro Rata
 Accommodation is available if required

For an application pack for this post, please contact:
 Mrs Elizabeth Byars, The Salvation Army Deer Road Woodside
 Aberdeen AB24 2BL

E-mail elizabeth.byars@salvationarmy.org.uk

Closing date for applications: 18 October 2012
 (CV's will not be accepted)

Promoting equality in the work place

The Salvation Army is a Christian Church and a registered charity Registered Charity No. 214779, and in Scotland SC037691

Sgoil Araich Braigh Lochaber, Roy Bridge SENIOR PRACTITIONER

Gaelic Medium
 19 hours per week
 Monday to Thursday, morning sessions

Must be in receipt of SVQIII, HNC or equivalent childcare qualification (or working towards)

Fluent Gaelic essential.

For enquiries and an application form please telephone Cheryl Irons on 01397 712683

Closing date: 4th October 2012

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by the Exclusions and Exceptions (Scotland) Order 2003 and the successful applicant will be required to become a member of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme and register with the SSSC.

Sgoil Àraich Bràigh Loch Abair,
 An Drochaid Ruaidh

NEACH-CLEACHDAIDH ÀRD-ÌRE

Tron Ghàidhlig
 19 uair gach seachdain
 Diluain gu Diardaoin, gach madainn

Feumaidh teisteanasan cùram-chloinne SVQIII, HNC no co-ionann ris a bhith gaibh (no ag obair thuige)

Tha fileantachd sa Ghàidhlig riatanach.

Gheibh sibh tuilleadh fiosrachaidh agus foirm iarrtais bho Cheryl Irons air 01397 712683

Dùnadh: 4mh An Dàmhair 2012

Tha an dreuchd seo saor bho Achd Ath-ghnàthachadh Eùrachaidh 1974 a-rèir Òrdugh As-dhùmaidhean agus Eiseagachdan Alba) 2003 agus bith e riatanach don neach shoirbheachail ballrachd a ghabhail ann an Sgeama Dion air Buidhnean So-leònte (PVG) agus clàradh le SSSC

G McNaughton & Son

Lochgilthead
 Tel - 01546 602389

An experienced Accounts Manager is required for busy office. The successful applicant needs to be focused and work both on their own initiative and as part of a team. Sound knowledge of Sage Accounts is essential and background in Payroll administration.

Rate of pay negotiable dependant on experience.

Apply in writing with CV to janet@gmcnaughtonandson.co.uk

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 Experienced Waiting & Bar Staff required
 Full/Part Time
 Apply to Flora Grant at
 The Ardshiel Hotel, Kilkerran Road,
 Campbeltown, PA28 6JL
 01586 552133

KAMES FISH FARMING LIMITED

Require a

Fresh Water Site Manager
 to lead the team at our Cage Site on Loch Tay
 (2 miles from Kenmore)
 250 tonnes of trout per annum

Salary will be dependent on experience

Please send your CV with qualifications and accompanying letter to:-

Jean Haslam
 Kames Fish Farming Limited
 Kilmelford, Oban PA34 4XA

Tel: 01852 200286
 Email: fish@kames.co.uk



WIND TOWERS SCOTLAND LTD MAINTENANCE ELECTRICIAN

We are looking to recruit a suitably qualified electrician to work within our maintenance team. The successful candidate will be responsible for carrying out day to day electrical and electronic work for both breakdown and planned maintenance on factory machinery.

Essential criteria

- Qualified Electrician or Auto Electrician
- Sound mechanical knowledge
- Knowledge of testing and servicing electromechanical equipment
- Ability to work shifts, overtime and attend call outs

Desirable criteria

- Experience in heavy industrial factory or marine engineering

Please send CV and covering letter to:
 Wind Towers Scotland Ltd, PO Box 9263,
 Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6WA
 Or email to: iad@windtowersscotland.com

PRODUCTION OPERATIVES

Operatives required to work in Surface Treatment Department.

Applicants will ideally have knowledge of steel surface treatment and spray painting and well as a desire to succeed.

Applicants will be required to work shifts and overtime is considered essential. Full training will be given on all aspects of Surface Treatment.

Please send CV and covering letter to:
 Wind Towers Scotland Ltd, PO Box 9263,
 Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6WA
 Or email to: iad@windtowersscotland.com

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COACH DRIVER/COURIER

Highland Heritage Limited require Coach Drivers/Couriers.
 PCV licence essential. Minimum age 25.
 Live in or live out. Based in Tyndrum/Dalmally area.
 Uniform and training provided.

Apply in writing with C.V to: Mrs Colman, Highland Heritage Tours, Dalmally, Argyll, Scotland, PA33 1AY
 Telephone: 01838 200444
info@highlandheritage.co.uk

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07885203020
gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk

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2010, 10 plate, 36,000 miles

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By private buyer, from 2003, 4-5 berth, with overhead cab, no fixed bed, must be in excellent condition.

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Ideal first car.

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1.6cc hatchback, silver, immaculate condition, first reg 4/2005, 70,500 miles, MOT to 3/13, taxed to 12/12.

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1.9 litre Diesel, 08 Plate, Taxed, 12 month MOT, 46 MPG, all usual SRI refinements, great condition, 48,000 miles.

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2007, low mileage, 38,000 miles, diesel, 7 seater, MOT to May 2013, road tax to Jan 2013, excellent condition.

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2009, 59 plate, 12 Months MOT, 9 Months road tax 2 Owners from new, 64,000 Miles. Reliable, cheap to run and insure.

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WANTED

All types of 4 x 4's and light commercials, Ford, Mercedes, Toyota etc. Finance settled, company clearances welcome, high miles, non runners considered, cash buyer.

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Only 600 miles, full MOT, just serviced, new battery, excellent condition, garage stored.

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105,000 miles, 6 months tax and one year MOT, good condition.

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£750 o.n.o.

WANTED

4x4 any type, year, condition, also commercial van or pick up, will pay cash and collect.

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Only 56,591 miles, MOT 16/07/13, Tax 31/07/13, new battery with 6 year guarantee. Car is in great condition and very reliable. Reg. - SH55 AAO.

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£2000

Buyers should note where standardised silhouettes are used they do not accurately represent the vehicle being sold

MAN 7 1/2 TON BOX VAN

November 2005
Taxed & MOT until 31st January 2013
232,000 kms.

For more details contact Jim Martin 01586 550066

£4950

IFOR WILLIAMS 14' FLATBED TWIN AXLE 3 TON TRAILER

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£850

WANTED

Any 4 x 4 vehicle, Landrover 90 or 110, Mitsubishi, Toyota etc or any 4 x 4 pickup, any condition or MOT failure, will travel.

Telephone 07864035750

MITSUBISHI L200, 2.5TD



2000 (W reg), 109,000 miles MOT 20/05/13, Tax 30/11/12

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AWD diesel estate, black, one owner since new, '08 reg, full service history, satnav, sunroof, leather interior, tow-bar, 112,000 miles.

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Oban Times DRIVE TIMES

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FURNITURE

2 DINING ROOM SIDE UNITS 5ft, Dark Wood, £100 Telephone 07748 985054.

4 SEATER SOFA Cream Material with 2 chairs and footstools, £150.00 Telephone 07748 985054². Buyer uplift from Benderloch.

4 SEATER SOFA AND CHAIR cream faux suede, buyer to collect from Benderloch, Telephone 07748 985054².

ANTIQUE OAK WARDROBE With mirror at front and at bottom large drawer. Very good condition, 112cm wide, 48cm deep, 190 cm high. Oban, £120 Telephone 07840892077.

BEDROOM CHAIR dark wood, buyer collect from Benderloch, £10 Telephone 07748 985054².

BEDROOM FURNITURE two chest of drawers (5drawers) in each, cream drawer fronts, wood effect top, sides and handles, £30 Telephone 01631 563096.

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MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE CLEARANCE 6 Pipers Road, Cairnbaan, by Lochgilthead, Saturday 29th September, 10am - 5pm.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

BOYS GOLF CLUB SET Wilson junior golf bag, driver, 5 iron, 7 iron, wedge, putter, 10 golf balls, large bag of tees, excellent condition, 10yrs+, £45 Telephone 01631 570190.

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If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

WIN £1900

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

A MacDonald
Drummore Road, Oban

C Allan
Glenshellach Road, Oban

Spot the SHINTY BALL Competition

I enclose £1 for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

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PERSONALS

Happy 1st Birthday Fergus Marshall

Oban Times PERSONALS

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BIRTHS

MACDOUGALL - Heather Elizabeth, Duncan and Louisa are pleased to announce the safe arrival of baby Heather on September 13, 2012. Grand daughter for Donnie and Morag MacDougall, Dalmainy and Liz and Phil McLennan, Romsey. With thanks to Paisley RAH.

ENGAGEMENTS

ARMSTRONG - McINNES - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Caroline, daughter of Derek and Marlene Armstrong, to Iain, son of Eric and Helen McInnes. Wishing them both a lifetime of love and happiness.

DEATHS

BROWN - Peacefully at The Lorn and Islands Hospital, Ward 'I', on September 25, 2012, Jessie, (nee MacInnes), 8 Lynn Gardens, Oban, (formerly of "Ardsell", Balvicar), beloved wife of John, a much loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral Service will take place from Kilbrandon Parish Church, on Friday, September 28, at 1.00 p.m. Retrial collection/donations will be taken for Ward 'I' at The Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban.

CAMPBELL - Peacefully, at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on Thursday, September 20, 2012, surrounded by her loving family and loving staff from Ward 'A', Dorothy of 13 Laggan Road, Dunollie, Oban. Funeral took place yesterday, September 26.

DUNCAN - At the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, after a long illness cheerfully borne, on September 22, 2012, in her 70th year, Morag Fraser Duncan, a dear sister, aunt and friend to many and to Irvine.

IRVINE - Juliette Elaine, Peacefully at home on September 19, 2012, after a long illness bravely borne, Julie of Litton and formerly of Eldwick. Dearly loved wife of Robin, a much loved mother of Alexander and James, loving sister of Michael and the late Valerie. A service of thanksgiving will take place at St Oswald's Church, Arnclyffe on Friday, September 28 at 1.30pm. Following private cremation. Flowers welcome, but donations may be made in lieu of flowers if so desired to Cancer Research UK and Marie Curie Cancer Care, c/o Duncan Robinson Funeral Services, Unit 2, Kings Mill Lane, Settle, BD24 9BS. Tel 01729 825444.

LIGGETT - Jean (nee Hunter) peacefully, at home, on Tuesday, September 25, 2012. Jean, beloved wife of John and dear daughter of the late Tommy and Ruby Hunter. Funeral service at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium, by Dregghorn on Tuesday, October 2, at 1pm, to which friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu to The Arshire Hospice and The Douglas Grant Centre if desired.

SHEDDEN - Peacefully, on Wednesday, September 19, 2012, at The Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, aged 65 years, Hamilton, (Hammie), "Cheallahs", North Connell, beloved husband of Sandra, darling dad of Elaine and Christopher, father-in-law to Elena, seanaid to Naomi, Connor, Dominik, Neve and Leya, dear brother to Janet, brother-in-law, uncle, great uncle and friend to many.

SMALLEY - Peter John of Clabbach, Isle of Coll, died peacefully after a short illness, at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on Wednesday, September 19, 2012. Loving husband to Sally, devoted father of Angus John and Honey and beloved grandpa to Ruairidh, Ella and Kiera. Funeral will take place on Saturday, September 29 at Clabbach. Family flowers only. Donations to Coll Medical Practice.

STUART - Peacefully on Tuesday, September 25, 2012, at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, Janette (nee Smith), Ferlochann Beag, Benderloch, much loved wife of Derek, beloved sister-in-law, aunt, great-aunt and great-great-aunt. Peace after pain. Deeply and sorely missed. Funeral service will take place from Oban Parish Church on Monday, October 1, 2012, at 10am, thereafter to Cardross Crematorium for 1.15pm.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

CUESTA - A Celebration for the Life of Fiona Cuesta (nee Lipp) who died on September 16, in Neuchatel, Switzerland, will take place on Friday September 28, at St Modan's Church, Benderloch at 2pm. All are very welcome to attend.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LAMONT - Mrs Margaret Lamont and family of the late Donnie, wish to thank most sincerely all relatives, friends and neighbours for the very many kind expressions of sympathy which they received following their recent sad bereavement. We are extremely grateful for all the visits to our home, sympathy cards, Mass cards, flowers and gifts received at this sad time. Special thanks are extended to Dr Feeney and all staff at Glen Mor Medical Practice. We especially wish to thank Fr Roddy McAuley, Rev Richard Corbett, Sr Audrey and Sr Therese for personal support and spiritual comfort. We greatly appreciate the assistance shown to us by Mike McFall and staff. Many thanks to BA Club for refreshments. We thank everyone who paid their final respects to Donnie at the church and cemetery. The sum of £512 from retiring collection has been donated to Lochaber Deaf Care Centre. R.I.P.

LENNOX - Lorna, Kirsteen and families would like to express their thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and support after their recent bereavement. The family would also like to thank Mum's carers and the staff at the Lorn and Isles Hospital for their care and compassion, Rev W Gray for a very personal and touching service, Margaret for playing the organ and Emma for her piping. D & A Munn for all funeral arrangements and the Royal Hotel for refreshments. A total of £314 was donated to Diabetes UK.

MACKINNON - The family of the late Mary Flora MacKinnon, Hillcrest, Isle of Tiree, would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their loving support in their sudden and sore bereavement. Special thanks to all who cared for him over the last few years, Rev Adrian Varvell, Mike McFall and Railway Club. Donations will be shared between Belford Hospital and Mena Stewart Memorial Fund.

MACRAE - David, Jeanette and families would like to express thanks for cards, flowers and support received on the recent sad loss of Hector, our dad, grandpa and great grandpa. Special thanks to all who cared for him over the last few years, Rev Adrian Varvell, Mike McFall and Railway Club. Donations will be shared between Belford Hospital and Mena Stewart Memorial Fund.

MACDONALD - In loving memory of my mother and father, Mother who died September 27, 1980, father who died May 10, 1986. - Inserted by their son, Strontian.

MACDONALD - In loving memory of my dear mother Julia, who passed away on September 30, 2008. Will miss you forever. - Julie and Roddy, Inverness.

MACINNES - Roddy, Mum, David, Agnes, Marina and all your nephews and nieces xx **MACKENZIE** - Treasured memories of our beloved son and brother Jamie, who died October 1, 2000, age 24 years. Time wont heal the heartache Nor stop a silent tear Nor dim the treasured memories Of one we held so dear. - Mum, Dad, Andrew, Sabine and Callum. **MACKENZIE** - In loving memory of my dear grandson Jamie, who died October 1, 2000. We watched you getting tired A cure was not to be God put his arms around you And whispered come to me. - Granny Henderson. **MACKENZIE** - In loving memory of our mother, sister, grandmother and mother-in-law, Margaret, who passed away on September 28, 2011. Gu brath 'nar smuaintin. - John and family, Inverness. - David and family, Australia. - Jetta and family, Newton Mearns. **MACLENNAN** - In loving memory of our parents Alex, who passed away August 1999 and Flora, September 1996. There are no more tomorrows for us to share But yesterday's memories are always there. - Elsie, Margaret and family. **SCOTT** - Treasured memories of our loved and loving wife, mum and granny Jean, who died October 1, 2000. Always in our thoughts. - Eddie, Pamela, David, Edmund, Bronwen, Gordon, Kirsten, Caitlin, Gavin and Sarah. xxxxx

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MEMORIALS

ANDERSON - In loving memory of William Stuart (Andy), who died September 25, 2005, a much loved father, father-in-law and papa. To us he was someone special, Someone set apart, His memory will live forever, Engraved within our hearts, - Mandy and Duncan, Elaine, Kenny and Craig. **BEACHAM** - Margaret, died October 1, 2010. It broke our hearts to lose you You did not go alone For part of us went with you The day God called you home. - Your loving family. **BLUE** - In loving memory of Mary Blue, died October 2, 2011. Gone is the face I loved so dear Silent the voice I loved to hear Till we meet again mum. - From her son Donnie. **BLUE** - In loving memory of Mary Blue, died October 2, 2011. God knows how much I miss her God knows the tears I've cried I lost my soul companion That day my mother died Miss you mum and always will. - From her daughter Mary, son in law James, grandson Kevin and great grandson Ryan. **BLUE** - In loving memory of our dear mother, mother-in-law and granny, Mary, who died on October 2, 2011. Silent thoughts of times together, hold memories that will last forever. - Bobby, Joan, Robert, Martin and Roisin. **BLUE** - In loving memory of Mary and Lillian. Our hearts still ache in sadness And secret tears still flow What it meant to lose you both No one will ever know. - Brian, Fiona, Mark, Louise, Owen, Lucy and Connor. **BOYLE (ROSS)** - Annie. In loving memory of our mother who sadly passed away September 26, 2011. Very much missed by her boys, Martin and Ross and brothers Ian and Ronald and all the family. Your sons think about you everyday in life Out of sight, but never out of mind Sleep well mum. - Love your boys xxx. **DUFF** - Ann, passed away September 27, 2011. In memory of a dear mum You are with the Angels now It was time to say goodbye Yet still it's hard to hide the pain No matter how I try For you were such a special mum With lots of love to share And knowing you're no longer here Is very hard to bear And though with time the grief will pass And time will help to heal the pain Somehow life, without you mum Will never be the same. Also remembering dad who passed away in 1990 and Rod who died in 2003. - Marlene, Fay and family.

FERGUSON - Treasured and proud memories of my dear husband, Pat, who passed away on September 26, 2010 and gifted his body to science. He was released for cremation on August 22, 2012 with all the family in attendance. Always in our thoughts. - Marion and Family. **MILLIN** - In loving memory of my mother and father, Mother who died September 27, 1980, father who died May 10, 1986. - Inserted by their son, Strontian.

MACDONALD - In loving memory of my dear mother Julia, who passed away on September 30, 2008. Will miss you forever. - Julie and Roddy, Inverness.

MACINNES - Roddy, Mum, David, Agnes, Marina and all your nephews and nieces xx **MACKENZIE** - Treasured memories of our beloved son and brother Jamie, who died October 1, 2000, age 24 years. Time wont heal the heartache Nor stop a silent tear Nor dim the treasured memories Of one we held so dear. - Mum, Dad, Andrew, Sabine and Callum. **MACKENZIE** - In loving memory of my dear grandson Jamie, who died October 1, 2000. We watched you getting tired A cure was not to be God put his arms around you And whispered come to me. - Granny Henderson. **MACKENZIE** - In loving memory of our mother, sister, grandmother and mother-in-law, Margaret, who passed away on September 28, 2011. Gu brath 'nar smuaintin. - John and family, Inverness. - David and family, Australia. - Jetta and family, Newton Mearns. **MACLENNAN** - In loving memory of our parents Alex, who passed away August 1999 and Flora, September 1996. There are no more tomorrows for us to share But yesterday's memories are always there. - Elsie, Margaret and family. **SCOTT** - Treasured memories of our loved and loving wife, mum and granny Jean, who died October 1, 2000. Always in our thoughts. - Eddie, Pamela, David, Edmund, Bronwen, Gordon, Kirsten, Caitlin, Gavin and Sarah. xxxxx

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GRADUATION

Robert MacKinnon graduated from SAC with BSc in Agriculture (Distinction). Robert is the son of Sandy and José MacKinnon, Carradale and Calgary, Mull.

Dr Laura Miller BSc (Hons) Anatomy graduated from the University of Dundee with a MBChB Medicine. Laura is the daughter of Fiona Miller and Iain Maclean, granddaughter of Mike and Helen Stewart, Catherine and the late John Maclean. Laura is a former pupil of Lochnell Primary School and is presently working in the Royal Infirmary Glasgow.

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Choral Mattins..... 10.15
Sunday School and Creche
Parish Eucharist..... 11.30
Loop System
Large Print Hymn Books
All Welcome
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St Columba Gruline, Mull
Harvest Thanksgiving
Holy Communion..... 11.00
St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona
Holy Eucharist..... 08.00
Evensong..... 20.15
Holy Eucharist.....
..... Wed 3 October 14:30

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Thought for the Week
Doing it his way here

WHEN Jesus Christ first said the Lord's Prayer, he used his own language, Aramaic. Someone once told me that, in Aramaic, 'Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven' could mean 'Your will is continuously being carried out here in the world. You have given us, just as it is also being carried out in Your nearer Presence'. We need only look at the daily rising of the sun, at the stars in their courses, at the physical laws of nature and at the beauty and bounty of creation to recognise the truth of the statement. When we pray, 'Thy will be done' we are recognising the continuous presence of God among us, on our beautiful planet. But we are also submitting to God and asking that His Kingdom be established among us and that His Will be done starting, at a personal level, with each one of us. Each one of us at some stage faces a cup of bitterness that we need to drink from: the loss of a loved one, a painful illness, a family dispute, a harmful addiction, loneliness, depression, strained circumstances or maybe unemployment. None of these is God's Will. When we pray 'Thy will be done', we are offering up our will to be united, in love, with His so that our well-being is with Him; so that we are healed and brought in to peace, no matter what circumstances we face. When we pray 'Thy Will be done' we join Jesus in His desire to see that everything happens as God intends it for his creatures and his creation. 'Thy Will be done' commits us to loving others and to providing justice, equity and care for those in need, no matter who they are, what they are or where they are. It is good to pray, saying: 'Thy Will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven - and start Lord with me!'



Pictured at the cheque presentation are, from left, Betty McKillop, Betty's partner Joe McKay, Donna Burns, who helps look after the flat, Graeme Pagan and May McDonald.

Leven memorial evening raises funds for cancer care flat in Oban

A FUNDRAISING memorial evening has helped raise £1,200 for the cancer care flat run by the Oban Charitable Trust. Alexandria pair May McDonald and Betty McKillop started raising money for the Hameart Holiday Flat in Grahame Court last year in tribute to May's late husband Robert, who died from lung cancer in 2010. Robert was a user of the flat and found it exceptionally helpful, so May and Betty felt it was fitting to honour his memory by raising money for the trust. It is the second year they've held a fundraiser in the Leven Masonic Hall, last year raising £1,000. The Charitable Trust's Graeme Pagan thanked May McDonald and Betty McKillop for their support.



The group of ladies taking part in Saturday's Pink Aerobics marathon.

Pink aerobic fundraiser at Atlantis

THE ANNUAL Pink Aerobic fundraiser took place at Atlantis Leisure Centre with 20 ladies taking part in the two-hour marathon. All the money raised from the marathon will go to the Pink Ribbon Foundation for Breast Cancer Awareness. Now in its third year, numbers were slightly down on previous years, but this did not stop the ladies taking part getting in the spirit as they came dressed in a variety of pink outfits. Karen McInnes who organised the fundraiser said: 'I just want to say a massive thank you to the girls that have come today some of them have raised more than £100 in sponsorship. This is the third year each of these ladies has taken part so it really is a massive thank you.'

Argyll and Bute dementia team win innovation award

A TEAM who care for people with dementia in Argyll and Bute have won an award in recognition of their hard work. Partnership The first ever Scotland's Dementia Awards took place this week and the Argyll and Bute Dementia Team, which incorporates NHS Highland, Argyll and Bute Council and Alzheimer Scotland, won the most innovative partnership award. There were over 120 applications for the inaugural event in which six main awards were handed out. Pat Tyrrell, lead nurse for Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership said: 'I am delighted that the dedication and commitment of the dementia care teams has been recognised through this award. These teams, which have been established through effective collaboration between the statutory health and social work services and Alzheimer Scotland, are delivering care to individuals, families and communities in some of the remotest areas of Scotland. They provide direct support to those who require the services and also work with other professionals and organisations to improve the recognition, knowledge, care and support for people affected by dementia. They work hard to make sure that people's dignity and independence is maintained and that they can remain within their families and their communities for as long as possible.'

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New sailing event for novices and newcomers planned for Lochgoilhead

'This is the first time this event has taken place and will form the basis of the future of sailing in Scotland'

A NEW sailing event for newcomers and novices to the sport is coming to Lochgoilhead next month to celebrate the end of the sailing season.

Argyll and Bute Sailing is running a one-day event on October 7 from the Lochgoilhead Scout Centre which is aimed towards those who have learned to sail this year or are keen to try sailing.

There will be boats, coaches and lots of games to try both on and off the water - so wind won't disrupt the event.

This activity is part of the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Scotland's plan to help as

many kids as possible get out on the water, develop confidence in sailing in different venues and different kinds of boats and to meet new people from the area.

This event is one of ten taking place across Scotland, giving more than 100 children the chance to learn more about sailing and develop links between sailors, clubs and locally based centres.

Fantastic

The RYA says it promises to be a fantastic way to bring the 2012 season to a close, celebrating the achievements of the sailors taking part and looking to the 2013 season.

Jane Campbell Morrison, RYA Scotland development manager, said: 'I'm looking forward to seeing so many children out on the water on the same weekend across the whole of Scotland. This is the first time this event has taken place and will form the basis of the future of sailing in Scotland.'

Alasdair Young, co-ordinator for Argyll and Bute Sailing, said: 'Not only is this a great way for local clubs and centres to run events and bring the local kids together, but it's a fantastic way to teach them how to race and to bring some fun games into sailing.'

SAILING

Chris Floyd, chairman of Argyll and Bute Sailing, said: 'I'm looking forward to seeing lots of activity on the water at a time of year when things are normally much more sedate - it should be great fun.'

'We hope, through the sailing development groups across Scotland, to visit other areas in the coming years.'

For more information contact Alasdair Young on sdg@ryascotland.org or 07879 606 861. Alternatively, visit www.ryascotland.org.uk



Adult Outreach Tour One winner Sandy Galbraith, middle, flanked by the other tournament players.

Sandy wins Outreach pool competition

THE SCOTTISH Eightball Pool Federation held its first Adult Outreach Tournament on Sunday September 23.

This tournament is open to any adult with an additional need and saw five locals from Oban playing in a round robin format to see who could win the silverware.

New players Emma MacDougall and Morven Welsh did themselves

POOL

pride, along with Stuart Hammick, who missed out on a place in the final by two frames. Gary Gemmell was on fire throughout but could not stop tournament favourite Sandy Galbraith from taking home the two trophies and the title of Adult Outreach Tour One winner.



Team Awe lift Cruachan Cup

The Cruachan Cup took place at Taynuilt Golf Club last weekend with Team Awe, captained by Allan Stewart, defeating Team Etive, captained by Mairead Sim, by 17 points to seven.

Mini Rugby Dalriada held at Glencruitten

OBAN Lorne RFC hosted the first Argyll and Bute Mini Rugby Dalriada of the season last Sunday.

More than 80 players from Oban Lorne, Isle of Mull, Etive Vikings, Mid Argyll and Cowal were in attendance along with players from Lochaber RFC who will be taking part in the Dalriada programme for the first time.

This was the first of many similar festivals that will be held in clubs throughout Argyll and Lochaber over the course of the season.

Taynuilt won the P4/5 age group with a clean sweep of five wins from five, while Lochaber

MINI RUGBY

won the P6/7 competition despite some close competition from Oban and Mull.

Argyll Rugby Development Officer Allan Wright commented: 'The future of Argyll Rugby is looking very promising! I would like to thank all the volunteer, helpers, coaches and parents for contributing to such a successful day.'

The next festival will be held on the Isle of Mull on Sunday November 25.

For more information on rugby events in the area contact Allan Wright at allan.wright@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Taynuilt Amateurs lose out to Corkerhill

West of Scotland League **Corkerhill 3 Taynuilt 1**

TAYNUILT Amateurs travelled to Nethercaigs in Glasgow for their first league game of the season against Corkerhill who are one of the favourites for the title along with Dennistoun.

The visitors stuck to their 3-5-2 formation with MacLeod at sweeper and a centre half pairing of McPhee and Moore. Maitland, Campbell and Bonar made up the centre three with Kelly on the left and MacDougall on the right leaving Gillies up top with Smith.

A really tight park made flowing football impossible with Corkerhill having the better possession in the opening 15 mins.

Taynuilt's first chance came when good play by Maitland sent a diagonal ball to Gillies. His cross found the unmarked Smith but his effort was well blocked by a defender.

Tackles were flying in the centre of the park with Campbell getting up-ended time after time.

Dean Smith had a goal-bound free kick blocked on 33 mins. The deadlock was eventually broken although the Corkerhill player looked four yards offside. Taynuilt protested loudly but the man in the middle was having none of it.

This was a match changing decision as within a minute it was 2-0. Good play by the home side down the right saw the winger cut in on the bye line and drive towards the near post. Young keeper Maitland gave him an impossible angle but he managed to drive the ball high into the net.

Credit to Taynuilt, the heads didn't go down and they fought for every ball. Gillies was played through but the referee ruled him offside but he looked to be in line with the last defender.

Taynuilt changed to a 4-4-2 formation in the second half in an attempt to try and stop the home team's wingers driving at the defence.

Corkerhill were using their man advantage in the middle of

the park to good use and started to command the game with some nice one-touch football.

Taynuilt's defence was still holding firm with McPhee and Moore giving the strikers little space or chances.

On the counter attack, Taynuilt had a great chance with Maitland putting the ball between the two central defenders which put Gillies through on goal but he hit his shot too early as he had more time than he thought

Partially cleared
On 65 minutes it was 3-0. The ball came in from the right which was only partially cleared with the Corkerhill centre midfielder stroking the ball into the bottom left corner.

Taynuilt never gave up and some neat passing and movement was good to watch with Corkerhill unable to keep up and it was the home team who looked to be tiring.

Taynuilt started to take control of the game in the last ten minutes and with the best move of the match they were awarded

FOOTBALL

a penalty. Maitland and Kelly combined to play the ball into Gillies who held it up for Smith to beat two men who then slid a beautiful ball into the clear for Gillies. He rounded the keeper who then took him down. The referee flashed yellow when it could have been red.

Gillies stroked the spot kick home and Taynuilt had a new belief. The last five minutes saw the ball repeatedly put into the Corkerhill box who were under extreme pressure but they managed to hold out for a 3-1 win.

In the Scottish Cup, Taynuilt have been given a bye in the first round and in the second they face a tough game away from home to the winners of the all Caledonian League tie between Strathclyde University and Dalziel FPs. In the West of Scotland Cup Taynuilt are away again to Jimmy Johnstone Academy in the second round.

Taynuilt have no game this Saturday.

Brick and Steel Ecosse Challenge

RALLYING

THE LAST race in this year's Brick and Steel Junior 1000 Ecosse Challenge took place at Kames Motorsport Complex.

The ABR Roofing Services Kames Rally entry list was dominated by Junior 1000 cars and crews - 14 out of a total of 23 - out for a last blast before the long winter break.

The day started very damp with a few heavy showers making the tight track a real challenge. But this did not really phase the youngsters and after the first two stages the quickest two cars from the whole entry were Junior 1000 cars.

The winning Junior 1000 team was Alexander Vassallo and Tom Marchant in their Citroen C1, while Tobermory lad Alasdair Currie came in sixth with team mate Graeme Sherry. Currie finished the season in 11th place with a respectable 86 points.

Final Championship Positions: Junior 1000 Drivers
- 1 Alexander Vassallo 155; 2 Ryan Weston 142; 3 Harry Marchbank 139; 4 Blair Brown 123; 5 Andy Struthers 122; 6 Michael Dickie 117; 7 Alex Adams 117; 8 Georgia Shiels 108; 9 Linzi Henderson 107; 10 Scott Murray 90; 11 Ally Currie 86; 12 Stephen McClory 82; 13 Calum Kitt 79; 14 Craig MacIvor 18.

Glencruitten GC

GOLF

THE team of Dugal MacLean, Andrew MacMillan, Wille McAdam and Ian McCuish won the Four Man Scramble at Glencruitten at the weekend with a score of 51 - 2.3 = 48.7.

In second place were Peter Dunn, Michael Kelly, Keith MacCallum and Finlay O'Rourke with a score of 55 - 5 = 50.

Third place went to Stuart Cameron, Alan Garret, Ian Harris and Andrew McHardy with a score of 57 - 4.3 = 52.7. This Saturday there is a two man scramble.

Motocross on Mull

MOTOCROSS

OBAN Youth Motocross' first annual Motocross event on Mull's Glengorm Estate, courtesy of Tom Neilson, has been hailed as a huge success.

Twenty two riders of all ages took part in the event, which is hoped will be even bigger next year. The prizegiving ceremony was held at MacGochan's Bar, Tobermory.

Results: Quads: 1 Jamie MacCallum, 65s: 1 Alan Kerr, 85s: 1 Jason Goldie; 2 Kara Willis; runner up Callum MacLean.

125 School Boy: 1 Alasdair Gorrie; 2 James Johnstone; 3 Mattie Moore.

Adults: 1 Robert Wilson; 2 Scott Johnstone; 3 John Cameron.

Over 40s: 1 Lachie Black; 2 Malcolm Kerr; 3 Paul Williamson; runner-up Gregor Johnstone.

Shinty/hurling international squads announced

SHINTY/HURLING

Neale Reid, Glenurquhart
Duncan MacRae, Kinlochshiel
John Macrae, Kinlochshiel
Ben Delaney, Lochaber
Alexander Ferguson, Lochaber
Martin Johnstone, Lochaber
Craig Mainland, Lovat
Greg Matheson, Lovat
Rory Kennedy, Newtonmore (captain)

Andy MacKintosh, Newtonmore
Ackie MacRae, Newtonmore
Garry Lord, Oban Camanachd
James McMillan, Oban Camanachd
Johnathan MacLennan, Skye Camanachd
James Dunn, The SCOTS

Under 21 Head Coach, Ronald Ross said: 'We were delighted to see such a high level of talent on show at the testing sessions. This is my first year as head coach, so am very much looking forward to the trip across to Ennis and I and my coaching staff, believe we have selected players who can do their country proud.'

The full squad is as follows:

Seniors
Kevin Bartlett, Caberfeidh
Niall MacPhee, Fort William
John Barr, Glenurquhart
Stuart MacKintosh, Glenurquhart
David Smart, Glenurquhart
Louis Munro, Kingussie
Mark MacDonald, Kinlochshiel

two players from Orion Premier Division champions Newtonmore as their team captains, with Norman Campbell wearing the armband for the seniors and Rory Kennedy leading out the Under 21s.

Pleased

Drew McNeil said: 'I am really pleased with this year's squad. I had some difficult decisions to make during the selection process as there was a high number of talented, committed players available to choose from. However I am confident we have chosen players who can match the Irish and who can help us lift the International Series Trophy in Ennis.'

THE Senior and Under 21 national shinty/hurling squads to play in Ennis, Co. Clare and at the Bught Park, Inverness have been announced.

The senior's first match is against the Irish hurlers on Saturday October 20 at Inverness. All three squads - Seniors, U21s and Women - then travel to Ireland the following weekend. The Under 21s play on Friday October 26, the seniors on Saturday October 27 and the Scottish Women's match against an Ireland Select is also on Saturday 27.

Head coaches Drew McNeil for the seniors and Ronald Ross for the Under 21s have selected



Inveraray after their 7-0 Development Cup win over Uist Camanachd.

Inveraray win Hydro Development Cup

INVERARAY won the Scottish Hydro Development Cup at Oban following a 7-0 victory over Uist Camanachd.

In a match played ahead of the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Final, the under 14 players produced an excellent display

of effort and endeavour in this nine-a-side format.

Too powerful
Having defeated Ballachulish at the semi-final stage, the young islanders found their first national final opponents too powerful and Inveraray raced to

YOUTH SHINTY

a 3-0 half-time lead. Ross Anderson went on to net a hat-trick, with Fraser Watt and Campbell Watt each scoring doubles. Photos: Neil Paterson



Uist Camanachd.

Saints players in Scottish League Select

TWO OBAN Saints players, Donald Campbell and Myles McAuley, have been included in the Scottish League Select team to play Carlton YM in the annual Douglas Harvey Memorial Trophy match to be played at the Kibble Complex in Paisley on Sunday.

FOOTBALL

Keith Millar and Willie Gemmell who are regulars in the Scottish squad have been rested for this game so team manager Jim Souter can have a look at some other players.

Three in a row for Newtonmore as they lift Orion Premiership title

'More manager and backroom staff step down after five years in charge'

NEWTONMORE secured their third consecutive Premier Division title after two goals in the first-half of their final league tie of the season against Glenurquhart at Drumnadrochit on Saturday.

In presenting the Orion Premiership Trophy to Newtonmore captain John MacKenzie, Camanachd Association President Archie Robertson highlighted how close and competitive the sport's Orion Premier Division had become, with a number of clubs maintaining a strong title challenge right to the end of the season.

Newtonmore team manager Norman MacArthur had urged his players to ensure that the Premier league title would be decided on Saturday by taking full points from a difficult away fixture at Blairbeg Park thus avoiding a week-long wait to see if nearest title challengers Kyles Athletic could overhaul a goal deficit in their final league tie against Inveraray.

MacArthur's reign as manager came to a halt after Saturday's final whistle as he, and his management team, had announced that they would be stepping down after a five-year stint which has



The Newtonmore squad and officials after winning shinty's Premier Division title for the third year in a row. Photograph by Stevie Tunstall.

seen a revitalised Newtonmore club return to the very top of the sport by bringing three consecutive Premier league titles, plus the MacTavish Cup and the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup back to the Eilan.

MacArthur has always insisted that the league trophy was his main priority and throughout this season his teams have ground-out results, at home and away, despite sometimes not playing to their full potential.

Early nerves

In what proved one of the visitor's better displays over 90 minutes this season, Danny MacRae settled early nerves after 10 minutes when he fired the ball into the Glenurquhart net and when Chris Sellar doubled Newtonmore's goal tally 10 minutes later the players responded and played with a renewed self-belief.

Although Glenurquhart were on the back foot for long periods of the game resulting in a series of spectacular saves by keeper Stuart MacIntosh, the home side were always dangerous on the break with Neale Reid's jinking runs being well policed

by 'More's Andy MacIntosh and fellow defender Steven MacDonald's pace proving crucial against Glen' forward line which used the width of the park to good effect.

On the half-hour MacRae appeared to have claimed his second goal of the game until the acrobatic MacIntosh somehow managed to pick the ball out of

the top corner and turn it away for a corner. From the corner Fraser MacIntosh's shot was again saved by the keeper and the ball smuggled out of the danger area by full-back John Barr.

But the visitors didn't have it all their own way and, but for a crucial save by keeper Michael Ritchie after 58 minutes, the result could have been very different. A goal at that stage could have altered the pattern of the match and given Glenurquhart a huge boost.

The second half saw the home side step up a gear but 'More's defence coped well with everything that was thrown at them and they created several chances of their own in the closing stages. In the final 10 minutes, Ackie MacRae's shot through a ruck of players saw Glen's MacIntosh make another great reaction save and the keeper made another tremendous stop to deny John Mackenzie a goal at the near post.



Newtonmore skipper John MacKenzie proudly shows off the Orion Premiership Trophy. Photograph by Neil Paterson.

Third place

Over the hill from Drumnadrochit, Lovat secured third place in the top league table with a 2-0 win against defeated Camanachd cup finalists Inveraray.

Lorne MacKay had fired Lovat into the lead after eight minutes but it took until 10 minutes into the second period before a stubborn Inveraray defence lost a second and crucial goal. Lovat manager Allan MacRae will be well pleased with his young team's progress in a season that has seen the Kiltarity club take

points off most of the pre-season league title favourites.

Lochaber now seem certain to regain shinty's top flight after a 3-0 win against title challengers Skye. Shaun Nicolson scored for Lochaber within the opening two minutes, with Scott Paterson virtually ending Skye's title hopes seven minutes before the interval. Nicolson then ensured there was no way back for the island side with Lochaber's third goal in the 67th minute. In a bad day for Skye, defender Jamie MacDonald was red carded.

Lochaber now require two points from a possible eight to ensure promotion to the Premier Division.

Lochaber look set to join shinty's top flight

LOCHABER welcome Strathglass to Spean Bridge on Saturday having taken a giant step towards promotion and the Marine Harvest North Division 1 title through their 3-0 win over rivals Skye Camanachd last weekend.

Coach Michael Delaney reports no injury worries from the Skye clash, which saw Lochaber take the field without Danny Delaney (hamstring). Stuart Callison (groin strain) and James MacRae (infected wound).

Delaney said of the trio, only MacRae has a chance of being fit to play against Strathglass, who

prop up the division with only four points.

A win or a draw for Lochaber would see them crowned champions and premier division shinty returning to Spean Bridge after an absence of three seasons.

Delaney told *The Oban Times*: 'We will give Strathglass the same respect we give any other opponents.'

'They have picked up a couple of players since we last played them and they will be coming here hoping to upset the party.'

'So we will need to be wary - they have a good blend of youth and experience.'

SKYE CAMANACHD take on Beaulieu at Portree on Saturday knowing that any lingering promotion hopes have gone after last weekend's 3-0 loss to Lochaber - but coach Willie MacRae is still determined to finish the season on a high.

Beaulieu inflicted a damaging defeat on the Skymen when the teams last met and a reversal of that result is uppermost in MacRae's mind.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'It will be a difficult game. We lost 2-1 to them down there but on our home pitch we will be looking to get the points.'

'Hopefully the boys will have the confidence to go and win their last two games. We are still a young side and another year will make a big difference as they mature. You could see them developing when we started training in January and next season we should be even stronger. Hopefully we can have a real good tilt at the title. It is a very hard league to get out of with so many teams capable of taking points off each other.'

Skye should have first choice keeper Jamie Gannon back between the sticks and forward Ali MacDonald should also return.

Newtonmore win Donnie MacLean Sixes



Kinlochshiel under 14s narrowly missed out on a semi-final spot.

NEWTONMORE under-14s were crowned 2012 Donnie MacLean Sixes champions at Spean Bridge on Sunday.

A fine day of youth shinty ended with 'More battling out a 0-0 draw with Glenurquhart.

And it was Iain Robinson who broke the deadlock in extra time with a fine winner.

The league section games saw Newtonmore, Kingussie, Glenurquhart and Fort William progress to the semi-finals. The Fort edged out Kilmallie on goal difference.

Kinlochshiel also just missed out on a last four place.

Newtonmore defeated local rivals Kingussie whilst Glenurquhart beat 2011 winners Fort William. A total of 16 teams took part in the competition.

Grant for young people to 'come and try' shinty

A SCOTTISH Government grant of £5,000 will allow up to 400 young people to try shinty, Sports Minister Shona Robison announced recently.

The money will allow the Camanachd Association, the world governing body for shinty, to run a project during the October school holidays to promote awareness, engagement and participation in the sport and develop the relationship between local camanachd clubs and their communities.

The money will deliver up to 12 'Come & Try' shinty sessions, targeted at 10-14 year olds, across the Highlands, Argyll and Bute, nan Eilean Siar, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. Camanachd Association Development Officers will work in partnership with local authority active schools co-ordinators and local camanachd clubs plus 'appearances' from Scotland National Shinty Squad players.

The project will also deliver at least five master classes to make the sessions as inclusive as possible for both experienced players and beginners.

Shinty remains strong in its heartland areas of Highland and Argyll and Bute with Active Schools' participation figures showing the

sport is in the top five sports for both boys and girls in these areas.

Speaking at the recent Scottish-Hydro Camanachd Cup Final in Oban between Inveraray and Kyles Athletic, Ms Robison said: 'This grant will help ensure that shinty continues to grow in communities across Scotland. Although the popularity of shinty is growing, I would like to see as many young people as possible get involved and have a go at one of our oldest sports.'

'Achieving a legacy of a healthier, more active country from London 2012 and Glasgow 2014 is something that is hugely important. We want to build a future where we can enjoy longer, healthier lives and continue to be able to make a positive contribution to our communities through being and remaining physically active.'

Torquill MacLeod, Chief Operating Officer at the Camanachd Association, said: 'We are delighted with the support we are receiving from the Scottish Government and see this as an important initiative for shinty which will facilitate links between local clubs and schools to engage larger numbers of young participants in a sustainable pathway for the ongoing development of the sport. This funding has allowed us to pilot the initiative in 2012 with the intention that it is developed further in 2013 and beyond on a self-sustaining basis.'



Lochaber, Kilmallie and Fort William all took part in the competition.

Camanachd defeat Taynuilt in JC Memorial Trophy



Oban Camanachd and Taynuilt shinty teams before the JC Memorial Trophy match played at Taynuilt last Saturday. The Oban side lifted the cup by virtue of a 3-0 win thanks to goals from Gavin Stobart (2) and Andrew 'Papa' MacCuish who also won the Player of the Match award. Photograph by John MacTavish.

Success for 'Shiel youngsters in London Shield semi final

KINLOCHSHIEL had a successful weekend of junior shinty with under-14s beating Fort William 4-0 at Kirkton on Friday.

Morgan Fraser and Fergus Dobson scored two goals apiece to secure a fine victory.

Elsewhere, Kinlochshiel under-17s travelled to Fort William to take on Kingussie in the semi final of the London Shield.

The first semi of the day saw Lochaber beat Oban Celtic 2-0, with the match refereed by John Matheson.

The match was goalless at the interval but Lochaber took the lead on 51 minutes thanks to a Duncan MacKinnon goal and it was MacKinnon again who added a second 10 minutes from time to seal a 2-0 win for the Spean Bridge youngsters.

It was then the turn of Kingussie and 'Shiel to entertain the supporters with a tight, exciting game. The play was from end to end in the first half but 'Shiel proved stronger in the later stages of the game and ran out 7-4 winners.

There were hat-tricks for Ali Nixon and Conall Fraser with Aedan MacRae adding the final goal. Kingussie's goals included a hat-trick for Bob MacGregor. Ronnie Campbell was match referee.

The final will be played before the home international on at Bught Park, Inverness, on October 20.

League Tables

The Orion Group Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	18	14	2	2	54	22	30
Kyles Athletic	17	12	2	3	47	30	26
Lovat	18	9	4	5	39	29	22
Fort William	18	8	3	7	36	34	19
Glenurquhart	18	8	2	8	32	39	18
Kingussie	17	7	3	7	39	37	17
Kinlochshiel	18	6	4	8	43	42	16
Inveraray	16	7	1	8	34	32	15
Kilmallie	18	3	2	13	28	49	8
Bute	18	0	5	13	11	49	5

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lochaber	14	12	2	0	67	13	26
Skye	16	10	3	3	40	24	23
Caberfeidh	18	8	3	7	51	39	19
Beaulieu	16	9	1	6	37	34	19
Inverness	17	5	2	10	29	52	12
Lochcarron	17	4	3	10	24	45	11
Strathglass	16	1	2	13	23	64	4

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oban Camanachd	13	12	1	0	62	10	25
Glasgow MA	14	10	0	4	40	17	20
Glenorchy	13	10	0	3	30	14	20
Taynuilt	14	4	5	5	28	33	13
Oban Celtic	14	5	1	8	26	38	11
Strachur	14	3	3	8	19	30	9
Kilmory	14	3	2	9	23	43	8
Aberdour	14	2	0	12	11	54	4

Marine Harvest North Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	18	14	1	3	76	20	29
Skye	18	10	2	6	42	32	22
Kinlochshiel	17	8	5	4	33	38	21
Glenurquhart	16	8	2	6	36	32	18
Fort William	17	8	0	9	31	33	16
Kingussie	17	5	5	7	41	44	15
Lovat	18	7	1	10	37	47	15
Glengarry	18	7	1	10	31	42	15
Aberdeen Uni	17	6	2	9	37	39	14
Lochaber	18	3	3	12	39	76	9

Marine Harvest South Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lochside Rovers	18	17	0	1	98	27	34
Kyles Athletic	17	12	0	5	66	28	24
Ballachulish	17	9	3	5	38	29	21
Tayforth	17	9	1	7	49	43	19
Col Glen	18	7	3	8	41	52	17
Inveraray	18	6	3	9	46	52	15
Bute	15	6	1	8	40	37	13
Aberdour	18	5	2	11	35	64	12
Ardnarmurchan	18	5	1	12	44	49	11
Glasgow MA	18	4	0	14	19	95	8

Marine Harvest North Division 3							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beaulieu	18	15	2	1	102	21	32
Boleskine	18	12	3	3	73	40	27
Lochbroom	18	12	2	4	57	29	26
Kilmallie	18	10	3	5	73	41	23
Lochcarron	18	9	1	8	46	46	19
Caberfeidh	18	9	0	9	51	47	18
Strathspey	18	5	2	11	39	71	12
Lewis Camanachd	18	3	2	13	26	69	8
Strathglass	18	3	2	13	27	79	8
Inverness	18	3	1	14	20	71	7



Results

Saturday 22 September

Orion Group Premiership
Glenurquhart 0 - 2 Newtonmore
Lovat 2 - 0 Inveraray

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Lochaber 3 - 0 Skye
Beaulieu 3 - 2 Inverness

Marine Harvest North Division 2
A'deen Uni P - P Glenurquhart
Aberdeen unable to field a team match to be rescheduled

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Ballachulish 0 - 0 Aberdour
Bute P - P Tayforth
Tayforth unable to field a team points to Bute

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Kilmallie 5 - 5 Beaulieu

Youth Results
Friday 14 September
U14 Marine Harvest League
Kilmallie 10 - 1 Lovat
Kingussie 2 - 0 Kinlochshiel
Fort William 8 - 0 Caberfeidh

Tuesday 18 September
U14 Marine Harvest League
Beaulieu 10 - 0 Ardnarmurchan

Friday 21 September
U14 Marine Harvest League
Lovat 0 - 7 Newtonmore
Kilmallie 1 - 1 Skye
Caberfeidh 0 - 3 Kingussie
Kinlochshiel 4 - 0 Fort William

Saturday 22 September
London Shield Semi Final
Lochaber 2 - 0 Oban Celtic
Kingussie 4 - 7 Kinlochshiel

Womens Camanachd Association
Sunday 16 September
Marine Harvest South Division 2
Aberdour 1 v 4 Cowal & Bute

Fixtures

Fixtures 29th September

Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup Final
Kingussie v Glenurquhart
Graham MacMillan at Braeview Park, Beaulieu (Goal Judges Russell Ross, Willie MacRae)

Orion Group Premiership
Inveraray v Kyles Athletic
Colin MacDonald

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Lochaber v Strathglass
Billy Wotherspoon 12pm
Skye v Beaulieu
Graham Cameron

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Glenorchy v Oban Camanachd
Ted McDonald

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Fort William v Kinlochshiel
Graham Irving

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Ballachulish v Bute
Dunkie Kerr

(All throw ups 2.30 unless stated)

Youth Fixtures
Friday 28 September
U14 Marine Harvest League
Skye v Lovat
Kilmallie v Newtonmore
Caberfeidh v Kinlochshiel
Kingussie v Fort William

Sunday 30 September
Under 14
Representative Match
North v South
Ronnie Campbell - 12.30pm
at An Aird Fort William

Under 17
Representative Match
North v South
Deek Cameron - 3pm
at An Aird Fort William

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Lorne make it three wins out of three

'The first half was a bit scrappy and we got drawn into making silly mistakes'

OBAN Lorne secured their third consecutive bonus point win against a dogged Isle of Arran team at Glencruitten.

From the kick-off, the much larger Oban pack looked to put the Arran team under pressure, forcing them to clear their lines from inside their own 22. With captain Robin MacQueen nursing an injury, Corrie Louw led the team.

Four minutes into the game, Oban fly-half Alex Cadzow finished off a sweeping and surging move to open the scoring for Oban. Craig Wright, playing at scrum-half, kicked the conversion to give Oban Lorne a seven point lead.

Isle of Arran, known for their fighting spirit, showed signs of the team that had ran over Mull two weeks prior, responding with some smart kicking and drawing the Oban pack into conceding a penalty six minutes later. The experienced and cultured boot of Australian-born Arran player Lachlan Jones stayed true and pinned the score back by three points.

The referee was keeping a close eye on both teams at the breakdown and blew his whistle three minutes later against Arran for

going off their feet at the ruck, allowing Craig Wright to kick an excellent penalty between the posts to make it 10-3 to Oban Lorne. Wright, who usually plays as a stand-off showed the fans at Glencruitten why he is the number one kicker for the 'Green Machine'.

Similar to Oban's opening game of the season, the rest of the half became a story of back-and-forth physical play and several silly penalties. Neither team was able to capitalise on any mistakes until 36 minutes into the game when Oban conceded a penalty 30 metres out. The Aussie from Arran Lachlan Jones again converted well to reduce the lead to four points.

Four minutes after the restart, the fans were treated to a piece of brilliance from 'Mr Beast' Andy MacDougall. Taking the ball down the right wing, the former Scotland U19 international ran through four opposition players at speed before offloading to Cammy Smith who duly reached for the line to score Oban's second try of the game. With the conversion sailing just wide, the score sat at 15-6.

Another quick response from Arran came in the form of a

RUGBY

penalty for an infringement at the breakdown - a common occurrence during the game. Once again, Arran's antipodean ace converted from a distance to make it 15-9.

From the sidelines, a fierce rallying call from Robin MacQueen could be heard, reminding the men in green that nothing less than a bonus point win would do. This seemed to drive the team on, as the front row continued to punish the opposition. Prop Liam Burns - nicknamed 'Lomu' - showed signs of why he is named after the Kiwi legend with some impressive hand-offs and powerful running.

As Oban pushed forward, former Glasgow Hawks second-row, Jamie MacMillan burst through the middle of the Arran line and forced the ball over for Oban Lorne's third try of the game. Craig Wright again held his nerves to convert successfully, extending Oban's lead to 13 points.

Arran struggled to regain control of the game, despite some impressive territorial kicking. Eventually, a mistake from their winger allowed Oban to



Ouch! Oban Lorne's Andy MacDougall hands off this tackle during one of his rampaging runs during last Saturday's 32-16 win for the home side against Arran at Glencruitten. Photo: John MacFavish

gain a lineout seven metres out from the try line. Again, Jamie MacMillan plucked the ball out of the air and the maul was formed around him. A textbook display of strength moved the rolling maul towards the line at pace, with Connor Kerr planting the ball down to score Oban's fourth try of the match, securing a bonus point.

As Oban pushed forward, a fire was lit in the Arran players' stomachs and they began to play a more direct running game. A combination of pace and smart footwork allowed them to gain ground. However, they found themselves under pressure on 68 minutes, as the 'Green Machine'

managed to work the ball into space on the left wing. Quick handling and accurate passing led to Jamie MacMillan releasing Craig Wright to run in a fifth try for the 'Green Machine'. Although he couldn't find the posts from the conversion, it rounded off a solid game for the youngest of the Wright trio.

The final ten minutes of the game saw lots of ambitious play from the visitors, who had made the long journey north. Luck was also on their side on 79 minutes, when a wayward pass found its way to Gregor Adamson, who ran clear to touch down under the posts for Arran's only try of the game. A successful conver-

sion from Lachlan Jones finished off the game. Final Score: Oban Lorne RFC 32-16 Isle of Arran RFC.

Following the game, head coach Corrie Louw shared his thoughts:

'The first half was a bit scrappy and we got drawn into making silly mistakes. But we pulled it together in the second half. I thought our line-out looked good and we began to play our own game. Now that we have secured our third bonus point victory in a row, we can really aim to make Glencruitten a fortress.'

Craig Wright, who made himself the current top scorer this season with his try and kicks

today was over the moon: 'I have been working hard this week on my kicking and it paid off. Getting a cheeky try at the end was a bonus for me. Let's hope it's the first of many this year.'

Oban's home game against Clydesdale next week has been called off due to the visitors having a wedding function to attend. This means Oban now face a three week wait before travelling to fierce rivals Uddingston on October 20.

Stay updated on fixtures, results and club news via the new website www.pitchero.com/clubs/obanlorne or by following the club on twitter: @obanlornerfc

Saints in cup semi final at Glencruitten on Saturday

FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints senior team have a chance to reach the Centenary Cup final for the first time as they take on Inverclyde in the semi final of the competition on Saturday.

The match will take place at Glencruitten with a 2pm kick-off. Referee in charge is John Scott and he will be assisted by Jim Pearson from Glasgow and Stuart McLearie from Clydebank.

If the game is tied at the end of 90 minutes it goes straight to penalty kicks.

Manager Iain Jackson should have a full squad to choose from for this important fixture apart from the injured Alex Craik and Jamie Graham who has had an operation on his ankle and will be out of action for six to eight weeks.

Iain said: 'This is a great chance for us to reach the final, although we certainly won't be taking Inverclyde lightly. We have a poor record against them in semi finals, losing two out of two over the years, so we will need to be at our best on Saturday.'

We beat them home and away in the league last season, but I know they've strengthened their squad since then. They knocked last year's SAFL treble winners Postal United out of the cup three weeks ago, so we are expecting a tough game on Saturday though the boys have been playing well and are confident we can reach the final. 'Hopefully we can get a good crowd of spectators up to cheer the boys on to victory.'

It could be an all Argyll final in the Centenary Cup if Saints get through.

Campbeltown Pupils are still in the competition although they face a tough test against premier league side Aikenhead in the quarter finals which takes place at Kintyre Park on Saturday.

If the Pupils got through they would play Alba Thistle in the other semi final.

Senior Ladies Open at Killin Golf Club

GOLF

THIS year's Killin Senior Ladies Open was held last Wednesday.

Full results: Overall scratch: Pat Simpson (Lundin Ladies) 79. Overall handicap: Wilma Frew (Glencruitten) 69.

Silver division: 1. Wilma Frew (Glencruitten) 69, 2. Meropie Dunlop (Old Ranfurly) 74 BIH, 3. Lynn MacDonald (Strathay) 74.

Bronze division: 1. Sheila Cowie (Uphall) 71, 2. June Sutherland (Dalmally) 73, 3. Helen Lang (Pitlochry) 74 BIH.

Longest drive, silver: Pat Simpson (Lundin Ladies). Longest drive, bronze: Gill Wylie (Merchants of Edinburgh).

Nearest the pin: Ann Hay (Dalmally) 9' 4". Magic 2s: Sheila Cowie (Uphall) and Christine Anderson (Grangemouth). CSS: 70 RO.

Oban Saints youths results and fixtures

YOUTH FOOTBALL

LAST weekend's results: Drumchapel 2, Under 13s 3. On target for Saints were Craig Easton, Lewis Buchanan and Daniel MacCuish. Ardencaple v Under 14s, postponed. Morton 4, Under 15s 4. Scoring for Saints were Liam Jackson (2), Ross MacMillan and Keiran Hendry. The Under 16s no game. Friendly match Argyll Athletic 1, Under 17s 1. Saints goalscorer was Berna Tot.

Next weekend's fixtures: Under 13s v Lochgilphead Red Star; Under 14s v Calderbraes; Under 15s v Kilpatrick; Under 16s v Lenzie.

SAFL fixtures

FOOTBALL

SATURDAY'S fixtures: Centenary Cup, quarter final - Campbeltown Pupils v Aikenhead; semi final - Oban Saints v Inverclyde. Premier Division Two - Dunoon v Centre. Division 1A - Tarbert v Eaglesham. Division 1B - Rosehill Star v Lochgilphead Red Star. All games kick-off at 2pm



Oban boys tackle Glasgow Rangers at Murray Park

FORMER Oban Saints youth player Ally McKerracher made his debut for Dumbarton Football Club's reserve team last Tuesday night.

Ally, 16, played his part in Dumbarton's 4-3 victory in the SFL Division One Reserve League match against Partick Thistle at Rutherglen Glencairn's Clyde Gateway Stadium, coming on as a substitute for 20 minutes.

Ally, of Oban, was back in action for Dumbarton on Sunday alongside two other former Oban Saints youth players, Stuart Alexander, Oban, and David Beaton, Taynult. The trio were in the starting

FOOTBALL

line up for the club's SFA Youth Cup tie against Rangers at Murray Park. Despite a spirited performance, the Dumbarton team lost three nil.

This is Ally, David and Stuart's fourth season with Dumbarton having signed at under 13 level. They have continued to impress and now play in the Club Academy Scotland Youth Initiative Under16/17 league. Oban's Connor Howe is also in Dumbarton's Under 16/17 squad.

World championship rides for Connel's John McPhee

LOCAL Racing Steps Foundation Moto3 rider John McPhee will replace the injured Alexis Masbou for the remaining five rounds of the World Championship, starting at Aragon this coming weekend.

Caretta Technology rider Masbou, who is currently sixth in the Moto3 world standings, broke his femur in a private test at Valleduina earlier this month and is out for an indefinite period.

McPhee, 18, from Connel, will join the Turin-based Caretta squad at the Spanish circuit on Thursday to acquaint himself with team personnel and prepare for Friday's free practice sessions.

The Scot will compete on his KRP M3-01 chassis which has been re-liveried in Caretta Technology colours and is to be fitted with the Italian squad's Geo Technology Grand Prix spec Honda 250 single.

The Caretta ride will give McPhee additional Grand Prix experience at Motegi (Japan), Sepang (Malaysia) and Phillip Island (Australia) - three circuits on which he has not previously

competed. He will also race in the season finale at Valencia in November.

'It's fantastic to be given the opportunity,' he said on hearing the news. 'To get more experience at world level with a Grand Prix team like Caretta should give a boost to my prospects of getting a full-time World Championship ride in 2013.'

'Naturally I have a lot of sympathy for Alexis and wish him all the best for a speedy recovery. He's clearly had a strong working relationship with the

MOTORCYCLING

team to get the results he has, so hopefully I will be able to pick up where he left off.'

Caretta Technology team boss Giorgio Bertelli said: 'Alexis has done really good work for the team this year but John McPhee showed everyone at last month's Czech Republic Grand Prix at Brno that he has what it takes to be a strong competitor. So we are very comfortable with him as a stand in. We hope to achieve good things together.'



John McPhee in action.

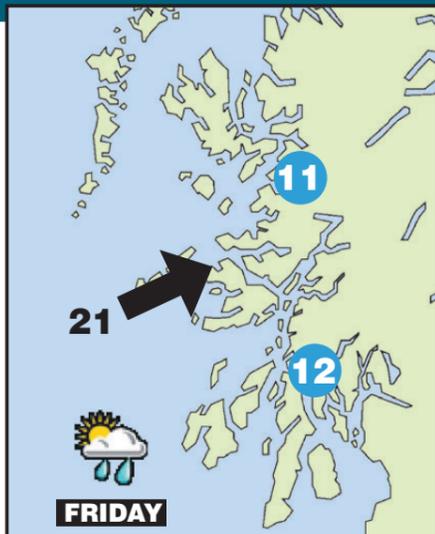
Weather

Thursday Cloudy
Winds light west south westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 11°C

Friday Heavy rain showers
Winds moderate west south westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 12°C.

Weekend Cloudy
Outlook Winds moderate west south southerly
Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, September 27, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	04.11 3.3 09.58 1.1 16.10 3.8 22.24 1.1	
Fri	04.34 3.5 10.41 0.9 16.43 3.9 23.01 1.0	
Sat	05.00 3.7 11.20 0.8 17.15 4.1 23.35 0.9	
Sun	05.29 3.9 11.56 0.7 17.46 4.1 *** **	
Mon	00.08 0.9 05.58 4.0 12.31 0.8 18.16 4.1	
Tues	00.41 0.9 06.27 4.0 13.03 0.9 18.47 4.1	
Wed	01.14 1.0 06.55 4.0 13.34 1.1 19.17 3.9	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

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The following pages are from the Fort William (Northern) Edition of The Oban Times.

The Oban Times prints two editions of the paper. There is the main edition as well as the Fort William (Northern) Edition.

Sometimes pages that appear in the Fort William edition do not appear in the main edition (and vice versa).

As an electronic subscriber you get the main edition plus the pages that appear in the Northern edition.

The Oban Times

FORT WILLIAM & LOCHABER EDITION

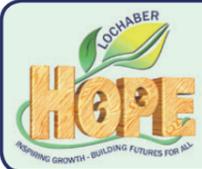
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Trophy winners line up at Caol in Bloom's presentation of prizes in Caol Community Centre. 20_139bloom01

Caol in Bloom honours garden prizewinners

GREEN-FINGERED Caol residents reaped the fruits of their labours at Caol in Bloom's 2012 garden competition awards presentation in Caol Community Centre on Monday night.

Alan Wilson kindly agreed to be garden judge this year and during August took on the mammoth task of going round both Caol and Lochside assessing every garden, so that everyone had a chance of being a prize-winner. Caol in Bloom thanks Alan for a job well done.

Winners were - Caol residents unless otherwise stated:
Hanging Baskets - 1 Mr and Mrs I Houston, 63 Kilmallie Road; 2 Mr and Mrs W Richie, 51 Camesky Road; 3 Mrs Brown, 51 Kilmallie Road. Best Block -

160-162 Kilmallie Road (Mrs M Fraser and Mr and Mrs Nisbet). Best Street - Glenpane Street. Best Ornamental Garden - Mr and Mrs D Cameron, 6 Erracht Terrace. Best Vegetable Garden - 1 Mr Alan Smith, 12 Fern Court; 2 Mr and Mrs J Banks, 50 Glenkingie Street; 3 Mrs P Bennet, 134 Glenkingie Street. Best Easy Care - 1 Mr and

Mrs R Mathers, 85 Blar Mhor Road; 2 Mrs E MacLean, 4 Broom Drive; 3 Mr and Mrs H MacDonald, 1 Torlundy Road. Best Commercial Premises - 1 Mr and Mrs R Thomas, Ben View, Lochside; 2 Mr B Bindells, Lochan Cottage, Lochside; 3 Mr G Clelland, Lochy Bar. Best Overall Garden - 1 Mr and Mrs T Taylor, 60 Blar

Crofters, SNH in turf war

Battle on to keep grazings

A WOMAN is seeking support from other Highland crofters to fight what she claims are attempts by Scottish Natural Heritage to gain control of her township's common grazings.

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

Viv Montgomery fears if the four crofting families involved lose their battle, others could face ruin through punitive restrictions on livestock they can graze on the hill.

Ms Montgomery, 34, placed the crofters' plight alongside that of Barra's fishermen, who are fighting SNH moves to designate their waters as a special area of conservation.

The conservation quango is refusing the hill people permission to return sheep to six crofts' common grazings, claiming a blanket bog and heather needs continued protection from over-grazing.

The move aimed to improve biodiversity on the uplands through reducing grazing pressure.

But according to Ms Montgomery, SNH's surveys found no habitat improvement, despite fewer sheep. The quango is now blocking the crofters' bid to return ewe numbers to the 853 permitted under Crofting Commission grazing rights, known as souming.

The ESA payments cease when the scheme ends next month - potentially leaving the crofters with a double financial penalty because too few ewes per hectare could mean they will not qualify for vital farm support payments.

Ms Montgomery said five crofts at Strone, a mile along the hill to the east, would be in similar straits when their ESA scheme ends next year.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'SNH in my opinion are not telling the true facts and are causing ageing crofters and hill

people tremendous stress and worry. To me this is nothing short of harassment and needs to stop. The government should just look at the harm this will do, in terms of social, economic impacts and human rights. SNH provide nothing - if we had to depend on them we would starve.'

She added: It is my hope that other crofters and hill people will get in touch as this is not a fight the Craggan of Clune Crofters can fight alone. We have to protect our way of life for future generations.'

The crofters have enlisted the help of the Scottish Crofting Federation, of which they are members.

Donald Murdie, SCF crofting programme resources manager, has written to rural affairs minister Richard Lochhead asking him to intervene.

Mr Murdie told *The Oban Times*: 'This active and vibrant crofting township should be supported in its efforts to maintain a viable flock of hill sheep because a growing number of reports for government and agencies have highlighted the social, economic and environmental damage being caused across the Highlands and Islands through the loss of hill livestock.'

Fort William FC delight at cup tie draw

FORT William FC'S under-20 side have landed a plum third round tie in the Scottish Youth Cup - Hibernian in Edinburgh on October 21.

The Fort earned their capital date courtesy of a 2-1 victory over Huntly on Sunday.

Committee member David MacDonald told *The Oban Times*: 'Everybody at the club is delighted.'

'It's a massive incentive for the boys to show what they can do.'

'In their age group in the Highland League they are probably as good as anybody out there.'



Police name man killed in Ben fall

POLICE have named the man who died following a fall on Ben Nevis on Friday night.

Insurance agent Andrew Tedder, 49, from Emley, Yorkshire, tumbled into a gully while descending around 10pm.

Mr Tedder and his party were only an hour from the bottom of the hill when he slipped and fell just above the top aluminium bridge on the tourist path.

Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team leader John Stevenson said the victim had told his party his legs were sore and had been walking on easier ground near the edge.

Mr Stevenson told *The Oban Times*: 'He put his foot to the side and in a split second that was him away.'

By STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

'He fell 150-200 metres down to the bottom of the gully. When we found him around 12.30am he had not moved from where he landed.'

'The rescue helicopter from RAF Lossiemouth did a terrific bit of flying to airlift him out. It would have been really hard for us to get him out on the stretcher.'

Mr Tedder is thought to have died from head injuries.

Meanwhile, a woman was airlifted to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow with serious head injuries after falling in Glencoe on Saturday afternoon.

The woman had been descending Sgurr na h-Ulaidh, southeast of Ballachulish, with a male companion when she fell from a rock face around 5pm.

A Royal Navy rescue helicopter from HMS Gannet in Prestwick winched a Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team doctor and paramedic down to treat the casualty and secure her on a stretcher before flying her to Glasgow.

Glencoe MRT leader John Grieve said: 'It can be an awkward descent if the rocks are greasy. She fell quite a long way into a boulder field at the bottom.'

'The man was left stuck on a ledge 200 feet above her and he managed to get the 999 call out.'

Work starts on second phase of care home improvements

THE SECOND phase of refurbishment at a Highland Council-run care home in Fort William is set to get underway next week.

Works to be carried out at Invernevis House on Belford Road by Morrison Construction include improvements to electrical and heating systems, installing a biomass boiler and better wall insulation.

Bedrooms
Six larger rooms with en-suite facilities will be created, allowing a total of 32 bedrooms to be made available.

Other features include a new sprinkler system, other fire safety improvements, decoration and new floor finishes.

Work is expected to take six months.

SNH committed to finding solution

ALMOST two thirds of Craggan of Clune's 2.5 square miles of common grazing have been part of the Monadhliath Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for 15 years.

Viv Montgomery foresaw no problems in returning to the permitted souming level of 853 ewes when the ESA agreement ended. However, Scottish Natural Heritage says the scheme 'had helped the condition of important habitats in the area'.

A spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'We are now happy to find a mutually acceptable solution to the challenges that lie ahead.'

along with a continued level of support through a management agreement. We are keen to agree the terms of that agreement.'

'It is clear that a lot of hard work is required in order to reach a settled conclusion.'

'While we have a duty to balance the interests of the nearby site which is of European importance for its blanket bog, we are also keenly aware of the need for measures which help support the livelihoods of locals in the area.'

'That is why we are committed to working with the crofters and trying to negotiate to find a mutually acceptable solution to the challenges that lie ahead.'



Viv Montgomery.

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The Dark Knight Rises (12A)
Sat 6 at 5:00pm
Christopher Nolan's breathtaking Batman epic.

Ted (15)
Fri 5 at 8:30pm
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Book in advance at: www.screenmachine.co.uk or phone 0871 902 5750. Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. £7.00 Adults. Concessions £5.50. 3D +£1.50



Skye woman appointed commission head

SKYE crofter Susan Walker has been appointed the first convener of the Crofting Commission.

An active crofter for 30 years, Ms Walker is a director of Camuscross and Duisdale Initiative in Sleat, which works with crofters on local food and community infrastructure projects.

Ms Walker, 55, takes over from interim convener, Shetland crofting estate owner Sandy Cross. Her first job will be pulling together a five-year plan governing crofting's regulation and development for the Scottish Government.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'All the [consultation] responses are in and we are beginning to consider these. We will be meeting fairly soon to go through them and decide how to revise the plan now that we have all the comments.'

The blueprint should be submitted to environment minister Paul Wheelhouse next month, then debated in the Scottish Parliament.

The *Oban Times* revealed in June the new convener would not be named until September.

A 'very honoured' Ms Walker said: 'I am proud to be able to work with a team of eight other commissioners from the crofting counties who bring with them a

reward crofting activity. I am aware that small-scale farmers from other European countries express envy for Scotland's regulated system of crofting - it is a system we should cherish as it has the potential to deliver many benefits.'

Mr Wheelhouse said: 'This appointment is an excellent opportunity for Susan to lead the organisation through a period of significant change and shape the successful future of crofting in Scotland.'

'I very much look forward to working with Susan and her fellow commissioners and I am confident that the Crofting Commission will make a real difference throughout

rural Scotland in the years to come.' In *The Oban Times* in January, Ms Walker outlined her vision of how crofting could strengthen remote communities and of ending financial speculation in croft land to help young people acquire crofts.

She is one of three government appointees on the commission's nine-strong board. Crofters elected six members in March.

Her part time role runs to March 31 2017 and attracts a remuneration of £19,772 for a time commitment of eight days per month.

The Crofting Commission replaced the Crofters Commission on April 1.



New convener: Camuscross crofter Susan Walker.

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Last call for Ardgour phone box

AN ARDGOUR community has waved goodbye to a well-known local landmark after a traditional red phone box beside Loch Linnhe was removed by BT.

The phone box had been in a state of disrepair for a number of years but locals at Blaich were unhappy when it emerged it was to be taken away.

A small note was placed inside the box around three months ago which notified the community of the plans.

Situated on a beauty spot on the loch side, the phone box is thought to have been in place for more than 60 years. Visitors travelling along to A861 through Treslaig and Achaphubuil would often stop at the phone box to take photos, despite its well-worn look.

It is known that a number of the distinctive red boxes removed by BT across the country have been put up for auction in USA.

Across in the States the boxes are regarded as valuable memorabilia and can sell for upwards of £2,000. A BT policy allows the landowner to 'adopt' the phone box for £1. Conaglen Estate is believed to own the land at Blaich but it is not clear if the estate was made aware of the policy.

A BT spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'No calls were made from this payphone last year. We consulted with the council for the removal of the box and we posted a notice in the payphone asking members of the public to get in touch with the council if they had any objections.'

'No objections were received. The Ardgour community was given the opportunity to adopt this payphone in the past but they did not take up our offer.'



Ballachulish's Karen Marshall with Moray Callum, executive director, design, Ford Americas, and the Ford Model 'A' at the factory opening.

Ballachulish car's starring role at firm's celebrations

THE BOSS of a go-ahead Scottish company looked to her Ballachulish roots to help celebrate winning a coveted export award.

Karen Marshall, formerly Sutherland, who was born and brought up in the south Lochaber village, is now Bridge of Weir Leather Company managing director.

And when news came that her firm had won a Queen's Award for Enterprise (International Trade category), she knew what she wanted at the party - the 1928 Model 'A' Ford owned by Chisholm's Garage.

The car, one of the first vehicles in the world to feature Bridge of Weir's fine Scottish leather, has been in the Chisholm family for

several decades and remains, at nearly 85 years old, in excellent condition.

Such good condition in fact, that Karen wanted the Model 'A' to have pride of place at the presentation at the leather company's new factory in the Renfrewshire town.

Karen told *The Oban Times*: 'I was born and brought up in Ballachulish and still spend much time there.'

'The Chisholm family are close friends and I have greatly admired their vintage car since childhood.'

'Their Model A Ford is a beautiful example, and made all the more so, in my opinion, by the fine Scottish leather interior!'

'The Ford represents one of the first examples of our leather featuring in an internationally recognised car, so we just had to have the Chisholm's Model A here to celebrate the Queen's Award for International Trade. Our sincere thanks to the Chisholms.'

The company's new £2 million plant was officially opened by Scottish Leather Group Chairman Jonathan Muirhead, and international Scottish car designers Ian and Moray Callum, design directors at Jaguar and Ford respectively.

The Lord Lieutenant of Renfrewshire handed over the Queen's Award after the firm's outstanding export performance and sales growth over the last three years.

Death crash a 'tragic accident'

A CRASH on the A82 near Glencoe in March which left two Lochaber men dead was a 'tragic accident', a fatal accident inquiry has been told.

At the inquest at Fort William Sheriff Court, the families of victims Stewart McGifford and Ronnie McPhee heard there was nothing to be learned from the incident to help prevent a similar tragedy in future.

Caol man Mr McGifford, aged 48, and Mr McPhee, 44, from Mallaig, both died when Mr McGifford's Ferguson Transport lorry and Mr McPhee's Fiat Punto collided at Tom Mor, half-a-mile south of Glencoe on March 8.

By RICHARD HADDOCK rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

The hushed courtroom heard Mr McPhee's car was almost a metre over the white line line at the time, while Mr McGifford had been travelling over the speed limit.

Police collision investigator Constable Scott Lemmon told the inquiry: 'The Fiat was straddling the centre line. The driver's side wheels were on the wrong side of the road, about 0.9 metres into the southbound carriageway.'

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie asked Constable Lemmon if the speed of the lorry had been a factor.

He said: 'It was travelling in excess of the speed limit, but if the lorry had been travelling at 40mph I don't think we would have seen a different outcome.'

There were no eyewitnesses to the fatal crash on a straight north of Glencoe Visitor Centre, a short distance south of a narrow bridge, but passing motorist James Dick of Airdrie was the first person on the scene.

He described seeing the lorry's cargo of wooden planks strewn across the carriageway with both vehicles lying in the ditch on the side of the road.

First aid-trained Mr Dick tried to help both men, but was unable to do anything for them.

Summing up, Ms Wylie said: 'The Crown is not seeking to

place blame on anyone. It has never been the position of the Crown to second guess what happened that day.'

Sheriff Vinit Khurana told the families he would release his findings within weeks. Mr McGifford lived with his wife Joan Farrington and had been a driver for Ferguson Transport for five years.

Mr MacPhee lived in Daliburgh in South Uist before moving to Mallaig and had worked for CalMac for 27 years.

Meanwhile, a worker with a vehicle recovery firm has lost his job after uploading images of the fatal crash to social media.

An Elgin-based company was carrying out contract work at the scene for the AA, which said the photographs were 'totally unacceptable'.

The worker's employment was terminated following an investigation into a complaint about the images, the AA said.

A spokesperson added: 'The pictures the AA saw, while showing the lorry and the cab area, absolutely did not include pictures of any deceased.'

The AA views any inappropriate or unacceptable use of social media by its employees or garage agents very seriously and our garage contracts now expressly forbid the use of images being uploaded to social media, the consequence of which is termination of contract.'

"The Crown is not seeking to place blame on anyone...I see nothing that can be learned which would prevent such an accident occurring again."

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie

Police name accident victim

POLICE have named a young man who died after the car he was travelling in crashed on the B862 Whitebridge to Fort Augustus on Saturday night.

Student Matthew Charles Ricketts, aged 17, was a passenger in a silver Citroen which left the road around 10.07pm.

The driver was in a stable condition when taken to Raigmore Hospital.

Northern Constabulary is asking any witnesses to the accident to contact them on 01463 715555.

A report is being prepared for the Procurator Fiscal. Next of kin have been informed.

Gaelic college hosts ceilidh

SABHAL Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College on Skye, is hosting a ceilidh to raise funds for international aid organisation Oxfam tomorrow night.

Acts appearing include Angus Nicolson, Anne Martin, Christine Primrose, Margaret Stewart, Decker Forrest, Duncan Overmeer, Màiri Sine Chainbeul and students from the college. Drama performances and a raffie will also feature.

All monies will go to Oxfam's education projects in Pakistan, especially to encourage female education in disaster-hit areas of the country. The event starts at 8pm and tickets cost £8 and £5 for students.

Music for All concert date

LOCHABER Music for All will hold its first concert of the 2012/13 season in Kilmallie Hall, Fort William, on Saturday at 7.30pm.

The Maxwell Quartet will perform a programme including music from Dvorak, Haydn and Wolff. Cellist Duncan Strachan is originally from Roy Bridge.

The concert follows LMFA's lunch fund-raiser in St Andrews Hall on September 15, which raised nearly £400 towards its forthcoming musical programme.

The charitable organisation brings professional musicians from all over the world to Lochaber.

Newsdesk
01397 703003

Storms lash Lochaber

LOCHABER roads were badly affected by the autumnal storms battering the Highlands on Tuesday.

Highland Council staff cleared trees from the A861 west of Strontian and a mile south of Ardgour, while the Loch Arkaig road also had to be cleared after a tree came down.

The B863 north of Kinlochleven was open to cars only while a contractor cleared away fallen timber and footpaths at Lochyside and Highbridge near Spear Bridge were also blocked. In Fort William, the Fassifern loop and Alma Road were closed after the gale brought down more trees.

Young chef area final

THE AREA final of the Rotary Club of Lochaber's Young Chef competition will be held at Lochaber High School next Thursday.

Finalists will include Rebekah Gunn and Danielle Campbell, who won through from the heats at Kinlochleven High School last Tuesday.

Judges will be professional chefs and others involved in the hospitality industry in Lochaber.

Club president Sheana Fraser said: 'Our club believes that it is highly important to encourage and develop creativity in young people, and this includes creativity in the kitchen.'

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FW



Alan B Hayman in his studio in Drimmin Mains, Morvern, is one of many artists taking part in next month's open studios event.

Doors open on Lochaber art studios

LOCHABER artists are to open their studios to the public next month. The Lochaber Open Studios Tour (LOST), which runs from October 12 to 21, will feature stops at galleries and studios. The artists will provide a guide through some of the Lochaber landscapes which inspire and influence their work.

Andrew Sinclair, based in Resipole Studios between Stron-tian and Salen, is one of those taking part. He told *The Oban Times*: 'There is a fantastic group of local artists working in Lochaber. LOST provides a great opportunity for locals and visitors to meet these artists in their studio space and learn more about their work. Other artists are more than welcome to get in touch.'

Chamber annual general meeting

FORT William Chamber of Commerce will elect a new chairperson at its annual general meeting tonight (Thursday). Current chairman Robert Hawkes is standing down

to focus on his position of commercial director at digital design company Hotscot. The meeting will be held in the town's Alexandra Hotel from 6pm.

Police files

A WINDOW was smashed at a house in Blar Mhor Road, Caol, sometime during Friday evening.

Youngsters have recently been seen throwing stones in the area.

Police are keen to hear from anyone who saw any of these youths in the area around that time.

TWO LARGE batteries were removed from a lorry parked at the Gairloch canal bridge office sometime over the weekend. One battery is red, the other black.

Anyone with information about either incident, or knows of the whereabouts of the stolen property, is urged to contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702 361, Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or the confidential line on 01397 702000.

Mountain guide's tales from Brae Lochaber and beyond

LOCHABER Historical Society will have Mick Tighe speaking on oral history and tales from Brae Lochaber and beyond at its October meeting next Thursday.

Ex-marine Mick, an international mountain guide, will recount stories gleaned from local worthies from in and around Glen Roy, the location of his Bohuntine home.

Everyone is welcome to 'Mick Tighe's Historical Rambles' in the Ben Nevis Hotel at 8pm.



The youngsters before they set off from the school playground. 20_139walk01

Three-mile sponsored walk boosts school funds

YOUNGSTERS from Fort William RC Primary School and Gaelic medium unit tackled a three-mile sponsored walk to raise money for the school on Friday.

The P4-7 pupils left the school armed with bottles of water and snacks and headed along Belford Road to the Braveheart car park in Glen Nevis.

They then headed up the forest track and back to the town. The younger children took a shorter but still challenging route.

Fort stand-up show highlights mental health

THREE of the country's top comedians are coming to Fort William for a stand-up show under a Scottish Government initiative to raise awareness of mental health.

Billed as 'Walking In My Shoes', next Tuesday's gig in the shinty clubhouse at An

Aird comes at a time when the Highlands' suicide rate remains stubbornly high - particularly among younger men.

Stand Comedy Club regular MC Susan Morrison and Edinburgh Fringe 2012 successes Keir McAllister and John Scott will take the stage at 7.30pm.

Ms Morrison said: 'It's great to have the opportunity to perform to new audiences and to where comedy gigs rarely, if ever, get staged. The Scottish stand-up community is 100 per cent behind this initiative.'

The Fort William show is part of a 14-day tour, which will

include a series of workshops in which the comedians and mental health professionals will work with young men in isolated communities. The tour is part of the Scottish Mental Health Arts and Film Festival, supported by Choose Life and Co-operative Membership.

Crofting register cost concern

CROFTERS should not bear the financial burden of compiling data for a new crofting register, the Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) told a meeting at Portree on Friday.

In a presentation to the annual Crofting Law Group conference, SCF chairman Derek Flynn expressed concern that costs associated with providing individual croft maps and information about neighbouring land might fall unfairly on those crofters with no easy access to such information.

Mr Flynn said: 'The SCF welcomes the Crofting Register but it should not fall on the tenants and owner-occupiers of crofts to do the [Crofting] Commission's work.'

More than 70 lawyers, land agents and crofters were shown how registration of crofts would take place. The new register will probably open later this year but the fees to be charged have yet to be fixed.

The creation of a map-based record of crofts as one of the national Registers of Scotland is amongst several recent crofting law reforms.

Meanwhile, the SCF continues to promote community mapping as a more accurate, cheaper and quicker method of registering croft boundaries, resulting in less disputes.

Townships wanting to know more should contact the SCF office at Kyle or visit the website at www.crofting.org.



Helping hands: Lochaber Hope mentor Christine MacMillan, mentor and trainee counsellor Alison Wright, and volunteers Margaret Gatt and Janet O'Neill display some of the hand made wooden toys designed to help clients express themselves 20_139hope01

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Lochaber Hope based in Fort William is a Life Skills and Personal Development Service for the Lochaber community, currently providing services to over 300 people and have supported over 500 people in confidence over the last 7 years.

LH is open to the whole community and welcomes everyone. They are based above the Hub café on Fassifern Road. Spending time with people who are experiencing vulnerable or crisis periods in their lives, poor mental health, addiction, unemployment, depression, fear, stress, isolation and lack of confidence are only a few.

LH has a team of qualified, professional mentors and counsellors who will spend time with you, listen to you and accept you. By sharing painful and sensitive issues with someone in confidence you have an opportunity to talk and explore what is really going on for you and look at ways in which you can deal with them differently or manage them in a healthier way.

The Employers Assisted Programme (EAP) is a provision for local employers to be able to offer staff members face to face counselling. LH can help 'nip problems in the bud' and stop them escalating into absences. Long-term absence is costly to employers and costly to the staff member, financially and emotionally, once an employee has been absent for six weeks, the chances of a return to work are halved, over half

of all absent employees have been off work for more than six weeks, as feelings of isolation, depression and anxiety about going back to work often proving more debilitating than the original reason for absence.

You can self refer to LH, by coming in, phoning or email or come along to the 'Drop In'

Project Coordinator Alyson Smith says that "the 'Drop In' is a way to test the waters, you can come along and chat together, get involved, meet new people without making a commitment, find out more about us and hopefully you will find one of the team you trust enough to confide in, offload to and seek support, we want to encourage anyone to talk to us, just talk to someone, don't suffer alone, there is help available to you.

LH want to thank the community and local businesses who have donated funds to us, we do need to keep raising money to enable us to keep this service available. Thank you to McPhee and Partners, Stagecoach Buses, MacDonalds Restaurant, the Tavern and the Volunteer Arms and the business sponsorship through Oban Times charity feature.

The 'Drop In' is on Mondays above the Hub café 12-3pm and Wednesdays in Fusion room at the Nevis Centre 12-3pm

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The first two blades for the new wind farm arrived at the Carraig Gheal wind farm north west of Loch Awe on Monday morning Picture - Kevin McGlynn

Argyll court change concern

All sheriff and jury trials could move to Dumbarton as part of new proposals

SHERIFF and jury trials will be removed from Argyll if proposals to shake up the Scottish Court Service are passed. Oban Sheriff Court currently handles these trials as well as all other court business not serious enough to be considered appropriate to be dealt with in the High Court. But a consultation document issued last week suggests that on the mainland, 16 sheriff and jury centres would be created.

These are Glasgow, Aberdeen, Inverness, Edinburgh, Livingston, Paisley, Dumbarton, Kilmarnock, Airdrie, Hamilton, Ayr, Dumfries, Perth, Dundee, Falkirk and Dunfermline. All sheriff and jury business that is currently held in Oban would be shifted to Dumbarton if the proposals go ahead. Campbelltown and Dunoon would also lose out on these trials.

Updates on any changes to the schedule will be posted on Twitter @CarraigGheal and the website carraighealwindfarm.co.uk. The GreenPower development is due to be completed early next year.

It is more likely to be passed to specialist firms in urban areas. 'Whilst the society and profession approve of the modernising of our court system, justice at all levels should be as local, visible and accountable as possible. 'The residents of Oban should be entitled to have local solicitors to aid them in civil and criminal cases at every level.'

Moving trials to Dumbarton would also see the possibility of victims, witnesses and accused people using the same public transport to travel to the trial. A spokesman for Victim Support Scotland said: 'We welcome the public consultation and we will be working to ensure that the position of victims and witnesses is fully taken into account in any decisions made.'

Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid opposes the plans amid concerns it will 'cause considerable inconvenience to witnesses, police, jurors, the accused and anyone who wants to watch the proceedings'.

He said: 'Many of my constituents already have to travel long distances to attend a trial, and will be forced to travel far further under these ridiculous proposals. 'Justice should be administered locally and so I urge everybody to object to these proposals during the consultation process.'

The consultation closes at noon on December 21.

First Loch Awe wind farm turbines roll in

THE FIRST of 20, 46MW wind turbines, measuring up to 125m, were delivered to the new Carraig Gheal wind farm site near Loch Awe on Monday.

GreenPower's site took delivery of blades, a nacelle and the first tower section at dawn following an overnight delivery, arranged to avoid traffic disruption on the A83 and the A816. The delivery means the first of the site's turbines can now be erected.

John Morgan, director of GreenPower, said: 'I'm delighted that - after many years working on the wind farm design, taking it through planning and preparing the site - we now have the first turbines ready to go up. Transporting the turbines to the site has taken a big logistical effort, with the

construction of 28km of new forest road to reach the wind farm. It was a great moment when the first batch of Siemens and Wind Towers components arrived. 'As a Scottish company we are particularly pleased to see

the towers manufactured here in Argyll supporting local jobs and investment in the process.' Deliveries will continue for eight to 10 weeks, running from Sunday to Thursday with two convoys running per night, starting at midnight with two

hours between each departure. Updates on any changes to the schedule will be posted on Twitter @CarraigGheal and the website carraighealwindfarm.co.uk. The GreenPower development is due to be completed early next year.

Ferry services to go to tender in 2014

TENDERING for the new Clyde and Hebrides Ferries Service contract will begin in autumn 2014 and will be offered on a single contract basis, it has been confirmed.

Transport Scotland has also announced a new three year interim contract with existing operator, Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) to ensure a 'robust and thorough' procurement exercise.

Transport minister Keith Brown said: 'We have looked closely at the options available to us to drive up ferry service standards and no compelling case that tendering individual routes - or 'unbundling' the current contract - has been put to me.

'This decision will allow fears stoked by some that we are seeking to break up routes for individual operators to run.'

Road closures scheduled for Barcaldine
HIGH friction road surfacing to be applied to the A828 near Barcaldine will see four overnight road closures in November. The road between Creran Cot-

tage and Mill Farm will close on one night, from 9pm-6am on Thursday, November 1, followed by three night closures from Tuesday, November 6. With no diversion route in place, traffic will be able to pass every two hours during 15 minute intervals, from 10pm, midnight, 2am and 4am.

Black-spot driver puts school children at risk

A DRIVER who overtook a school bus at a notorious accident black-spot near Dunbeg has been criticised for putting the safety of children at risk.

Police are appealing for information after a silver, Ssyangyong Rexton crossed double-white lines to overtake a West Coast Motors' bus on the A85 near the Half Way Filling Station at 3.55pm on Thursday last week. So alarmed was the driver of the bus that he contacted police.

Colin Craig, managing director of West Coast Motors, said the driver of the car was lucky to escape unhurt. He said: 'By overtaking at a

point where it is prohibited and where oncoming cars wouldn't have seen it, the driver of the car put themselves, our driver and the school children on board in danger.'

'It was very lucky that nobody pulled out of a nearby junction as his or her actions could have resulted in a head-on collision.'

Oban Police Inspector Julie McLeish said: 'We work hard to promote the safety of all road users.'

'This incident involved the safety of schoolchildren, which is particularly concerning.'

Anyone with information should contact PC Colin May at Oban Police Office.

Pub giant applies for planning permission

PUBLICANS in Oban will hold a meeting today (Thursday) after learning that pub giant JD Wetherspoon has applied for planning permission to alter premises in the town.

Wetherspoon has submitted plans to change the use of premises currently occupied by Wilderness on Oban's Railway Pier.

JD Wetherspoon confirmed to *The Oban Times* that negotiations to buy the Oban property are ongoing but a deal is yet to be completed.

Outlined in the application are plans to install new north-facing doors and a pavement café. Local licensed traders fear the

arrival of the nationwide chain will have an adverse impact on their trade. Lindsey MacDonald, vice-chair of the Oban Licensed Trade Association, said: 'There are concerns about Wetherspoon and the meeting was called on this basis. This is a small community and they are such a big group that they'll be able to offer deals that smaller businesses won't be able to match. We don't know who it will impact on most but this will be discussed on Thursday.'

Wetherspoon's spokesperson said: 'We have applied for planning permission and will await the outcome of that before applying for a licence.'

Clachan wind farm plan goes to local public hearing

A CONTROVERSIAL proposal for a wind farm at Clachan Seil continues to be recommended for refusal by planners, subject to a local public hearing.

Applicant Rory Young wants to build nine, 77m high turbines and a substation on the island, but there has been strong local opposition to the proposals.

Argyll and Bute Council had originally recommended the application for refusal at the start of the month, but the authority's planning department updated its position following new representation from consultants and two new letters of support.

However, it does not consider the new information changes its position.

The authority has received 858 letters of objection to the proposal, 96 for and four general representations.

The date of the hearing is to be confirmed.

MSP appointed as liaison officer

MIKE Mackenzie, MSP for the Highlands and Islands has taken up a new role within the Scottish Government.

He has been appointed as a parliamentary liaison officer to Cabinet Secretary John Swinney. Mr Mackenzie said: 'I am honoured to have been chosen a parliamentary liaison officer between the backbench MSPs and the Finance Secretary John Swinney.'

Oban man swore at police officers

AN OBAN man who refused to stop swearing at another was arrested after he directed his foul language towards a police officer.

Stuart Ferguson, 22, of Argyll Mansions, George Street, Oban also pled guilty to uttering racist remarks toward the officer.

Oban Sheriff Court heard the incident, in Oban's Station Square at 2am last Saturday morning, happened after police had told two groups to leave the area. Most complied with the instruction but Ferguson refused to leave and started swearing at another man, refusing to stop when warned by police. Sentence was deferred on Ferguson until October 1.



Hundreds of people gathered on Easdale Island last Sunday for the 15th annual World Stone Skimming Championships, with conditions ideal for skimming on the day. 15_139stonekim2

Britain's top travel writers discover Argyll and the Isles

ARGYLL and the Isles welcomed some of Britain's highest profile travel writers at the weekend as part of a bid to increase coach tourism to the area.

Organised by the Coach Tourism Council and assisted by VisitScotland and Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac), the journalists set out from Glasgow on Friday, the 19 strong group caught the ferry from Wemyss Bay on the Firth of Clyde to Rothesay, Bute., before sailing from Rhuobdach to Colintraive.

A ferry trip from Portavadie to Tarbert was followed by a coach trip to Oban via Lochgilphead and the scenic coast road.

Over the course of the weekend, the journalists took a boat trip to Fingal's

Cave, Staffa, visited the Abbey and Nunery on Iona and took in Crarac Gardens, near the banks of Loch Fyne.

Chris Wales, chief executive of the Coach Touring Council, said: 'During this trip, we wanted to show why this region is such a popular destination - especially for coach tours. Many of these journalists had not been to this part of Scotland before and have been absolutely blown away by the stunning scenery.'

David Adams McGilp, regional director for VisitScotland, said: 'I'm sure the journalists will return home with an armful of fantastic stories to help us sell the region to potential visitors across the country.'

LEADER awards local groups more than £600,000

THE ARGYLL and Islands LEADER Local Action Group has awarded 14 community groups more than £600,000 between them.

Those that were awarded money include Taynuilt Sports Council, which received £191,481 for the redevelopment of the Taynuilt sports field and pavilion.

More than £8,000 was given to the Mull and Iona Community Trust who will use the money for the Mull and Iona training skills development programme.

Tiree welcomes comedy tour - and it could save lives

TREEE will welcome its first ever comedy show next week - as part of a suicide awareness campaign.

Those Life's Walking in My Shoes tour will see three of Glasgow's hottest up and coming comedians make an appearance at An Talla on Tuesday, October 2, from 8.30pm, with doors opening at 8pm.

Also benefiting from the funds are Argyll Council which received £150,000 for the Argyll Coastal Waters.

Some £44,100 for phase two of the Argyll community access links.

While Argyll and Bute Social Enterprise Network received £9,014 that will be put towards developing capacity and skills in social enterprise.

To date the group has awarded almost £7.8 million to 240 local projects.

Among those appearing are Susan Morrison, Keir MacAllister and John Scott - all of whom are fresh from making appearances at the Edinburgh Festival.

A bar will be available and run by Tiree Young Farmers, with proceeds going towards the group.

Tickets are available at the door.

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Six arrested on drugs related charges

SIX PEOPLE were arrested on drugs related charges by police in the Oban and Lorn area at the weekend.

On Friday, officers searched addresses in Oban and Benderloch and arrested two people. Later that evening a 32 year old man was arrested for possession of ecstasy tablets.

On Sunday morning a 25 year old man was found in possession of cannabis, before two men from Glasgow were arrested after their car was searched.

Oban Inspector Julie McLeish said: 'Drugs are a priority for us. No matter how big or small a quantity is seized, any seizure is positive. There are people making a lot of money out of the misuse of drugs.'

'We always encourage anyone with information to come forward.'

First for Manran and Skerryvore

CELTIC rock groups Manran and Skerryvore will play together for the first time in the Highlands when they take the stage at Oban's Corran Halls on Saturday.

Spean Bridge's Gary Innes said both bands were looking forward to the occasion, which aims to raise £15,000 for Cancer Research and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Oban band Ceol nan Aire will complete the line-up for the concert, which is being organised by Nonnie and Karen MacInnes of the DMI Cancer Trust. Some tickets are still available from the Corran Halls or Coasters.

Dunbeg father who chased son with axe fined

A FATHER who chased his son while wielding an axe before using it to smash a car windscreen has been fined and ordered to carry out unpaid work.

James MacDonald, 47, of 59 Lochnell Road, Dunbeg previously pled guilty to the offences when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court.

Sentencing had been delayed for a report to be produced which Sheriff Jamie Gilchrist described as 'positive'.

MacDonald was fined £240 and ordered to carry out 120 hours of unpaid work.

Would-be romantic weekend ends in £720 fine and driving ban

A ROMANTIC trip to Melfort arranged as part of a planned marriage proposal ended up with the would-be groom being arrested for drink driving and threatening behaviour.

Lee Anderson, 37, of 6 Hazel Drive, Bonnyrigg, appeared at

Oban Sheriff Court on Tuesday and admitted behaving in a manner likely to cause fear and alarm, shouting and swearing and also pleading guilty to driving while nearly double the legal alcohol limit on March 16 this year.

The court heard that Anderson took his partner for a drink at a holiday estate complex where he became concerned his partner was paying too much attention to a bar tender.

Anderson had crashed his car after driving off following

a heated argument with his partner.

Defending solicitor Eddie Thornton said: 'It was to be a romantic occasion. Mr Anderson was intending to propose to his partner and took her out for a meal. Over the course of the

evening he rightly or wrongly formed the impression his partner was being chatted up. This became a matter of dispute and led to the confrontation.'

He added that Mr Anderson believed that it was a private estate and the laws of the road

did not apply.

The couple have since resolved their differences.

Sheriff Khurana said the circumstances did not excuse his behaviour and fined him a total of £720, banning him from driving for 12 months.

Gometra fish farm plan goes to local public hearing

PLANS to build a 16 cage fish farm at Gometra, Mull, will go to a local public hearing, with planners recommended to approve the proposal.

The Scottish Salmon Company's proposal has attracted 25 objections and a petition, Save Staffa Archipelago, gathered more than 1,000 signatures. However, 42 letters of support were also sent to the local authority backing the plan for the site with a combined total biomass of 2,000 tonnes.

While there has been some concern from local residents, senior planning officer Richard Kerr said there had been no objections from statutory consultees. Mr Kerr said that Mull Community Council had initially objected, then changed to a neutral stance, before finally moving to support the fish farm.

Iona Community Council objected to the plan following its own public meeting.

Councillors unanimously voted to convene a local hearing, the date of which is to be confirmed.

Oban man to pay his glass attack victim £1,000

AN OBAN man who threw a glass 'forcefully' into the face of another has been ordered to pay £1,000 in compensation to his victim.

Stephen Fox, 28, of 16 Corran Brae, Oban carried out the assault in an Oban public house on August 28 last year.

Fox had previously admitted the offence, which caused his victim to be permanently disfigured, and appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week for sentencing.

Fox was ordered to carry out 160 hours of unpaid work on top of the compensation order.

Driver charged

A WOMAN has been reported to the procurator fiscal after allegedly causing a bus to swerve out of the way after she overtook on a blind corner of the A85 near Oban.

The 23 year old woman is accused of crossing double-white lines on the trunk road when performing the manoeuvre and was charged by police after the incident at 10.40am on Friday.



Oban's Soroba House Hotel was being run by Ian and Helen Crawford as part of a charitable trust

Hotel closes doors but website takes bookings

OPERATORS of a failed Oban hotel have denied continuing to take deposits for bookings after closing the doors earlier this month.

Soroba House Hotel, which was being run by husband and wife team Ian and Helen Crawford as part of the Soroba Charitable Trust, closed on Friday, September 14.

Despite the closure, as *The Oban Times* went to press, the hotel's website is still accepting bookings and requesting deposits.

Ian Crawford told *The Oban Times* he did not want to address the closure: 'I'm not going to go into this, it is part of the closing down process that is happening,' he said. But he denied bookings were being taken, claiming it was a separate company who administered the hotel website and they had been informed of the closure. He said he would contact them again.

Asked about people who have lost deposits because of the closure he replied: 'I haven't heard of that at all.'



Ian Crawford denied deposits were still being taken

A spokesman for RA Clements Associates in Oban said they lease the hotel property on behalf of the owners adding: 'It would appear people have been used by these people. 'It seems strange that they have taken deposits for functions and they have shut. We have had enquiries from numerous people looking for their money back. 'Hopefully, if they have paid by credit card, they should be able to get money back.'

Former staff members have been left 'homeless and jobless' after the closure, with one ex-employee telling *The Oban Times* he had been paid 'some wages but not the proper amount'.

He said: 'I'm homeless and jobless. It's disgusting the way they have taken everything of value out of the place.'

'We had functions next month and I had taken two big Christmas bookings. There was also a wedding booked for next year and the couple have lost their deposit.'

'I feel for the local groups that used this place, they were here every week and will now have to find somewhere else'

Several local organisations used the hotel premises for weekly and monthly meetings.

Andy Crabb, a dementia advisor in Oban said: 'No-one contacted us to say it was closing.'

'The Singing for the Brain group has had to find a new venue, we also had monthly dementia lunch clubs.'

Skimmers flock to Easdale event

Island owner opens door to a possible community buy out

MORE skimmers than ever before turned up for Sunday's 15th annual World Stone Skimming Championships on Easdale, with entries closed just under the 400 mark.

Competitors from across the UK, Europe and beyond arrived en masse for the landmark event, which received a last-minute reprieve after a threat from the landowner, Jonathan Feigenbaum, to stop it going ahead in a dispute over cash and insurance.

Such was the success of this year's competition, however, that the community group behind it, Eilean Eisdale, had to close entries early, with more than 500 arriving on the island over the course of the day.

Donald Melville, the master of ceremonies at the championships and one of the organisers, says the group is now considering measures on how to either limit entries or expand its scope.

He said: 'It really was a great event - we had nearly 400 skimmers by the time we stopped taking registrations. Last year we had closer to 300.'

'I think this year might be a one-off with all the publicity, but we now seriously have to look at how we cope with it being busier.'

REPORT by STEVEN FLANAGAN sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk

'One way to do it is taking bookings in advance. The alternative is we hold it over two days.'

'We need to make sure that if we do get these numbers again we are organised and ready for it.'

This year's World Champion Tossler and winning Old Tossler was Ron Long, who adds to the Old Tossler prizes he won in 2010 and 2011. Long, from Wales, was runner up at last year's championships.

Meanwhile, Mr Feigenbaum has opened the door to a possible community buy out of the island following his dispute with Eilean Eisdale.

Mr Feigenbaum demanded £1,000 and a copy of Eilean Eisdale's public liability insurance, terms the community company could only meet thanks to a donation.

Mr Melville last week told *The Oban Times* they would look at the possibility of buying the island to safeguard the event - a proposal Mr Feigenbaum says he will consider.

He said: 'Perhaps it is time for a change in direction for the island, and I am now prepared to consider reasonable offers for the island, including the land and slate assets of Easdale Island Company Limited.'

Mr Melville welcomed the announcement but said a lot of work was required to get to that stage.

Results: Girls under 10s: 1 Natasha Keir, Scotland, 2 Alex Hunter, Scotland, 3 Jura Lewis, Scotland; Boys under 10s: 1 John MacFadyen, Scotland, 2 Christopher Noble and Archie Riseck, Scotland, 3 Cameron Paterson, Scotland; Girls 10-15 year olds: 1 Iona Graham, Scotland and Ellie Handmacrae, Britain, 2 Eleanor Kane, Scotland, 3 Erin Hamilton, Scotland; Boys 10 - 15 year olds: 1 Simon Fraser, Scotland, 2 Miles Handmacrae, 3 Alan MacFadyen, Scotland; Ladies: 1 Lucy Wood, England, 2 Aeleen Campbell, Scotland, 3 Charlotte Gunner, GB; Men: 1 Ron Long, Wales, 2 Dougie Isaacs, Scotland, 3 Simon Fraser and Chris Main, Scotland.

Teams: Skimmy Dippers (David Moore, Tim Miller, Edward Moore & Matt Vale); Old Tossler: Ron Long, Wales; The Bertie: Simon Fraser, Scotland. Countries: Italy, Australia, Hungary, France, China, New Zealand, Germany, USA, Holland, Canada, Poland, Hong Kong, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, England

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Promotion just a point away for Lochaber

'We got the victory we needed without playing particularly well'

REPORT BY STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

Marine Harvest North Division One Lochaber 3 Skye Camanachd 0

LOCHABER took a giant step towards winning the Marine Harvest North Division 1 title and promotion to the premiership with a comprehensive 3-0 defeat of championship rivals Skye Camanachd at Spean Bridge.

Skye had to win the game to have any chance of overhauling the league leaders, who play Strathglass on Saturday needing just a point to get champagne corks popping in Brae Lochaber.

The islanders took the field missing no fewer than 12 of their first choice players through injury or commitments elsewhere, forcing coach Willie MacRae to

field a team with an average age of just 19.

Those absent from the starting line up included influential midfielder Chris Rose and top goalscorer Jordie Murchison, while youngsters facing up to the likes of Neil MacDonald included Scotland under-14 international Will Cowie.

Roared on by the partisan crowd, Lochaber got off to the start they wanted when captain Shaun Nicolson gave Skye keeper Ross Graham no chance with a 15-yard rocket with only a minute gone.

Unsurprisingly, the match was combative and matters boiled over with only 12 minutes on the clock when opposing number eights Jamie MacDonald and Martin Johnstone squared up.

The incident looked to involve little more than pushing and shoving, but referee Robert Baxter - no shrinking violet himself as a defender for both

Kyles and Newtonmore in his playing days - took the view that wing centre MacDonald was the guilty of the two combatants and sent the Skye man off for violent conduct.

The Skye contingent was none too pleased - and they had even less reason to be happy seconds later when Mr Baxter branded only a yellow to Johnstone, despite the majority view on the sidelines that both men were equally as culpable.

With Skye a goal and a man down so early, the game took on a subdued note for the remaining 80 minutes, with Lochaber in the ascendancy for most of that time.

Never at their best throughout, the home side fashioned a second goal on 38 minutes through Scott Paterson's cool finish and ended the half 2-0 ahead.

The dour tone continued after the break as Skye's rearguard led by captain Shockie MacLennan

put in some sterling work to keep Lochaber at bay, with Shaun Nicolson's 68th minute strike the only score.

Lochaber coach Michael Delaney was delighted with the win, but acknowledged his side were far from fluent.

He told The Oban Times: 'It was not our best performance of the season. We scored in the first minute then they got a player sent off and you could see already that the game was finished as a contest.'

'But we got the victory we needed - without playing particularly well.'

Skye assistant manager Ross Cowie said: 'I thought we played very, very well over the 90 minutes. We have gone down there before with a much better team and got thumped. The boys acquitted themselves well.'

'Fair play to Lochaber, we wish them well in the premier league.'



Skye's Stevie Morrison and Lochaber's Scott Paterson take to the air to win possession.

First appearance for Phoenix boxers

BOXING

LOCHABER Phoenix Boxing Club made their first appearance of the new amateur boxing season last weekend when 13 year-old novices Kevin Aitchison and Robbie Hall boxed in Inverness at a show hosted by Highland Boxing Academy.

Aitchison opened the bill when he faced Andy Craig of the host club in an exhibition bout.

The Lochaber boxer was not fazed by his older opponent and after a cagey first two rounds Aitchison showed far greater hand speed in the third - ideal preparation for his first proper contest of the season in Aberdeen next weekend.

Hall faced home club boxer James MacDonald and found himself on the ropes early on - but by the end of round two was right back in the contest after rocking his opponent with straight rights to the head and body.

MacDonald caught the Lochaber boxer early in the last but Hall regained his composure only to walk onto a couple more shots as he fought to clinch the win.

It was tight on the scorecards - one judge did vote for Hall, but the other two favoured MacDonald.

LPBC official Steveie Docherty said: 'This was a great learning experience for Robbie and he will go onto much bigger things in the future.'

Good away win for rugby boys

RUGBY

LOCHABER Rugby Club continued their excellent early season form with a fine 36-26 win away at Moray on Saturday, making it four wins from four.

Next up for the Banavie side is Saturday's home game against Banff, kick-off 3pm. A good crowd is expected on 'the hill' as Lochaber seek to consolidate their position at the top of the RBS Caledonia North Division 2, where they lie only a bonus point behind leaders Garioch.

Winter indoor league kicks off

INDOOR FOOTBALL

THE ALI Young Indoor League kicks off its winter season with the first round of matches at the Nevis Centre, Fort William on Sunday.

Six teams have entered so far. Any remaining sides looking to join the competition are asked to do so as soon as possible.

Neil Hardie Trophy

GOLF

FORT WILLIAM Golf Club will hold its Neil Hardie Memorial Trophy competition on Sunday. Tee times are still available.

Jackpot now £800

LOTTERY

THERE were no winners in Fort William FC's lotto draw on Saturday. Numbers were 2, 5 and 7. The jackpot goes up to £800 for this week.



Alisdair Young of the sponsors A A Young and Sons presents the winners of the pairs' competition at the Railway Bowling Club green to winners Robert Hunter and Allan Lawrie, left. Runners up, right, were Agnes Boyle and Martin Keenan.



MTB film competition

MOUNTAIN BIKING

NEVIS Range has announced the winner of its 2012 MTB Film Competition.

First prize went goes to Glasgow-based Andrew Ashworth with his film 'Downhill at Nevis Range with Keir Copland'.

Ashworth is a regular visitor at the Mountain Bike World Cup each year, and travelled to Fort William especially to film local downhill rider Keir for the competition.

He said: 'It was great working with Keir. He's an amazing young rider and a natural in front of the camera.'

The competition was judged by Stu Thomson of MTBCut.

Fort take on bottom of the table Lossiemouth at Claggan

FOOTBALL

FORT WILLIAM have a great chance to improve their early season position at the foot of the Highland League table when they take on bottom club Lossiemouth at Claggan Park on Saturday.

The Fort have a solitary point to their name from six games but a win could see them leapfrog Rothes and give the club a much-needed fillip, says Fort manager Danny Conlon.

He told The Oban Times: 'This is a massive game for us. We have Rothes the week after and a win would give us a great boost - and I think we need it.'

'We got a great 2-1 win in the Scottish Youth Cup at Huntly on Sunday and hopefully we can carry that form forward to Saturday.'

'We must start looking at improving our home form. Lossiemouth beat us in the cup earlier in the season but to be fair we were missing some of our biggest players.'

Conlon should have keeper Jay Smith available, although he is currently having a groin injury assessed.

The Fort will want to put last Saturday's 7-1 home loss to De-

veronvale behind them, although the scoreline does not tell the full story.

Conlon's men put together some fine passages of passing play - something that was lacking in the disappointing 1-0 loss at Strathspey the week before - but the harsh sending off of Davie Forbes early on and two penalties put paid to Fort's hopes.

Shock lead

The home side almost took a shock lead straight from the kick off when Martin Groat's pass put Ryan Macdonald through to fire in a great 25-yard shot, which had McConnachie at full stretch.

Watt put 'Vale one up before Forbes' sending off, then Fraser scored from the spot and Rodgers netted from close range to make it 3-0.

Darren Quigg's penalty after Corbett was downed by Fraser gave Fort hope, but Duncan made it 4-1 just before the break.

Fraser's second penalty, then strikes from Duncan and Lombardi completed the scoring.



Deveronvale's Scott Fraser takes no prisoners with this challenge on 17 year-old Martin Groat.

Weather

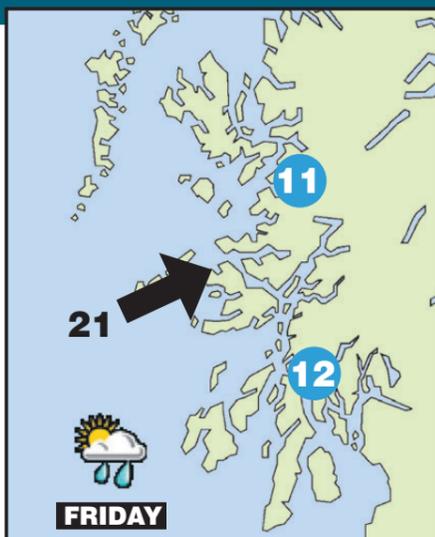
Thursday Cloudy
Winds light west south westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 11°C

Friday Heavy rain showers
Winds moderate west south westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 12°C.

Weekend Cloudy
Outlook Winds moderate west south southerly
Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, September 27, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	04.11 3.3 09.58 1.1 16.10 3.8 22.24 1.1	
Fri	04.34 3.5 10.41 0.9 16.43 3.9 23.01 1.0	
Sat	05.00 3.7 11.20 0.8 17.15 4.1 23.35 0.9	
Sun	05.29 3.9 11.56 0.7 17.46 4.1 *** **	
Mon	00.08 0.9 05.58 4.0 12.31 0.8 18.16 4.1	
Tues	00.41 0.9 06.27 4.0 13.03 0.9 18.47 4.1	
Wed	01.14 1.0 06.55 4.0 13.34 1.1 19.17 3.9	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

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