

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8220

Thursday 9 October, 2014

www.obantimes.co.uk

80 pence



COUNTDOWN TO
Royal National Mòd

preview on page 4

October 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18

Couple lived in Oban cave to get house

HOUSING CRISIS FORCES YOUNG FAMILIES TO LIVE ROUGH

LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

A YOUNG couple who couldn't find a home in Oban lived in a cave in Dunollie until they were eventually offered a house.

And a family with a toddler, who have lived in a tent all summer, have finally found a roof over their heads close to their work.

But the shockwaves from these two pitiful stories have reverberated throughout the area with many people asking how these desperate situations were allowed to happen.

The 'tent' family said they had no alternative while waiting for a private-rented property to become available - there was no other accommodation available to them if they wanted to keep their jobs.

At most, they said, they camped for a few weeks and tried to make it seem like an 'extended holiday' for their child.

To protect the identity of the youngster, *The Oban Times* has been asked not to reveal the name of the family.

Jess MacDonald, who works in Oban's Hope Kitchen and is a campaigner for the homeless and vulnerable in Oban and Lorn, says people living in a tent all year round in Oban is not unusual.

She has given away a number of tents in the eight years she has been involved in helping families find temporary shelter.

Jess, who can name all the people who have live on the streets, said that people often have made a choice to live outdoors rather than live in a homeless hostel.

Jess said: 'Earlier this year a



HELPER: Jess MacDonald

young couple lived in a cave at Dunollie, as they didn't want to go to live in Campbelltown or Dunoon to live when they were thrown out of their accommodation.

'They waited for more permanent accommodation while living in the cave. They have now got a house.'

Benefits cuts and mounting debt were major contributory factors to homelessness, added Jess. She said: 'Sometimes people have money removed from their benefits because they have broken a rule. When you've got no money, people slip more and more into debt.'

'People don't want to say they've got nothing, particularly mums.'

'We have started running a group for mums who have young babies and we give them a food parcel as often as we can.'

Rhona Smith, a grandmother from Oban, whose family are living in a house with partly boarded-up windows, says that

“ We need to help these people as much as we can ”

Jessie MacKenzie
Appin parish church

sometimes there is nothing to be done for people who don't want help.

She said: 'My daughter and her boyfriend live with two children in accommodation that is freezing cold. The kids still get up and go to school - and the soup kitchen helps them out a lot.'

'But they have not got any spare money. They are proud and don't want to take handouts. Last week they had no money for heating - and the kids had to sleep under a pile of jackets. It breaks my heart.'

Jessie MacKenzie, from Appin, who raised the matter in the village parish church last Sunday, said: 'It is frightening to think that anyone is forced to sleep outside - especially at this time of the year.'

'I raised the matter because I want to try to get people to see that homelessness is not something that happens a million miles away - but it is right here on our doorstep.'

'We need to help people as much as we can.'

THE RING CYCLE



AN AMATEUR treasure hunter has become an overnight hero after coming to the rescue of a woman who had lost her wedding and engagement rings on Kerrera.

Metal detector Ewan McDougall (above), a shellfish sampling officer for Argyll and Bute council, was the last chance for a distraught Pauline Evans who lost her rings while taking part in

Kerrera's recent Craggy Island Triathlon. A two-week search for the rings involving her family and friends and island residents and visitors had proved fruitless.

After hearing of Ewan through a mutual friend, Pauline called on his 45 years' experience and in just two hours the Taynuilt man had unearthed the priceless possessions.

Pauline, a youth worker at

Stirling council, said: 'Ewan phoned me at work to say he was standing on Kerrera holding two platinum rings and I just started jumping around the office.'

She thanked everyone involved in the search but especially Ewan, who she has never met.

The modest metal detector added: 'I'm no hero; anyone involved in this hobby would have done the same thing.'

New operator for West Highland rail

FIRSTGroup, which operates First ScotRail's West Highland line service, has lost the contract to run the new ScotRail franchise across the country.

It is understood the Transport Scotland contract will go to Dutch railway group Abellio, which was shortlisted alongside FirstGroup and three other firms.

The contract will see Abellio run most of Scotland's trains for 10 years and take responsibility for ScotRail's 5,000 employees.

The Aberdeenshire-based firm said it was proud of its success in operating First ScotRail which was again recognised last week as Rail Operator of the Year.

Mull worries over health raised

ISLANDERS' health concerns will be raised with the Scottish government health minister Alec Neil MSP next week when he meets Mull community council (MCC).

Islanders say there is a 'second class NHS service' on the island.

Mike Shilson, MCC chairman, said: 'We will discuss health provision following the resignation of the Tobermory GPs from out-of-hours cover and the resignation of two GPs.' Sheltered housing and a lack of paramedics will be on the agenda too.

Fuel transport to marina not safe

ONE OF the west coast's busiest marinas has been ordered to stop selling fuel - because of the way it is transported to the island.

Oban Marina on Kerrera had been bringing fuel to the island by containers on a landing craft but the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) has said that it is not safe.

Company owners say they are considering an alternative. In the meantime, fuel can still be purchased at the South Pier and every effort is being made by the marina to find a solution.



Concern grows for missing Amunai

MARIAN MILLER
mmiller@obantimes.co.uk

A WELL-known Oban woman has been missing since Thursday last week when she was due to fly home to Thailand.

Police Scotland have been appealing for information about Amunai Hobbs, also known as Nicholson, who is employed as a public toilet attendant in the town's North Pier.

The tiny, four-foot-10-inch tall, friendly and well-known council employee, has lived in Oban for some years.

She left her home on Wednesday October 1 to fly to Thailand on Thursday. She was seen in



MISSING: Amunai Hobbs

Glasgow Airport in the early hours of Thursday morning but left to go to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley after saying she felt unwell.

But she left the hospital around 10.35am before being treated.

When last seen in the hospital she was wearing a beige-coloured fur coat, a purple dress with staining down the front, purple leggings and brown boots.

A further report was received that she was seen between 11.30am and 12.30pm on Thursday on Inchinnan Road, near to Fleming Street in Paisley.

At that time she is reported to have been wearing a grey cardigan with large buttons on the

front and black cropped leggings.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles chairperson councillor Roddy MacCuish said: 'The whole of Oban is hoping for her safe return. She is a very popular member of staff. Our thoughts are with her family at this very stressful time.'

Inspector Gary Noonan of Paisley police said: 'Searches are continuing, including the use of the force helicopter and specialist search officers. It is out of character for her not to keep in contact with her family and friends.'

'I would urge anyone with any information on her whereabouts, or has seen someone matching her description to contact Paisley Police on 101.'

THE ARGYLL FURNITURE STORE
Breadalbane Street
Oban, Argyll, PA34 5NZ
Tel/Fax 01631 564443

Yasmin
Ortho Double 4 Drawer Bed

ONLY £299
*Headboard Extra

Everyday Low Prices

Atlantis COMMUNITY LEISURE

GYM UNLIMITED
Atlantis COMMUNITY LEISURE
£25 pcm

- 5 Free Motivator Sessions
- No Contract
- No Joining Fee
- Fully Air-conditioned
- No £19.99 Admin Fee
- Fully Qualified Staff

NIGHT OWL

Bed and Mattress SALE NOW ON

Tweedmill, Soroba Rd,
Oban, Argyll Tel: 565195

New planes for Argyll and isles

A CONTRACT to supply two new planes to fly between Glasgow to Campbeltown, Barra and Tiree has been awarded.

The Scottish government tender was won by Viking Air Limited, which will provide two twin Otter DHC6-400 aircraft to operate on the routes under the aegis of the Public Service Obligation (PSO).

The new 19-seat twin engine planes are expected to be delivered by May 2015.

Holyrood Transport minister, Keith Brown said: 'Some of our remotest communities rely on these services to keep them connected.'

'By purchasing our own aircraft, we will also encourage more competition when the contract for operating the PSO routes come up for renewal.'

'We will be looking at ways to enhance these services and will engage with passengers, local businesses and other interested parties to look at potential improvements.'

Consultation over home care service

THE SOCIAL and community services department of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar is in consultation with home care staff and service users in the Stornoway and Broadbay areas on proposals to redesign the home care service.

A copy of the consultation documentation will be available for all service users or their representatives and to home care staff, in addition to questionnaires for completion.

Partner organisations and stakeholders will also receive a copy of the consultation documentation for comment.

In addition, meetings will be arranged for service users, their representatives and staff throughout the Stornoway and Broadbay areas with representatives from the department to discuss the redesign proposals in more detail.

Fireworks set for rural parliament

AWARD-winning ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) has been confirmed as the primary commercial sponsor for the Scottish Rural Parliament, which will be convened in Oban next month.

The parliament aims to provide a robust platform for talks on demographics, economic regeneration and infrastructure in rural communities.

The inaugural national event is set to take place near CalMac's busiest port in Oban on Guy Fawkes Day, November 5.

The event will bring together 400 community people and decision-makers from public bodies, NGOs and private business, with the aim of improving rural policy and finding better ways of providing services.

New 'partnership' gives play park campaigners a huge helping hand

MARIAN MILLER
mmiller@obantimes.co.uk

EFFORTS to build a new community play park in Oban, next to Atlantis Leisure, have received a huge boost.

A partnership agreement has been reached between the Friends of Oban Community Play Park and Argyll and Bute council which has seen the local authority agree to insure and maintain the play park once it is built.

Council staff have been working closely with the volunteer committee to reach an agreement, which will also allow the play park equipment to be bought VAT-free, saving around £67,000 from the estimated total cost of £400,000 for the first phase.

Lyndsay Elliott, chairwoman of the friends, said: 'This has been a grass roots project, with incredible support from all our community over the last three years.'

'We will get to our goal of building an awesome play park for all our children much sooner than if we were still going it alone.'



LIFT OFF: little Alex Elliott, daughter of Lyndsay Elliott, catches the mood of elation among the play park campaigners

The first phase involves building on the grassed area, in line with the condemned play park adjacent to Atlantis and the Millennium garden.

The second and third phases are to replace the condemned

play park, which was removed in February and refurbish the garden, so children of all abilities and ages have a play space with picnic area for families.

Community surveys conducted by Oban Youth and Community

Centre in 2008 and Oban community council in 2011 of 1,000-plus respondents identified overwhelming support for better provision of facilities for children and young people in the town.

This included a separate play area for school-age children, not just pre-school children.

So far the Friends of Oban Community Play Park have raised more than £81,000 from fund-raising events and have received generous donations from local charities, individuals and companies.

The volunteers also have another £140,000 in grant applications pending - including a £100,000 application to SportScotland, a decision on which is due any day.

The council has also given £3,000, with a further £10,000 to come over the coming financial years.

'We are extremely pleased to be working with Argyll and Bute Council as we move from fund-raising to design consultation with the community, through to tender, procurement and ultimately installation,' said Lyndsay.

Call to have a care for jobs

LOUISE LEE
lee@obantimes.co.uk

PEOPLE on the west coast have opportunities to be long-term, fulfilling, full-time carers but refuse to consider jobs because of negativity that surrounds them, says the director of an Argyll-based business.

Carers Direct's Denis Martin McGlennon spoke out against the media and others who say the job has low pay and no prospects, by challenging people to find a more secure job with long-term prospects.

Mr McGlennon, who has opened a new office in Stafford Street, said: 'At the moment we employ more than 30 people from Oban, on permanent contracts on a full

and part-time basis.' Carers Direct has been working in Oban for eight years.

Mr McGlennon said: 'There are not many opportunities for people to work in their own community - and in this day and age have a long-term career that provides training and support.'

'Things like Argyll College putting on specific training for carers and raising the profile of the work will raise the profile and the opportunities within a career in care.'

Mr McGlennon admits problems exist with care as a career choice, with wages on the lower scale and unpaid travel between jobs, but he is keen to point out that he hopes that people can be found in every village, island and town to offer support to people in their



Dennis Martin McGlennon

own homes. 'The fact of the matter is that we would always like to pay more - and we increased our wages to staff in Oban last year.'

'The staff do a wonderful job and are always willing to go the extra mile.'

'Last week we appointed two more staff members to our team.'

He also explains that there is no shortage of work for people who meet the company standards and who want it, especially in the rural areas.

'I think with the level of talk that there is about low wages in the caring profession - people can forget what a rewarding career it is.'

'We not only provide care for those people who want and need it in their homes - but also as a support network within a family.'

Discussing the rise in the number of people who need care, Mr McGlennon said: 'A few years ago we brought someone from Helensburgh to Dalnally in order to provide a service to the village.'

'As time has gone on we are now employing carers in the area and have put in a team leader.'

'There are real opportunities for people throughout the area - we just need to cut through the negativity about the role and get people to see things differently.'

Mr McGlennon believes that if a service can be provided that they will try their hardest to provide that service.

'If I could have 100 carers to the standard we need - we would be able to find work for them.'

'We want people to see the benefits of being a carer rather than listening to all the bad press about the organisation.'



CARING: Family member carers from north Argyll attend a learning-to-cook course at Argyll College

MULL lines



BEST COFFEE SHOP: Melanie Andrews, left, presents Arlene Robbie and Ishbel Robbie with their baking award

Rising to the challenge

THEY came, they baked and they conquered. An Isle of Mull coffee shop has been recognised for its brilliant baking in this year's hotly contested Scottish Baking Awards.

Arlene's Coffee Shop scooped Best Coffee Shop Award after impressing Melanie Andrews - professional chef, master baker and founder of the Scottish Baking Awards - who was judging the competition.

The island coffee shop had to rise to the challenge to beat off stiff competition from the other three finalists in the category.

The winners were announced at a glittering ceremony in Mar Hall, Renfrewshire on Sunday September 28, where host Sue Lawrence revealed the overall winners.

Melanie said: 'These awards aim to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding level of baking that exists here in Scotland.'

'The standard of entries this year was exceptionally high and I congratulate Arlene's Coffee Shop for impressing me with their passion and creativity and taking the top spot.'



PURE GOLD: pupils from Lochdonhead and Ulva primary schools won the 'Golden Rugby Ball' trophy

Team with golden touch

PRIMARY school pupils on Mull and Iona have struck gold with a double victory in the island's tag rugby festival.

Lochdonhead and Ulva primary schools, which now have a joint headteacher, entered a combined team and won the 'Golden Rugby Ball' trophy for the second year in a row.

Primary school children compete each month over the winter in a tag rugby festival, which is the result of very successful teamwork between Active Schools, Mull and Iona primary schools and Isle of Mull Rugby Football Club.

At the end of the festival, the team with the highest score wins the 'Golden Rugby Ball' trophy and keeps it for a year.

The winning team was praised for its enthusiasm and team spirit as was the tireless work of coaches Babs Whyte, Ian Mackay and David Callander.

Lifeboat crew's long haul

TOBERMORY'S Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI) volunteer crew were called out in the early hours of Friday September 26 to go to the aid of a 45-foot-yacht which had dragged its anchor and gone aground in Loch na Droma Buidhe.

The station's Severn class lifeboat, Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey, was launched shortly after 1am in a force seven south-westerly to rush to the aid of the stricken vessel which had five people on board.

The lifeboat crew managed to re-float the vessel but as the yacht came off the reef it ran over its own anchor line which became caught around the propeller. Despite their best efforts, two members of the lifeboat crew were unable to free it.

On his 100th shout, Tobermory RNLI's coxswain Andrew McHaffie took the decision to stand by the vessel until daylight when a diver could be called from Tobermory to not only free the propeller but also to check the hull for damage.

The diver subsequently freed the vessel and found only superficial damage. The lifeboat escorted the yacht out of the small sea loch into open water and the vessel proceeded on her way.

The lifeboat returned to Tobermory where she was refuelled and made ready for service shortly before 11am.

Mr McHaffie said: 'This was a long operation in testing conditions, but we're pleased that there was a successful outcome.'

'Once again, the volunteer crew have shown their commitment and many of those who left their beds nearly 10 hours ago went straight from the lifeboat station to their day jobs.'

New scan system will help trust search for tragic boat

A BOAT which sank leading to the loss of four lives on Loch Awe in 2009 could be closer to being found.

The chairman of the LochWatch Loch Awe trust, Iain MacKinnon, believes the scanning system installed in the trust's patrol boat alongside the radar, could detect the site of the sunken vessel.

The volunteer crew is to receive training in using the sophisticated

LochWatch Loch Awe, which operates a spotting system around the loch shores as well as the patrol boat, was born out of the tragedy which saw four Glasgow anglers drown in the cold waters of the loch.

Craig Currie, 30, died along with Thomas Douglas, 36, and brothers William Carty, 47, and Steven Carty, 42 on March 21 after their boat capsized while they were trying to



WATCHING BRIEF: scanner may help find tragic boat

system, which was paid for by MacQueen Brothers Charitable trust from Oban earlier this year.

The manufacturers have now agreed to provide training at the end of this month on the £5,000 Lowrance system, supplied at a reduced cost thanks to Gaelforce and fitted by Electrotech Marine of Oban.

Mr MacKinnon said: 'One of the things we are interested in doing is finding the boat from 2009 and the scanning equipment is capable of doing it.'

cross the loch, late at night in thick fog, from Lochawe village to their campsite opposite. Rescue efforts were hampered by the amount of time it took to get a rescue boat to the loch.

The Lowrance equipment is also capable of mapping the deep, fresh water loch, which will prove useful to the LochWatch volunteers and other loch users.

The loch was mapped in 1902 and again in 2013 when two enthusiastic fishermen collected sonar data while enjoying their fishing.

The ideal gift...
2015 Calendars

The Oban Times
Oban Times West Highland
£7.75 (inc. UK P&P)

2015 west highland calendar

to order visit www.scottishcalendars.co.uk
or call **01371 851 868**

Unlocking home truths

MULL MUSEUM, based in Tobermory, is searching for householders who want to unearth the mystery of the past.

Museum staff are asking for entries to its competition to create a history of homes with stories, pictures and information.

The winner will have their entry used as the basis for a new display panel in the museum in 2015.

The history can be of the house someone lives in now, one that they used to live in, or another house on Mull (and adjacent islands) with the present owner's permission.

Entries can be in any format - a handwritten document with a bundle of old photos or a complete dossier. The winner will also get a free five-year membership of the museum. The closing date for entries is January 31.

The museum archive evenings will be starting again soon, but anyone is welcome to come and do research in the museum at any time.

Contact Mull Museum on mullmuseum@hotmail.co.uk or 01688 301100 for more information.

OT

Lifeboat coxswain praises farm boat

A SMALL workboat lost power in the Sound of Kerrera, off Oban, during Monday's stormy weather.

Oban lifeboat was launched by Stornoway Coastguard to assist just before 8am but when it arrived, the workboat had already been helped by a fish farm boat and had managed to pick up a mooring in Ardrinver Bay.

The crewman from the workboat was taken on board the lifeboat and transferred to Kerrera.

Lifeboat coxswain John Hill said: 'The swift action of the local fish farm boat prevented the situation escalating into something more serious.'

Cannabis find

POLICE in Oban recovered a quantity of cannabis and cash from a property in Breadalbane Street, Oban.

As a result of the search on Sunday two men, aged 20 and 34, have been reported to the procurator fiscal.

Speeder stopped

A 39-YEAR-old driver, who was stopped by police for speeding on the A82 at Bridge of Orchy on Saturday, had been disqualified.

Warrants issued to recover members' unpaid tax bills

LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

SHERIFF officers were used to recover unpaid council tax owed by two Argyll and Bute councillors.

The shock revelation came to light after it was confirmed this week that five out of the council's 36 members had failed to pay last year's bills on time and had to be sent reminder notices.

However, the council had to go through court to recover council tax from two elected members.

One of two councillors has yet to bring their account up to date.

One serving councillor, who did not want to be named, said: 'When one person doesn't pay, all of our names are taken into disrepute.'

With almost 15 per cent of elected members getting behind with their council tax payments, Argyll and Bute council has one of the highest percentages in Scotland of elected officials not paying their bills on time.

Councillor Ellen Morton, deputy leader of the council, came to the defence of her colleagues,

saying some understanding and sympathy were needed rather than people rushing to make unfair judgements. She said: 'Councillors and employees are expected to pay council tax just as members of the public are.'

'Having difficulty in paying bills is something that can happen to anyone.'

'If someone has difficulty in paying council tax, we will do what we can to support them.'

'The same process applies for collecting council tax whether from councillors, employees or members of the public.'

An Argyll and Bute council spokeswoman said: 'We can confirm that in 2013/14, five councillors were issued with a reminder notice after failing to pay a council tax instalment by the 14th of the month, in which the payment was due.'

'In three cases, the amount due was subsequently paid. Two were served with a summary warrant and, in one case, the full amount due was paid.'

'In the remaining case, there are



SYMPATHY: Ellen Morton



ANGER: Alastair Redman

still arrears but there are particular circumstances relating to this which are unusual.'

However, the spokeswoman declined to be drawn on the circumstances - or the identity of the

councillor. She continued: 'It is not appropriate to name any individual in this case. The council's procedure for collection of council tax and council tax debts is the same across the board. It is not possible

to confirm how many council employees are subject to any action regarding non-payment of council tax. The council tax system does not have an indicator or a field that shows whether a council tax payer works for the council.'

Islay postmaster and prospective Westminster candidate for the Conservatives for 2015 Alastair Redman said: 'Two of our councillors are subject to summary warrant proceedings where sheriff officers for the court have been instructed to collect the debt.'

'Our councillors are not living in poverty.'

'Not only do they receive a very good salary, but they enjoy extra payment for every additional Argyll and Bute job title they have attached to their name.'

'On top of this, a number of our councillors are enjoying some of the largest expenses claims in Scotland.'

'To make matters worse, our local authority has refused to name and shame these councillors or take any action against them apart from chasing the unpaid debts.'

Teacher banned for 14 months

A CHEMISTRY teacher at Oban high school failed a breathalysers test when stopped by police and has been banned from driving for 14 months.

Boyd Sigerson, aged 38, of Mill Park Place, Oban, admitted the drink-driving offence when he appeared before the town's sheriff court last week.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said police received a telephone call on the evening of September 13 telling them that Sigerson was driving after drinking.

He was stopped by officers on the A85 in Connel.

'He got out of his car and told them "I'm going to fail", before they had the chance to caution him,' the procurator fiscal said.

Sigerson's breath reading was 60mcg and the legal limit is 35mcg per 100ml. He told the police: 'I wasn't aware it was that high. I felt capable of driving and I was able to pull over when the police stopped me.'

Jamie Dunbar, representing Sigerson, said the teacher was signed off from work suffering from stress. He was receiving treatment to help the condition.

'There had been an argument between him and his partner and he was attempting to alleviate the situation by leaving the house and going to get some food,' said Mr Dunbar.

Sigerson, a first-time offender, who had a clean driving licence, was fined £400 and banned from driving for 14 months.

Pedestrianisation plans available

THE CONTRACT to pedestrianise Stafford Street in Oban has finally been published.

And the theme of the area is to be 'remembrance'.

Stafford Street will be converted from an access road, footpaths and planting beds to an open, pedestrian-friendly zone providing an attractive public amenity space for the adjoining businesses.

The stated aim of this project is to create a simple and elegant, high quality public realm.

The tender, which is on Public Contracts Scotland, states: 'The aspiration for Stafford Street is to create a terraced, public open space which is clutter free, provides basic services and allows for flexible use.'

'There will be a dual purpose retaining wall/seating with incorporation of the remembrance theme.'

'Copter pilot lands safely after alert

DISASTER was averted when a helicopter pilot managed to safely land his aircraft at Oban Airport after reporting a hydraulic leak.

Emergency services in Oban were scrambled, along with rescue services at the North Connel airport on Sunday afternoon when the report was received from the Navy's Rescue 177 helicopter.

The services were stood down after the helicopter landed safely.

Child sex abuser jailed for five years

Convicted Highland rapist continues to maintain innocence while sentenced

COURT REPORTER
editor@obantimes.co.uk

A MAN who sexually abused three women over a decade has been jailed for five years.

Colin MacDonald, 45, was just 11 years old when he targeted his first victim, who was 10 years old, at an address in Fort William.

The High Court in Edinburgh heard how he both raped the young girl and sexually abused her between May 1981 and January 1987 in locations in Fort William and Inverness.

He also sexually assaulted a girl between May 1981 and June 1983 at an address in Fort William. She was just nine years old.

Between August 1988 and August 1991, MacDonald repeatedly abused another girl, aged 13, at an address in the Oban area.

MacDonald was finally charged after his victims plucked up enough courage to contact police about their horrific ordeal.

MacDonald, of Potterhill Gardens, Perth, was found guilty by a jury last month of sexual assault charges.

Sentence had been deferred until Monday before judge Lord Jones in order for the court to obtain reports about MacDonald's character.

During the trial, the court heard MacDonald had been a young boy when he started sexually assaulting his first victim at locations in Fort William and Inverness.

MacDonald claimed that he was innocent and that his victims had made up stories against him.

He told prosecution lawyer John Scullion: 'I'm the victim of a conspiracy.'

However, the jury did not believe his claims and returned guilty verdicts.

Mr Scullion told the court that MacDonald had one previous conviction for assault in 1994.

On Monday, defence advocate Ronnie Renucci told the court that his client still maintained that he was innocent of any wrong doing.

Mr Renucci added: 'He accepts that prison is inevitable. He will lose his employment and he will lose the lifestyle that he has become accustomed to. I would ask your lordship to be as lenient to him as possible.'

Co-op staff redundancy claim not confirmed

STEVEN RAE
srae@obantimes.co.uk

STAFF at the Co-op store in Oban could lose their jobs after food retailer Lidl takes over the Soroba Road store.

Employees have told *The Oban Times* that the 38 full and part-time workers will be made redundant when the store is taken over.

Lidl has said it would not be appropriate to comment because of ongoing consultations with staff.

Lidl has purchased the building with plans to demolish it and build a new store on the site, and has confirmed it will continue to trade at the current site it leases at Lochavullin Drive until opening the Soroba Road store.

A spokesman for Lidl said: 'Building design has developed significantly over recent years and Lidl is proposing to build a new, advanced, energy-efficient store, the latest concept in Lidl design.'

'Lidl is committed to Oban and

as a result has identified a new location for a store from which Lidl can continue to serve the community of Oban.'

There has not been a date confirmed for construction work to commence, but a meeting between Lidl and the planning department of Argyll and Bute council is scheduled for next week.

The Co-op is also understood to be looking at sites in Oban to maintain its presence as a retailer in the town, including premises in George Street.

A Co-op spokesman said: 'The Co-operative Food has a clear vision to be the best local food retailer in the UK, and over the coming years our main focus will be to develop our existing convenience store estate, but we cannot comment on specific sites at this time.'

It is unknown what will happen to the current store leased at Lochavullin Drive once Lidl ceases trading from there.

Quota call for wild fish

A NEW fishing campaign arm of the Scottish Gamekeepers Association (SGA) is calling on the Scottish government to adopt a quota system for 2015 to conserve the country's plummeting wild fish stocks.

Catches of wild salmon and sea trout have dipped alarmingly in the last two years and river ghillies, boatmen, bailiffs and anglers are fearful for an industry worth £113 million.

Analysts expect catch records for 2014, available by the end of the year, to highlight significant problems in Scotland's coastal waters and rivers.

Last week the Marine Conservation Society advised that wild Scottish salmon should no longer be caught for eating because of its conservation status, claiming Scotland had 'no management regime in place to prevent an increase in coastal netting'.



CAPTION CAPTION: caption caption caption caption

Youths rampaged through depot

FOUR teenagers must wait until next month to find out their fate, after admitting causing thousands of pounds of damage by smashing up and flooding a council depot in Oban.

Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentence on Kyle Simpson, aged 19, Jamie Docherty, 17, Joshua Straub, 17 and Steven Graham, 16, for background reports and a full breakdown of the cost of repairs to the messroom, changing room and showers at the council depot at Mill Park.

Three of the teenagers come from Oban: Simpson, Mill Park Terrace, Docherty, Mill Park Place and Graham, Campbell Crescent; Straub lives at Wellington Street, Dunoon. All four admitted the wilful and reckless destruction and damage of property on July 22; Graham also admitted resisting arrest.

Docherty pleaded not guilty to having a knife without reasonable excuse, but Sheriff Small found him guilty, saying: 'I do not find him a credible witness in his own defence.'

The court was told how a neighbour heard sounds of smashing, breaking glass and shouting and called the police.

When officers arrived, the youths were seen leaving the building and arrested. A Stanley knife was found with a closed blade in Docherty's front-left trouser pocket.

All four had been said to be drinking before the incident and after entering the depot building Docherty had returned to his near-by home for his guitar. He claimed he had the knife with him to help change its strings.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty showed the court a series of photographs of the aftermath. He said: 'The building was totally ransacked - it was a scene of devastation.'

A cooker was pulled over and smashed, a microwave broken, the staff's personal lockers damaged and tables and chairs thrown about. The premises were left flooded and unusable.

Sheriff Small deferred sentence until November 13.

home renewable heating specialists

high quality sustainable products

cost efficient renewable heating

BIOMASS

WOOD PELLETS, WOOD CHIP OR LOGS

A natural choice for affordable, sustainable home heat

HUGE CO₂ OUTPUT SAVING

MAKE UP TO 200% PROFIT ON FUEL COSTS

HEAT PUMPS

GROUND SOURCE & AIR SOURCE

Extremely efficient heating and hot water

UP TO 11 TONNES PER YEAR

SAVE UP TO 75% ON RUNNING COSTS

Zero Running Costs?

You could reduce your heating bill to nothing for years to come.

Why low carbon heating?

It benefits you and the environment and contributes to a cleaner greener future for everyone.

How much could you save?

You could benefit: up to £4905 per year through fuel savings and Renewable Heat Incentive payments.*

CALL US NOW 01631 720587 TO DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN BENEFIT

DON'T MISS THIS INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY - Since April this year the Governments Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) is paying homeowners to heat their homes with renewable heating appliances. There is also a 75% interest free loan to help with the installation costs. In many cases the income will pay for the running costs and the loan repayments over 7 years.

www.renewablesnow.co.uk

find us on facebook

www.facebook.com/obantimes

TRIPLE GLAZING AVAILABLE ON SOME WINDOWS AND DOORS

Also available Garage Doors, Patio and Bi fold doors, Porches, Flat Roofs, Gutters, Fascias, Soffits, Bargeboards, Driveways

ASK ABOUT SPECIAL DEALS

Contact Consultant Peter Ramsay
Tel 07816 934364

Residential and Commercial enquiries welcome

*Energy Saving Trust data 2014



Royal National Mòd

2014 Mòd marks a new era of outreach and technology

IF EVERY Royal National Mòd is remembered for one thing, then the Inverness event could be the modern Mòd.

Not only will the 2014 version of the historic Gaelic festival be the first to offer a Gaelic app for smartphones, it will also involve outreach work to a new audience of visitors and future Gaelic speakers.

Organisers An Comunn Gaidhealach have received funding from Homecoming Scotland to hold extra fringe events at visitor attractions from Urquhart Castle to Culloiden visitor centre.

In all, Inverness is set to host the largest ever fringe festival on the back of the main competitions, with nearly 100 fringe events listed.

Add in the 3,000 or so competitors and you have one of the busiest Mòds in modern times.

An Comunn chief executive John Morrison said: 'The app and the work we are doing on social media is very interesting.'

'Facebook and Twitter are generating a new following because it is generally a young person's media.'

'The traditional, older audience will always follow us and defend the Mòd to the core but I believe there is a significant younger audience that will come to defend the Mòd too.'

'When you go through the pro-

gramme you see the legacy work we have done with competitors coming from Renfrewshire and Caithness, 'non-standard' Mòd locations, if you like, that have clearly benefited from having the event.'

The embracing of modern technology and the introduction of Gaelic medium education across Scotland have seen a rise in the number of children taking part in the Mòd - expected to be 1,800 - while numbers in adult competitions remain largely static.

Lewis man Mr Morrison says visitors to this year's Mòd will appreciate the close proximity of all the venues - Eden Court Theatre has nine Mòd venues under one roof.

The Mòd's director, Janet MacDonald, is looking forward to returning to the host city where she won her An Comunn Gaidhealach Gold Medal in 1984.

As co-ordinator of competitions, adjudicators and stewards, it is a busy week for the Tobermory woman, who has 18 different venues to oversee on her busiest day, Tuesday.

Mrs MacDonald, who is also a tutor with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, said: 'Preparations are going really well because of a very good local organising committee and because of the Year of Homecoming creating the biggest fringe ever seen at the Mòd.'

Transatlantic session requires improvised attire for gold medal winner

STANDING on stage in front of an impressionable American audience, dressed in a kilt, jacket, ankle socks and trainers, this was not the climax to a gold medal-winning year that Robert Robertson imagined.

The 20-year-old Gaelic singer from Fort William was last month a guest at the American equivalent of the Mòd in Pennsylvania, a trip arranged annually for the winners of the An Comunn Gaidhealach Gold Medal at the previous year's Royal National Mòd.

Alongside women's gold medallist Eilidh Munro, the pair spent a week in the US, staying in Washington DC as well as singing at concerts and events.

The climax to the visit came at the Ligonier Highland Games, which incorporates the American Mòd, when Robert performed to an expectant crowd as Scotland's Gaelic singing champion.

But when only half of his kilt attire arrived, Robert was forced to improvise.

'The Americans see the Mòd gold medallist as the example of Gaelic singing and they really look up to the standard of the competition in Scotland,' he said.

'There I was, my big moment, about to go out on this big stage with half of my stuff missing. I

had my kilt, thankfully, my kilt jacket and a shirt but no sporran, socks or brogues. I had to wear ankle socks and trainers and just looked ridiculous.'

'It was a hilarious experience, really, but I made my apologies before I sang.'

Robert, who also performs with the band Skipinnish, has described his gold medal winning year as 'amazing'.

Immediately after winning his medal on the morning of Mòd Thursday in Paisley last year Robert had a hectic schedule of interviews, press commitments, broadcasts and receiving more than a few well-wishes in the pubs.

'Those last two days of the Mòd were mad,' he admitted. 'I didn't really have time to speak to anyone for any length of time because of all the other commitments. You think the pressure is off after the competition but you need to keep focussed for a lot of interviews afterwards.'

There followed a year of concerts and ceilidhs for audiences across the country, keen to see this year's gold medallists in the flesh.

Asked if he had any advice for this year's gold medal competitors, the English literature student replied: 'The main thing



WHAT A YEAR: Fort William's Robert Robertson has enjoyed his year as gold medallist after his win in Paisley last year. 15_141robert01

is to keep calm and that old cliché of 'enjoy yourself'.

'When you go into the first day of competition, everyone has zero marks, so just do your thing. You don't need any advice then.'

'Once you get into the final you may be so many marks ahead or

behind. Last year I was in a winning position and that was when I needed advice.'

'When you see points on the board after that first day that is when you may find yourself in a situation you are uncomfortable with but it's important to prepare

as normal and take all three competitions as they come.'

Robert will be performing with Skipinnish at the opening ceremony of the Royal National Mòd in Inverness tomorrow (Friday) and at the final ceilidh a week later.

Stage fright won't be a problem for Donna

TAKING part in this year's Silver Pendant and Traditional medal at the Royal National Mòd will be Donna Dugdale from Mull.

Last year she lost on three points during the pendant competition for 'forgetting her words'. She is hoping that this will be her year.

Donna explained: 'I had learned my words, I had practised my songs and I had taken part in provincial Mòd competitions. So I was ready for the Mòd in Paisley. 'But when I stepped out to sing

I became distracted and I sang the wrong words in the qualifier.'

'The thing is I knew my words fine. I lost three points which meant I lost the whole thing.'

'The main competition for me is the Silver Pendant - I really want to get it this time.'

The Gaelic learner and mum-of-three said: 'I started learning Gaelic four years ago. I had no Gaelic at all before then. I wanted to learn because I wanted to compete in the Silver Pendant competition.'

'I am really excited about Inverness and I am as ready as I can be.'

So far this Mòd season, Donna has done well in both the Mull and Lochgilphead Mòds with her silverware haul getting bigger by the day.

Donna will also compete with her choirs Mull and Atomic Piseag. Two of her children will be taking part in the children's singing competitions.



Right: Donna Dugdale

Lochgilphead Mòd a dress rehearsal

'There were more entries than last year'

An Comunn Gàidhealach
ORGANISERS OF THE ROYAL NATIONAL MÒD

An Mòd Pàiseanfa Rìoghail | The Royal National Mòd

2014 INBHIR NIS 10 - 18 DÀMHAIR	INVERNESS 10 - 18 OCTOBER
2015 AN T-ÒBAN 9 - 17 DÀMHAIR	OBAN 9 - 17 OCTOBER
2016 NA H-EILEANAN AN IAR 14 - 22 DÀMHAIR	WESTERN ISLES 14 - 22 OCTOBER

Na Mòdan Ionadail | Provincial Mòds

LEÒDHAS LEWIS	ÀIRD NAM MURCHAN ARDINAMURCHAN
DÙN ÈIDEANN EDINBURGH	GLASCHU GLASGOW
SRUIGHLEA STIRLING	INBHIR NIS INVERNESS
CILLE BHRÌDHE AN EAR EAST KILBRIDE	AN T-EILEAN SGITHEANACH SKYE
CATAIBH IS GALLAIBH SUTHERLAND & CAITHNESS	AN T-ÒBAN OBAN
ÌLE ISLAY	NA DREÒLLUINN MULL
LIUBHIST UIST	DAIL RIATA DALRIADA
LOCH ABAINN LOCHABER	TAOBH SIAR ROIS WESTER ROSS
BEÀRT IS AONGHAS PERTH & ANGUS	BARRAIGH IS BHATARSÀIGH BARRA
NA H-ÀRÀDH HARRIS	TAOBH AN IAR-DHEAS ROIS SW ROSS

For Provincial Mòd dates and more go online
www.ancomunn.co.uk
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER SC01282

MORE than 150 musicians competed at Mòd Dhail Riata 2014 in Lochgilphead, as singers enjoyed their 'last rehearsal' before the Royal National Mòd this month.

Lochgilphead was the final regional Mòd to be held before the national event, which gets under way in Inverness on Friday with the opening ceremony.

Organisers say the close timescale between the two competitions resulted in an increase in competitors.

Christine Johnston, secretary of Lochgilphead Mòd, said: 'There were definitely more entries than last year and I think it could have been because a lot of people see Lochgilphead as their last chance of rehearsal before the national competition.'

'We had 20 competitors in one category alone, which is quite unusual.'

Christine added: 'I have also noticed that Lochgilphead seems to be a good luck charm. Quite a lot of people who have come here have gone on to get gold medals no matter what place they've come in at in the regional competition.'

Adjudicators give the singers detailed feedback on the day, which helps them to prepare for their next competition.

Choirs, families and schools, from as far as Govan in Glasgow, Islay and Tiree, turned up to Lochgilphead High School for the Gaelic music competition.



Dealrach won the Annual Award for Senior Quartet. 08_340mod11



Morven Brown, 10, and six-year-old Lauren Morris, from Islay, came down with their parents to take part in the Mòd. 08_340mod13



The men and women of The Oban Choir were in high spirits throughout the day. 08_340mod07



Rowan Zeinu, 12, from Tiree won the Donnie Campbell Memorial Cup for Highest Marks as a junior solo singer. 08_340mod06

'Is there one rule for them?' - irate driver

LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

UNDER-fire parking officials who left a vehicle in a disabled bay have been slammed by Oban residents.

The distinctive yellow livery of the Argyll and Bute van was spotted in an almost empty car park at the Corran Halls last Friday by incredulous passers-by.

One woman driver, who saw the pictures of the council vehicle on social media, asked: 'Is there one rule for them, and another for everyone else?'

Another Oban resident, Peter Burns from Soroba, said: 'When I saw the van there I was really angry that the traffic wardens think that they can run about the town dishing out parking tickets and yet when they break the rules they do it in full daylight with every motorist in the town passing by.'

'When on earth are they going to work with the community, rather than against us.'

Meanwhile, international visitors to a shellfish conference in the Corran Halls on October 1 had to pay for parking, because the meters had not been reset to 'free' for the winter, as should have been the case.

And mourners at a funeral, who



PARKING MAD: Argyll and Bute council's amenity wardens parked in a disabled bay last Friday morning

employees and members of the public.

'As regards the international shellfish conference, when we realised this error the Corran Halls was contacted, with staff there informing conference attendees that their tickets would be refunded at the local area office.'

'Some of these have already been refunded.'

With reference to amenity wardens issuing tickets to mourners, the council spokesman said: 'Parking restrictions apply in all charging car parks.'

'The warden can only apply the rules, irrespective of the reason for the vehicle being there.'

Oban businessman Graham Fraser of Alba on Albany Street says he is considering setting up a petition to ask the council to consider a solution for those residents who want to shop locally but are being put off by the parking fees in the town.

had also parked at the Corran Halls, were shocked to find fixed penalty notices on their vehicles after the service, which had lasted longer than expected.

One mourner said: 'There were about six or seven tickets given out while we were in the service for our dear friend.'

'Surely someone could have considered we were in at the service. I wouldn't have minded making up

the extra cost - but I've now got a £30 fine to pay.'

A spokesman for Argyll and Bute council said: 'We are looking into why this vehicle was parked in the disabled bay at the Corran Halls.'

'There were two additional disabled parking spaces free when the vehicle was there, however, disabled parking spaces should only be used by people with a disability and this should be clear to both our



Helen sounds off to Sara

TAYNUILT woman Helen McNeil, who took up playing her mum's clarsach less than a year ago after her children left home, has been talking about her new talent on national radio.

Helen, who works at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), heard a call on the popular BBC Radio 2 Chris Evans Show for people who were learning something new.

Helen responded by saying she was learning the clarsach, news which obviously intrigued fellow presenter Sara Cox. By

the time Helen got to work, she had received messages from the producer of the show.

Before she knew it Helen was talking about the instrument and Argyll live on air with Sara.

Helen said: 'It was quite an amazing experience.'

Helen told Sara that she had picked up her mother's clarsach which had been lying in a cupboard. She then took lessons from Connel player Becky Hill, before joining the Connel branch of the Argyll Clarsach society.

Returned wallet contained costly holiday purchase

A HOLIDAYMAKER in Oban discovered the best and the worst the town has to offer.

The best, because his wallet full of cards and cash was handed in to the police station; the worst because it contained the 1.5g of cocaine he 'bought from a guy' in a pub the night before when very drunk.

After being taken off a flight bound for Spain where he was due to start a new teaching job and spending the night in custody, Ian Wood, aged 59, with no address, appeared before the town's sheriff court last week and admitted possession of cocaine on Corran Esplanade on September 8.

Procurator Eoin McGinty told the court that after the dropped wallet was discovered, it was checked for clues to the owner's identity and a Scottish Youth Hostel Association card discovered. A check at the Oban hotel showed that its owner was staying there and had returned the night before intoxicated.

When he went to collect the wallet, police asked him about the matter of the cocaine, which had a street value of £50.

'I was extremely drunk last night - I bought it from a guy,' he said.

Wood was due to leave the country to start a teaching job in Spain and the court heard that he left his contact details with the police station.

But when he failed to show at court a warrant was issued.

Wood, a first time offender, was fined £300.

'He accepts it was a foolish mistake made when heavily intoxicated,' said Jamie Dunbar, his defence lawyer.

Guilty of growing cannabis at home

STEPHEN Nicholson, aged 56, of Ardencaple, Glenmore Road, Pulpit Hill, Oban, pleaded guilty at the town's sheriff court last week to producing cannabis at his home on October 24 last year.

Sentence on Nicholson was deferred until October 28 for background reports.

Trial on hold while sheriff sets date to visit Oban hotel

COURT REPORTER
editor@obantimes.co.uk

FAMILY members and staff at the Queens hotel in Oban rallied to the defence of the owner, Raymond Hyams, who is on trial on charges of sexual assault made by two female former staff members.

Oban sheriff court last week heard from his wife, father-in-law and two women who work at the hotel.

Hyams, 58, of Cuanra, North Connel, denied sexually assaulting two former members of staff by touching them and making sexual

remarks on occasions between 2010 and 2012.

Susan Hyams, his wife, took to the witness stand and called the women liars.

She had seen one of the women act in an 'over-the-top, distasteful way' as her husband was training her how to use the till: 'She was leaning over, rubbing herself against him.'

At times in tears, Mrs Hyams told how the strain of the accusations had damaged her health.

'If they were true I wouldn't be married to him,' she said. Hyam's father-in-law, Alfred

James Hamilton, 74, lives with the couple and helps out as a handyman at the hotel.

He said: 'Some of the things they did surprised me, maybe because I'm old-fashioned.'

'Hoisting up waistbands and showing off tattoos seemed to be something to be done to me and anyone else who came along at any time in reception.'

He added: 'Bending down or turning round, you'd see the proverbial builder's backside.'

Mrs Hyams said that one of the women would not wear her uniform skirt at the waist, but kept pulling

it down onto her hips: 'It felt like I was running a kindergarten at times.'

She said the women were part of a clique that would hold explicit conversations. Mrs Hyams and her husband were both adamant throughout their evidence that the allegations were fabricated by the women acting out of resentment, anger and revenge when one of their friends was fired after being caught stealing.

'It was a real challenge to keep up standards, to keep our four-star rating. We could have had an inspection at any time,' said Mrs

Hyams, who added that they had ambitions for the hotel.

A member of the hotel's house-keeping staff, who works six months of the year during the season and six months back home in Poland, told the court she had never seen or experienced the behaviour of which Hyams stands accused.

Speaking through an interpreter, she said she was happy for her young daughter to now accompany her and work at the hotel.

The hotel's front-of-house manager said: 'It is very difficult to get good staff in Oban.

'You get a lot of people who come and float around; you get people who stay a couple of months. You get a lot of people who come from different backgrounds, compared to the local people who are much more stable.'

The trial was adjourned until November 13 when Sheriff Douglas Small will take the unusual step of visiting the hotel.

During Hyams' defence, it was said that some of the women's accusations could not have happened because of the layout of the building. The case will continue in the sheriff court on December 8.



Ask your bank if they offer 5%^{AER} interest on a bank account.

The new Plus Account
Search: TSB current accounts

Local banking for Britain **TSB**

5% AER/4.89% gross variable interest on balances up to £2,000. Interest paid monthly. Pay in min £500/month, register for Internet Banking, paperless statements and correspondence.

You must be over 18 to apply for the Classic Plus Account. Advertised rates correct as at 31.03.14. AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and illustrates what the interest rate would be if interest was paid and compounded once each year. Gross rate means that credit interest is paid without income tax being deducted. You can receive your interest paid gross if you are a non-tax payer and have completed an HMRC R85 form. TSB Bank plc, Registered office: Henry Duncan House, 120 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4LH, Registered in Scotland No. SC95237, Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority under registration number 191240. TSB Bank plc is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme and the Financial Ombudsman Service.

Machrihanish

THE FORMER airbase at Machrihanish is being considered as the UK's new spaceport.

The former Ministry of Defence facility offers a long runway, location away from major centres of population and distance from congested airspace.

At present the UK has no launch facilities of its own and the UK government has made the establishment of a spaceport by 2018 a key priority.

The former RAF base at the southern end of the Kintyre peninsula is ideally located for a polar orbit satellite launch, with nothing but open sea to the west.

A spokesman for Argyll and Bute council which is developing the bid alongside Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the Machrihanish Airbase Community Company, said: 'The Cape Campbeltown spaceport would be a huge boost to the local and national economy.'

'Not just the skilled jobs it would bring, the opportunities for hi-tech supplies and services and the boost to tourism, this new spaceport would signal a clear intent that the UK is embracing industries of the future, helping drive forward innovations in science, technology and the economy.'

Shianat Isles

THOUSANDS of black rats will be destroyed as part of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Scotland's Seabird Recovery Project on the Shiant Isles, east of Harris.

The rats, which arrived on the islands in wrecked ships, harm native bird populations by eating eggs and young chicks. George Campbell, regional director for north Scotland, said: 'Scotland's seabirds are suffering chronic declines and we have a responsibility to do everything we can.'

The Shiant Isles support around 10 per cent of the UK's puffin population and seven per cent of the UK's razorbills.

The island group north of Skye is a special protection area for wild birds.

Lewis

THE BACKER of plans for the largest wind farm on Lewis in the Western Isles has pulled out of the project.

Developer GDF Suez blamed delays in laying a subsea cable needed to carry electricity generated on the isles to the mainland. The French energy giant was to invest in the planned 39-turbine scheme on Lewis' Eiseigin Estate. Scottish Hydro-Electric Transmission Ltd, a division of Scottish and Southern Energy, is expected to complete work on the interconnector cable in 2019. The cable would export electricity on a 50-mile underwater route to the mainland for distribution.

The UK Department of Energy and Climate Change said it recognised that those developing renewables projects on the islands were faced with 'unique challenges'.

Arisaig

ARISAIG enjoyed the driest September in a century this year, according to amateur meteorologist Ranald Coyne.

Rainfall in the village in September was 51.5mm, less than half the 166mm which fell during the same period last year.

This brings the total rain for the year so far to 1,026.7mm, which, Mr Coyne said, is average. The average daily temperature was also the highest for the century, ranging from 10°C to 19°C. The hottest night was 25°C, dropping to 8°C on the

Campbeltown

CAMPBELTOWN hospital has been named by NHS Highland as a 'pilot unit' for Argyll and Bute's first dialysis machine.

Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership service planning manager Kirstin Gillies said: 'This is really good news for everyone in Kintyre, especially those travelling three times a week to Glasgow for their treatment.'

She added that preparatory work would take around six months to complete. Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid said: 'This will save the patients who live in Kintyre and Gigha the long and exhausting journey to the Vale of Leven Hospital.'

Iona

IONA housing partnership is calling on everyone who needs a property on the isle of Iona to put their name on the housing register.

At present there are a number of people who are living on the islands who have not registered for social housing. In most cases, it is understood, it is because there has been no opportunity for public sector housing in the area.

The application form can be found on the Home Argyll website.

Kyle

THE CONGREGATION of Kyle Free Church presented its minister with a gift to celebrate his 25 years of service.

Reverend Roddie Rankin received a painting and cheque after the morning service on September 21.

A collection for the church's Syria and Iraq appeal also raised £596.



WEDDED BLISS: The bridal party at the unusual Appin mock wedding. 16_141wedding01

Mock Appin wedding raises £900

THERE were fancy frocks, a wedding cake and a blushing, orange-haired bride named Jim at a unique wedding in Appin.

Organised by Appin parish church, the mock wedding in Appin village hall drew in guests from all over the parish and raised more than £900 for

church funds. As guests gathered for a meal in the hall, young piper Allan Colthart led the march of the wedding party to the top table. The bride, Jim Weir, and groom, Grace MacLeod led the way followed by: bridesmaid Allan Colthart senior, best man Marina Curran-Colthart, groom's mother Barry

Gunn, groom's father Tina Scorgie, father of the bride Julie Weir, mother of the bride Hugh MacTavish and minister Donald Harrison. After accordion player Gregor MacCormick played for the bridal waltz, there were songs from Freddie MacKenzie and Morag Smith and mouth organ tunes from Billy Little.



Shonda MacNab and her puppets taught Duror primary school pupils to 'Be Safe, Strong and Free'

Important message for Duror pupils

DUROR primary school pupils received a visit from two guests with an important message last week.

Shonda MacNab used her puppets

during the Be Safe, Strong and Free sessions to teach the primary one to three children how to deal with uncomfortable situations including bullying and being

approached by strangers and explained to them the importance of talking to an adult they trust if these things ever happen to them.

A CO-OPERATIVE food store on Islay is to open today (Thursday) after a £600,000 refurbishment.

The store in Bowmore has been transformed to create an entirely new shopping experience for customers. In addition, the store is launching a home delivery service for shoppers.

The in-store bakery has been increased, and there will be extended ranges of fresh produce, ready meals and pizzas.

Staff at the store are receiving additional training to enable them to provide ex-

Islay

pert advice and to help inspire customers with meal ideas.

Charles Holyoake, store manager, said: 'I'm excited about welcoming shoppers into the new store. The home delivery service gives shoppers the opportunity to pick up delicious food conveniently but without the stress of getting it all home. I'm sure our customers will enjoy shopping in the new environment, which

will provide them with a convenient location to pick up everything they need to create inspirational and tasty meals.'

Charles also said that the store will be a hub for the local community, giving customers the opportunity to find out what is going on locally, and learn about how the Co-operative can benefit local groups.

Employee Thelma Dunn has also been appointed 'community pioneer', tasked with forging stronger links between the store and local shoppers.

PLOCKTON and District Community Council met in Plockton Hall on September 15.

Matters discussed: Concerns were raised that a new 20mph speed limit on Harbour Street, Plockton, was not being adhered to.

Fundraising is continuing for improvements to the village play park.

Grants from Highland council for a war memorial have not yet been received.

Highland council staff are to make house visits to tell residents how to correctly use their bins but the community council thinks providing skips is a better solution.

The community council has made a list of local roads which need to be repaired and noted complaints had been received from wheelchair users about the state of the pavements.

A new hospital in Broadford, south Skye, doesn't seem to be any further forward.

Plockton

The wall and a fallen gravestone at Plockton graveyard need attention.

A high fence at the all-weather pitch has been requested to stop houses on Station Road being damaged by footballs and hockey balls.

Work to seats and tables in the village has been completed by the community council, with help from Highland Council.

Community council members are delighted that their campaign urging Highland council not to charge residents of Station Road for road resurfacing work has been successful.

Highland council officials said a stage two options proposal report for Stromeferry bypass would be available by July but is still awaited.

The next meeting will be on October 28.

YOUNGSTERS from the Killin area are being asked to suggest fun and innovative names to be printed on Scottish Fuels latest tanker.

The competition to find an alternative name is being hosted through Scottish Fuels, which is located at Glenberrie Business Park, Larbert.

Scottish Fuels, which is part of Certas Energy, will print the winning name on the tanker, which will be visible for all to see while on its daily delivery routes in the local area.

Gerry Paice, general sales manager at Scottish Fuels, said: 'We are looking for new names for our Scottish Fuels oil tankers and are appealing for local school children to let their imaginations run wild to help us do this.'

'The competition is open to children up to the age of 12 and multiple name suggestions are welcome.'

'The winning name will then be printed onto the tanker permanently and this will

Killin

be seen driving across the Killin area as we deliver oil to our customers.'

As well as seeing their chosen name liveried on the cab of the tanker, the winner will receive a £150 book voucher for their school.

Gerry added: 'We are a company which understands the importance of helping the local community and giving something back.'

'We are always looking for new ways to work with the community, which is why we are now launching the 'Name the Tanker' competition and providing local children with the chance to name one of our tankers for all to see.'

Those interested should visit <http://www.scottishfuels.co.uk/customer-service-advice/scottish-fuels-name-tanker>

The closing date for the competition is tomorrow, (Friday) and winners will be announced within 28 days of the closing date.

MORVERN lines

Fascinating gravestones

THROUGHOUT the Highlands and Islands there are many old burial grounds containing fascinating inscribed gravestones.

One of the most interesting and elaborate is to be found on Mull in the long-abandoned cemetery of Killeen near Gualachaolish in the parish of Torosay. It is dated 1738 and commemorates, amongst others, Margaret, daughter of Mr William MacLachlan, Episcopalian Rector of Kilmartin and wife of Alexander MacDougall, Tutor of Gallanach, who died in 1737 aged 57.

The Rev William MacLachlan became minister of Kilmartin in 1669. He married Grisel M'Gilchrist - who belonged to a family which produced some of the earliest lawyers in Argyll - and died in Ireland about 1690. He is buried in the churchyard at Kilmartin and is best remembered for losing one of the Minute Books of the Synod of Argyll.

Colonel John Cameron

DOMINATING the Corpach landscape, opposite Fort William, is one of the finest memorials in Lochaber.

It is a 60-foot-tall obelisk commemorating Col John Cameron of Fassiefern KTS who raised 100 men in Lochaber for the 92nd Regiment, the Gordon Highlanders. He later became Colonel and Commander of the 92nd Regiment of Foot and was killed while leading his regiment at the Battle of Quatre Bras two days before Waterloo. In recognition of his gallantry, the Prince Regent took the unusual step of creating his father, Ewen Cameron of Fassiefern, a baronet.

John Cameron's body was brought back to Lochaber and lay in Fassiefern House for a few days before it was taken to Kilmallie graveyard and buried in the old church with his Cameron ancestors. It is said there were more than 3,000 mourners and that it was the largest funeral ever seen in the district. The obelisk was erected a year later by the officers and men of the Gordon Highlanders at a cost of £1,400. The epitaph inscribed on its base was composed by Sir Walter Scott who referred to Col Cameron in his poem, 'Dance of Death':

'Where, through battle's rout and steel,
Storm of shot and hedge of steel,
Led the grandson of Lochiel,
Valiant Fassiefern.

But long his native lake's wild shore
And Sunart rough and high Ardgour,
And Morvern long shall tell
And proud Ben Nevis heard with awe,
How, upon bloody Quatre-Bras,
Brave Cameron heard the wild hurrah
Of conquest as he fell.'

Col John Cameron died unmarried and his father, Sir Ewen of Fassiefern, was succeeded in the title by his second son Duncan who bought the town of Fort William, which was known at one time as Duncansburgh, in his honour. With Duncan's death in 1863, the baronetcy became extinct. It is sad to see the famous old Kilmallie Church and graveyard in such a deplorable condition.

Loch Shiel catches

I HAVE no idea how many fish were caught on Loch Shiel, Inverness-shire, this year or what their weights were, but I doubt the total catch would have matched that caught by a party who fished the loch regularly every year between 1867 and 1879.

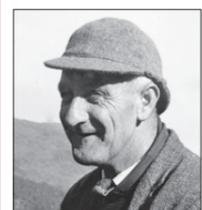
On one of their expeditions, which lasted for 12 days, the heaviest salmon caught on a rod was 16lbs while others of 33lbs were taken by net. In all, three rods had 320lbs of brown and sea trout, 16 salmon and a grilse. The salmon were all caught by trolling; the trout mainly on the fly. Their best day produced 50lb of trout, two salmon and a grilse and the second best, 45lbs of trout, salmon and a grilse. During another year in 11 days three rods caught 16 salmon, 'but only' 150lbs of sea and brown trout. There was a comment made that if the nets were taken off the River Shiel and the estuaries of the Rivers Shiel and Moidart enlarged by drawing a line from Rubha Smiraisy to Rubha Drumnich, instead of the more restricted estuary line, Loch Shiel as an angling loch, might become a rival to Loch Tay in the number, if not in the weight of its salmon.

In these days Loch Shiel was considered a late loch and in order to have it at its best anglers were advised not to go before the end of June.

The most popular salmon lures were 'phantom' and 'protean' minnows for trolling and large, red-bodied flies with teal wings for trout.

The favourite spots for salmon and sea trout were; the narrow, river-like stretches above Ardshealach; the rocky bays round Polloch and the south side of the loch from the estuary of the Polloch River up to the Black Islands opposite the Gaskan Wood. The best places for brown, or yellow trout, as they were referred to, were; the wide bay on the north side of the loch where the narrows above Ardshealach expand; some bays near Dalilea House; the vicinity of Eilean Finnan; the long stretch of gravelly beach opposite Polloch and the rocky shore from Glenalladale to Slatlach near the head of the loch.

FINE CATCH: The late Alex MacKellaigh, Glenfinnan with a 33lb Loch Shiel salmon



LONG SERVING: the late Hugh MacDonald, Moss, Moidart, for many years fishing ghillie on Loch Shiel

Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com

Jura

A GROUP of 30 shooters gathered on Jura for the annual Calum Bell Memorial Shoot to help raise £1,703 for churches.

Held on September 27, the seventh annual outing to Ballard for friends and family of Calum Bell is an annual 30-bird clay pigeon shoot organised by Willie Macdonald, Jura.

The Big Quach was won for the first time by Port Ellen's Gordon McAffer, with a score of 28/30.

The ladies champion was Laura Jane Ferguson and the highest scoring junior from a strong field was Keith Kinloch.

The golfing skills competition was won by Neil Philco and the hammering competition by Yogi McKechnie.

After food and refreshments the traditional prizegiving and raffle took place, followed by an auction, which raised more than £1,000. Of the total funds raised, £300 will be donated to Jura Parish Church and the remainder to St John's Church, Port Ellen.

The ideal gift...

2015 Calendars

Scottish Field Large
£11.75 (inc. UK P&P)

Scottish Field Mini
£7.75 (inc. UK P&P)

Oban Times West Highland
£7.75 (inc. UK P&P)

Arran Banner Isle of Arran
£7.75 (inc. UK P&P)

to order visit www.scottishcalendars.co.uk
or call 01371 851 868

Fort win for first time in 11 months

FORT William Football Club boss Calum MacLean has promised his team 'won't finish bottom' this season, following the side's first victory in 11 months.

The Fort secured a 4-3 win against Lossiemouth at Claggan Park on Saturday, their first success since beating Inverurie Locos away in November.

It also marked Fort William's first home win since January last year but MacLean said it won't be the last this season.

He added: 'It's definitely a confidence boost but it was coming. We've been saying for weeks we were going to get a win soon but to be honest I wasn't expecting it so quickly.'

'We don't want to get carried away after one win but the team is improving every week. I'd say the squad we have is probably the best we've had in 10 years so there will be more wins to come - we won't finish bottom this season.'

MacLean returned as manager in April this year, taking over the reins again after a previous stint as manager from 2007 to 2011. He believes his mix of new players and old hands will bring the club success.

He said: 'We've had a few new signings and I think they're doing really well. We're brining in the new boys and now it's important to get them training and playing with the experienced players. It's about getting them to gel.'

For a report on Saturday's game see the back page.

South Uist to get better water

SOUTH Uist is to benefit from a £6.8 million investment to drinking water improvements.

Scottish Water announced the venture as part of a national project worth £3.5 billion, to be rolled out over six years from 2015.

Specifics about the improvements are not available yet but Douglas Millican, chief executive of Scottish Water, said he was 'delighted' about the investment. He added: 'We look forward to working closely with our customers and communities to further improve drinking water quality and the environment the length and breadth of Scotland.'

YOUNG PARKINSON'S SUFFERER SMASHES FUNDRAISING TARGET

Barry beats out the miles in aid of charity cash



EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

A LOCHABER man diagnosed with Parkinson's disease at just 39 years of age has run a half marathon, raising £4,000 for charity and crossing the finish line in just under two hours.

Barry Moran, 40, from Glenachulish, was diagnosed six months ago but rather than letting it get him down he began training for the Great Scottish Run to stay active and set an example to other sufferers.

The offshore chef set an initial target of raising £300 for Parkinson's UK, but said he has been 'overwhelmed by generosity' and thinks the total will be more than £4,000 when all donations are in.

And Barry was not alone in his challenge, for his GP doctor Morag Calder, who he said has supported him 'from consultation to diagnosis and treatment', travelled to Glasgow along with eight women from Ballachulish to take part in

“ You get a big boost from the crowds at the side ”

Barry Moran

the run, to whom he is 'extremely grateful and humbled'.

Barry said: 'I would like to thank my wife and family for all their support since my diagnosis and make special mention of my GP, Dr Morag Calder. The girls from Ballachulish, who took part in the runs on my behalf, also deserve special mention and everyone who came along to support us on the day of the run and to everyone who donated so generously. I am overwhelmed by the response and generosity of people.'

Barry was feeling disheartened after his diagnosis but tried to stay positive and fit.

He said: 'A neurologist told me to keep active so I thought signing up for a run would keep me motivated. I ran for a few years beforehand but when I was diagnosed I stopped, then I thought "this is stupid" and got back into it.'

'I also wanted to send out a message to others who may have recently been diagnosed. It can be a devastating diagnosis but you can continue to lead a normal life and staying mobile and active and keeping up a positive attitude helps both psychologically and physically with the symptoms.'

Barry, who lives with his wife and two sons, said the 13-mile challenge was tough but encouragement from spectators kept him going.

He said: 'You get a big boost from the crowds at the side, they really motivate you and my family and friends were there to cheer me on too.'

Donations can still be made to Barry's cause, at www.justgiving.com/BarryMoran

Car scam warning issued

COMHAIRLE nan Eilean Siar has advised the public to exercise caution when buying vehicles online as it has received a number of complaints from consumers who have lost money.

A spokesman said: 'Very often the vehicles are sold at cheap prices and due to the distances involved the seller may offer to transport the vehicles to Inverness or Ullapool for collection. Payment is usually made by bank

transfer and the seller's contact details may only be a mobile phone number. The result is the buyer does not get the opportunity to examine the vehicle or the paperwork until it's too late and they have little chance of redress if they don't have a name or address for the seller.'

Advice has been issued including meeting the buyer when possible and asking for documents about the vehicle in question.

Teenagers reported

THREE teenagers have been reported in connection with a fire in Stornoway.

The 13-year-olds were reported to the procurator fiscal and children's reporter after a building was set on fire on Cromwell Street in the early hours of Friday morning.

A police spokesman said: 'Two boys and a girl, all aged 13, have been reported in connection with the incident of fire raising.'



TASTY FUNDRAISER: Fort William RC primary school pupils raised £558 for Macmillan cancer support at a coffee morning on Friday. Family and friends attended along with the youngsters of Nevis Bank nursery

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

SCOTLAND'S FAVOURITE KITCHEN RETAILER...

...offers a **FREE Design Consultation.**



For over a decade, The Kitchen Depot has been manufacturing and installing stylish high-quality kitchens throughout the length and breadth of Scotland. Now, Oban Times' readers can take advantage of a very special offer from Scotland's favourite kitchen retailer - a **FREE, no-obligation design consultation in your own home!**

TRADITIONAL VALUES AND SERVICE

So what is it about The Kitchen Depot that makes us first choice with so many people? Well, primarily, we are a family-owned, family-run business that remains true to our founding values of honesty, integrity and professionalism. We take tremendous pride in our reputation for service and commitment to our customers.



EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY AND VALUE - AND A 25 YEAR GUARANTEE!

All of our kitchens are manufactured in our own factory and by our own people. Whether your style is traditional or contemporary, we will manufacture your new kitchen to an exceptionally high German specification where we have total control over the product quality and production timescales. With no middlemen - you buy direct and benefit from the cost and time savings. And so confident are we in the quality of our product that we guarantee it for a full 25 years!!!

LOW, LOW PRICES - ALL YEAR ROUND

At The Kitchen Depot, we have no time or place for gimmicky fictitious sales - or so-called "factory clearances"! What you will get from us is good, honest advice, a top-quality product that we manufacture ourselves, responsibly and professionally installed, guaranteed for a full 25 years and at the lowest, most competitive price on a like-for-like quality kitchen that you'll find anywhere.

Is it any wonder that we are recognised as Scotland's favourite kitchen retailer?

SPECIAL OFFER TO OBAN TIMES' READERS!

In early November, our kitchen designers will be visiting the Oban area and if you would like a personal, no-obligation design consultation in your own home, why not beat the rush and book your appointment now. Simply call us on **0141 891 4884** or contact us through our website - that affordable, stylish new kitchen of your dreams is only a phone call or email away.



Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Hillington Industrial Park, Glasgow G52 4RY T: 0141 891 4884

www.thekitchendepot.co.uk

We would like to RECOMMEND...

1st Choice Roofing & Building Maintenance Ltd



Slating Tiling	Guttering Repaired or Replaced	Flat Roofs Repaired or Replaced
Chimney Work Roughcasting	Velux Windows Supplied and Fitted	General Building Repairs and Maintenance
Leadwork Cement Work	Moss Removal on Roof and Garages	Insurance Work and Storm Damage

Free Estimates and Advice Distance No Object!
Tel: 01887 858610 Mob: 07871 861235

Comar "Beautifully written, humorous and heart-wrenching" New York Times

Mull Theatre A bittersweet tale about memories lost and found

THE DRAWER BOY

by Michael Healey Touring to venues across Scotland this Autumn

THU 16 OCT DRUIMFIN THU 30 OCT CORRAN HALLS OBAN

Book Now 01688 302211 **COMAR.CO.UK**

Car, Bike, Home and Van Insurance with Adrian Flux



40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Great Insurance deals for your Car, Bike, Home and Van

Adrian Flux Insurance Services offer a range of policies which reflect the low risk nature of highland life. We can offer you great insurance deals on your car, bike, home and van. Call us today for a free no obligation quote.

0800 081 8989
adrianflux.co.uk

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority



FASANTA Festival of Textiles & Fashion

Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd November 2014

DUNOLLIE TAPPING INTO TAPESTRY
Dunollie brings to you FASANTA (Gaelic: fashionable) a festival celebrating Scotland's textile heritage through a variety of workshops, master classes, panel discussions and activities for all ages.

PERFORMANCES FROM
RACHEL WALKER (Specially Commissioned Performance)
BALLET WEST

FOR THE COMMUNITY
COMMUNITY CATWALK MARKET PLACE
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES CREAM TEAS

THE UNVEILING OF
THE OBAN AND LORN SCHOOLS TAPESTRY PROJECT

LOOK OUT FOR
PRESTONPANS TAPESTRY EXHIBITION
104 meter Tapestry celebrates the enduring triumph of youthful hope and ambition.

WORKSHOPS & MASTERCLASSES
Dr. Susan Kay-Williams Chief Exec. Royal School of Needlework
Dorie Wilkie Prestonpans & Great Tapestry Stitching Coordinator
Jan Timms Tambour Beading Expert
Robin Elliot Andrew Elliot Weavers

For more information see www.dunollie.org or go to the Fasanta Facebook page.

J.M.B. CLADDING

www.jmbcladding.co.uk www.homepro.com



All Roofing Work Undertaken:
• Slating • Tiling • Flat Roofs
• Roof and Wall Coatings
• All PVC Work

Local references available

For free quotation & advice
FREEPHONE: 0800 7834371
or MOBILE: 07979 384383

SERVICING THE ISLANDS

business gateway

FREE INFORMAL ADVISER SESSION

Business Gateway are hosting an informal FREE drop in session at:

**The Caledonian Hotel, Oban
on 21st October, 5-7pm**

This drop in session is for anyone who would like an informal chat on starting a business.

If this day or time is not convenient but you would like to meet an adviser please contact the Business Gateway team for an appointment.

T | 01546 604555
E | business.gateway@argyll-bute.gov.uk
f | Business Gateway Argyll and Bute



R A Clement Associates

Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors

When it comes to protecting your financial future, you need the best advice you can get.

www.raclement.co.uk
Email: mail@raclement.co.uk

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

your initial consultation is free so call us now

E&R Inglis Ltd

design and print

E&R Inglis Ltd was established in 1871 and has been serving the print needs of customers all over Scotland ever since. Our team has years of experience and knowledge behind it. Years of tradition, combined with 21st century technology, the company offers a wide range of products - from newspapers to glossy magazines to paperback books, flyers and posters to high quality art or photographic prints, office stationery to outdoor banners.

E&R Inglis Ltd also produces, publishes and prints the Dunoon Observer and Argyllshire Standard.

For any commercial printing work, simply bring us your own designs and artwork and let us take care of the rest. But if you need some guidance on design, our experienced designers are here to help.

Speak to this long-established Argyll business about your requirements - and let E&R Inglis make you look good in print.

Litho Printing
Digital Printing
Newspaper Printing
Graphic Design
Business Stationery
Brochures and Leaflets
Posters and Banners

Making you look good in print
Your local professional printer
84 John Street, Dunoon, Argyll
t: 01369 701096
e: printing@eringlis.com
www.eringlis.com

SUBSCRIBE TO The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

today from only **40p** per week*

And receive a **FREE GIFT** WORTH £22.50 containing natural handmade bath and body products

courtesy of The Highland Craft Company

The Highland Craft Company handmade soap and natural body products
www.thehighlandcraftcompany.com

Call 01371 851868
Visit www.obantimes.co.uk/subscribe
QUOTE OTNS0814

Terms and conditions apply. Minimum one year subscription. New subscribers only. Cancellation charges apply and no refunds can be given. UK subscribers only. While stocks last. Fragrances in this free gift may vary. *40p per week applies to digital edition. £20.80 for a one year digital subscription. £58 for a one year print subscription, includes postage and packaging.

Police probe theft of goods from shipping containers

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a series of thefts over the last two weekends in Lochaber.

Overnight on Sunday September 28 a number of shipping containers were broken into in the Camaghael area of Fort William.

Power tools, scrap metal and metal piping was stolen.

Around 10.30pm on Friday October 3 the window of a white Ford Transit van was smashed while it was parked outside Mossfield apartments in Caol.

Between 7pm on October 1 and 5pm on October 3 a number of fishing lures were stolen from a boat moored on Loch Arkaig.

In the early hours of Saturday October 4 damage was caused to the window of a car parked in Carn Deag Road, Claggan, and to a vehicle parked at Hegarty's repair garage in Ben Nevis industrial estate.

The windows of a number of premises on the Ben Nevis industrial estate and North Road, Fort William, have been damaged.

Anyone with information about these incidents can contact local police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800555111.

Groups celebrate community fund cash awards

BOXERS, bowlers and beekeepers in Lochaber will benefit from grants.

Shinty clubs, sea cadets and shoppers are also among the 38 beneficiaries of Lochaber Housing Association's Community Fund awards.

A total of £7,000 was available for the associations second year of funding and it was shared equally among groups including community councils, residents' associations and sports groups from Arisaig to Kinlochleven.

A spokesman for Lochaber Housing Association said: 'We had an enormous amount of interest from an extremely wide range of community groups last year.'

'This time we had 38 applications and, rather than disappoint, we decided to award £180 to each organisation.'

Witness urged to come forward after car damaged

A VEHICLE parked on Jamieson Drive, Stornoway was damaged between Friday October 3 and Saturday October 4.

Police believe the incident was witnessed and have asked anyone with information to contact local police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800555111.

Ardgour residents voice concern over 'timber tower' application



PLANNING APPLICATION: Ardgour House could soon be joined by a 'timber tower' holiday home on the estate

ARDGOUR residents have objected to a proposal to build a 'timber tower' in the area.

A planning application lodged with Highland Council by Ardgour Trading Company will see the erection of a wooden holiday home near Ardgour House, a Georgian mansion listed for historical interest.

Neighbours and other interested parties have called the design 'wholly inappropriate' and a fire hazard.

West Highland historian Iain Thornber was one of the objectors to the three-storey octagon-shaped building. He said: 'The design is quirky and unusual and while it could sit comfortably in another setting it is completely out of character and wholly inappropriate within the designed landscape surrounding the listed Ardgour House.'

'The proposed material presents a fire hazard and it should be noted that there is no retained firefighting unit in the neighbourhood. In the event of a fire, valuable native woodlands could be destroyed.'

Dolina Richardson, who lives nearby, said: 'The style of the property doesn't fit in with any of the other houses in the area and more so the estate. The fact it is made from wood gives a greater risk of fire, especially during the summer when we experience forest fires and it's risk that is not needed as it would cause so much damage to the woodland and animals in

the area.' Developers defended the proposal, saying the building will add to the character of the area.

A spokesman said: 'As each holiday aims to provide a bespoke holiday experience, the client proposes that this third building add further diversity by being finished in timber. It is envisaged as a timber tower that will blend into the surrounding trees.'

Concerns have also been raised about the shared driveway on the estate which users have said is in a 'horrendous condition'.

Mrs Richardson added: 'The road has deteriorated due to the large amount of traffic from the holiday homes using it.'

'If permission is granted this will make matters worse, not just with guests but with trucks bringing materials to build the property and the road clearly can't deal with this volume of traffic on a daily or regular basis.'

Another neighbour, Jessica Connolly, echoed Mrs Richardson's road worries.

She said: 'The road is already in a poor state of repair, postal services and rubbish collection has been suspended due to excessive wear and tear as well as damage to vehicles.'

'My concern is the increase in the number of heavy goods vehicles would be significantly detrimental to the already poor road.'

Highland Council's planning committee is expected to make a decision next month.



DELAYS: north bound traffic ground to a halt in Fort William

'No response' to traffic chaos

REPAIRS to a single manhole in Fort William ground traffic on the busy trunk road to a halt when three-way traffic lights were set up with no prior warning.

Northbound traffic on the A82 Glasgow-Inverness road was gridlocked through the town as motorists were held up so the manhole near Nevis Bridge could be repaired.

Town taxi driver Ronnie Wilson said it took him an hour to get from the High Street to Claggan and back, a round trip which would usually take no more than 10 minutes.

He also raised concerns about what would have happened had there been an emergency

on the outskirts of town.

He said: 'It was nose to tail through the whole town. If it took me an hour to take a customer to Claggan and back what chance would a fire engine have had if it had to get to Corpach or Caol?'

'There's no way it would have got through that traffic; we're really lucky nothing bad happened.'

A spokeswoman from BEAR Scotland, the organisation that carries out road repairs on behalf of Transport Scotland, said: 'Once we were made aware of the long delays we contacted Scottish Water to ask it to remove the

works in Fort William. We will be discussing with Scottish Water how disruption can be minimised for future works.'

But that was not enough for Stewart MacLean, of campaign group the A82 Partnership, who was stuck in the congestion on his way to Inverness.

He said: 'Once again the economy and social lives of people in Lochaber were ignored by the national authorities. Following the chaos I have been trying to contact both BEAR and Transport Scotland for an explanation and to ensure it won't happen again but have yet to receive a satisfactory response.'

Vital crash training

EMERGENCY service personnel from across Lochaber and beyond came together for a 'valuable' training exercise in Fort William.

The event involved fire crews from the town and Kinlochleven, members of the Scottish Ambulance Service and doctors and medics from Aviemore and Inverness who shared experience to ensure the groups can work together effectively.

During the session at Fort William fire station last week, staff had to 'rescue' victims of a mock two-car collision.

Pat McElhinney, Lochaber district officer for Scottish Fire and Rescue, said: 'We are so reliant on each other at incidents. We

live in a predominately rural area and we need to use our resources effectively and with speed to ensure we give casualties the very best of care. We also need to understand each other's command systems and priorities at such incidents so we can work together quickly.'

'This exercise provided us with an opportunity to train all our staff, but also gave us a platform to network, share experience and to get to know each other.'

Mr McElhinney thanked organisers local paramedic team leader Andrew MacGillivray and fire service watch manager Christopher Findlay as well as NHS specialists who attended.



TRAINING: emergency services work on a mock car crash scene.

Report fake goods online

A QUICK and easy way to report fake goods in the Highlands has been launched to crack down on counterfeit products.

Customers or businesses can now report copied items to Highland Council's trading standards team online.

Gordon Robb, trading standards manager, said: 'Fake goods cheat consumers, can in some cases put their safety or health at risk, supports the criminal elements of our society and defrauds those who have invested time, money and their intellect in developing

new products and brands. What someone has bought, believing it to be a quality product, can turn out to be a cheap shoddy copy.'

'Worse still, electrical products, personal items like perfumes and cosmetics or consumables such as alcohol and tobacco, can put people at risk. To tackle this problem we need information from the public and our new online form is an easy way for people to report relevant information to us.'

Fake goods can be reported at www.highland.gov.uk/counterfeits.

Fort teacher elected to EIS post

A FORT William teacher has been elected to represent education staff throughout the Highlands as part of Scotland's largest teacher union.

Bob Colman, principal modern studies teacher at Lochaber high school, was named secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS) Highland branch, following the retirement of

Andrew Stewart, who has held the post since 1991.

Mr Colman said he was 'delighted' at being elected.

He added: 'I'm a long-serving member of EIS and look forward to representing teaching staff in the Highlands from school teachers to college and university lecturers.'

OBAN STOVE CENTRE




Sales stock now available

COMPLETE IN HOUSE FITTING SERVICE HETAS

Old Crofters Yard, Soroba Rd, Oban, Argyll, PA344HU
Tel: 01631564790 Fax: 01631562919
info@obanstovecentre.co.uk

McEwens

EST 1868
DEPARTMENT STORE

THURSDAY 9TH - SUNDAY 12TH

OCTOBER

VAT FREE SHOPPING

Normal store opening times apply
PLUS open Sunday from 12pm
McEwens still pays the VAT but gives you the equivalent **20% DISCOUNT!**

George Street, Oban

Full price merchandise only. Selected departments.



LOOK!

your customers do

this advert could be seen by over 35,000 people every week*

*source: JICREG data 01/04/2014

promote your business with

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

call our sales team today

01631 568000



FLOORSHOP

EXCEPTIONAL OFFERS ON ALL FLOORING
HUNDREDS OF SAMPLES
CARPETS AND VINYL TO TAKE AWAY
FURNITURE, BEDS AND BLINDS

FOR A PROFESSIONAL AND RELIABLE SERVICE
CALL THE FLOORSHOP TODAY

Telephone: 01631 563316 • Unit 12, Mill Lane, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HA



like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Blot on the landscape

It beggars belief. The very thought of people having to live in tents and dilapidated caravans let alone the staggering image of a young couple sheltering in a cave in Argyll in 2014 is beyond the comprehension of most of us.

Homeless campaigner for Oban and Lorn Jess MacDonald says episodes such as these are not unusual. She cites the acute shortage of affordable housing in Argyll, especially for those families on low incomes or out of work, as the main contributory factor. She argues that cuts to benefit payments have already made a bad situation a good deal worse.

While some homeless people may drop through the safety net of social inclusion through their own cussed, recalcitrant work-shy attitude, the majority appear to be trapped by poverty: caught up in a never-ending cycle of debt and unemployment. How can a wealthy, sophisticated country such as ours rest easy at night when some of its citizens are cast to the mercy of the elements?

GLASGOW LETTER

Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association

AS THE season of annual gatherings gets underway with, as traditional, the Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association leading off, please note its event will take place on the second weekend of November and not the first, as in the past.

The complimentary dinner to the chairman, on this occasion John A MacIver, will take place in the Pond Hotel on Thursday November 13 with booking necessary by November 6.

Both the concert and dance will take place in Glasgow University Union on Friday November 14 at 7.30pm and 10.30pm respectively. Artists booked for the concert are singers Catriona Watt, Mary MacMillan, Robert Robertson and Alasdair MacArthur, together with accordionist John Carmichael. Tickets for the concert, costing £10, will be available at the door while those for the dance can be bought through the association's Facebook page, Angela Jenkins, telephone 07500 043774, or from the Park Bar.

For the past two years the dance has been a sell-out and with the return of Ceol an Aire to provide the music early purchase of tickets is recommended.

Bearsden Celtic Festival

BEARSDEN Celtic Festival, overseen by New Kilpatrick Church, was a resounding success.

The event started on the Friday with more than 300 children taking part in country dancing, having been taught by the Scottish Country Dancing group from the church. Later that evening many of them, together with their families, enjoyed an evening of ceilidh dancing setting the scene for a busy Saturday of workshops.

With classes in traditional musical instruments, for both adults and youngsters with or without previous experience, as well as basic Gaelic, there was an excellent uptake with as many as 25 in one Gaelic class.

As with all festivals, there was a final concert which was attended in the church hall by a sizeable audience. Entertainment was varied. Lori Watson and Jennifer Butterworth, both staff members at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and tutors for the workshops earlier in the day, were joined by pianist Jen Austin.

The audience was then enthralled by the musical skills of two youngsters who had just arrived in Glasgow from Orkney to enrol in the traditional music course at the conservative.

Further top class contributions came from Inveronan,

a young folk group from Boclair Academy, Sophie Joint from Douglas Academy Music School on clarsach and Christian Schneeberger, a student of the conservatoire and the last session's winner of the Hugh Robertson Prize for Scottish Singing.

The final artiste, Alistair MacDonald, needed no introduction and he showed he has lost none of his entertaining skills, performing in both halves of the concert and then inviting all the performers to join him for an unrehearsed, most enjoyable finale.

An excellent weekend was brought to a close with an ecumenical service in the church on Sunday evening.

Opening concert

WET WEATHER on the evening of the opening concert of the Glasgow Islay Association contributed to a rather sparse attendance.

But those present were well entertained by Glasgow Islay's senior and junior Gaelic choirs. With Kirsteen Grant committed to attendance at a separate function, choir member Jennifer Campbell took over the responsibility of conducting the seniors while the juniors were conducted by John Joe Macneil as he prepares to take them to his second National Mod.

From the juniors both Rebekah Boyle and Christina Gorman sang solo items while additional contributions from the seniors came from Iain MacLean and Janet Campbell with Janet also singing a duet with her daughter Jennifer.

Anniversary celebrations

WHEN I intimated the costs for the Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir 70th celebrations last week, I should have stated the cost for those wishing to attend the dance only will be £10.

Diary dates

Friday October 10: Clydebank and District Highlander's Association Ceilidh, Napier Hall, Old Kilpatrick, 7.30pm.

Tuesday October 14: Whisky Galore, Hutcheson's Grammar School Theatre - also Wednesday evening tickets still available at time of going to press. Live at the Star, Admiral Bar, 72a Waterloo Street, 8pm-Mike Whellans and then on October 21 with Lizanne Knott.

Pub scene

THIS weekend in the Park Bar it will be Scott Harvey on Friday, Ceol an Aire on Saturday and Deoch'n Dorus on Sunday while in the Islay Inn it will be Crooked Reel on Friday and Ragaeis on Saturday.

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



Achnacloich and Loch Etive, Argyll

This week's flashback photograph was submitted by Colin Armstrong of Coventry and features Achnacloich and Loch Etive. Prints or emails of flashback photos should be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone who wishes a print returned must supply a stamped, addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

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

www.obantimes.co.uk

Telephone: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001

Act now to save buildings at risk

Sir In last week's *Oban Times* there were two articles about two separate buildings.

They are both endangered and both are owned by Argyll and Bute council.

Starting with the former Rockfield school, the council has finally decided the wider community is interested in the idea of it becoming a social hub.

Oban Communities Trust has been told to come up with a business plan by February 2015. Meanwhile the building is in an advanced state of disrepair owing to dry rot. If this is not addressed soon there will not be a viable building to make a business plan about. I would like to think that the council was not deliberately allowing such a delay for the next meeting.

I am sure it would not want to be talked about as the authority that allowed the building to rot away.

The other building is Kilbowie House on the way to Gallanach, a fine Victorian mansion.

It is still technically on the market but, as with Rockfield school, potential buyers have been turned down.

What is happening about this building? I think we should be told. Back to Rockfield school. It is imperative to get inside the building now and not next year to address the immediate problem of dry rot.

If left unattended the dry rot could literally bring down the whole building.

Another winter would make that a highly likely scenario. I believe the council should foot at least some of the bill. After all it was the council that allowed the building to get into such a state.

If the council was not thinking so short term, it might realise that it would be repaid in the not-so-distant future by having the building converted to a social hub for the community.

It would stimulate future investment and jobs to the area as well as promoting tourism and providing extra facilities for year round events such as conferences.

Sarah Swain-Nisbet, Dalintart Drive, Oban.

Time for councillors to act in Oban

Sir, It is with interest I have read, over the past week while, the various debates and proposals for the redevelopment of Oban.

that had a roof put on it. We have had a suggested bypass from Pennyfuir cemetery to the south of Oban to relieve congestion in the town.

In the town itself, it has been suggested that the Black Linn should be 'bridged' over and a central landscaped car parking area with public toilets provided.

This area, Airds Crescent/Stevenson Street, could also be used for a weekly 'open air' market.

The former Rockfield primary school is now being argued over as to whether it should become a visitor attraction cultural/heritage centre.

There is also a debate as to whether land should be exchanged to create a recreation park and housing.

A park would be nice in town, but may I suggest there is plenty of land to build housing between Oban and Pennyfuir cemetery.

What is the purpose of this letter? Well, it seems there are plenty of good ideas about, without having to destroy what the visitors come to Oban to see.

Car parking improvements are drastically needed in Oban to bring it into the 21st century, whilst retaining Oban's heritage and character.

This would be beneficial for both the residents of Oban and the thousands of visitors to this beautiful area.

However, it seems that although the people of Oban know what they need to do to improve their town, Argyll and Oban councillors don't. They talk about doing this and that, but at the end of the day they just 'sit on their hands with their heads in the sand'.

We are all fed up of hearing the same old excuse from the councillors of 'we have no money for funding such projects'.

I sympathise with them, but doing nothing is not an option. Have they never heard of the saying 'the only thing to remain constant is change'.

Mull not alone with 'missing' police

Sir, Re: Call for 'missing' police, page 2, Oban Times October 2 2014.

Please reassure Mull Community Council that they are not alone.

We, the Kilmadock Community Council covering Doune and Deanston have had just one visit from a policeman since I joined the council in December 2013.

Prior to Scotland having just one police force, we had an extremely able community policeman, who attended as many meetings as he could, provided a written report on local crimes and other relevant matters if he couldn't, contributed a report to the local magazine, and attended the villages' youth project and got to know the youngsters.

councillors, that other community councils in the Stirling council area are experiencing the same lack of service. Is it the same in Argyll and Bute? Is it time for community councils to revolt?

Deborah Hackett Kilmadock Community Council, Doune, Perthshire.

Hope that use found for old Rockfield

Sir, Over the past weeks and months I have been watching the tale of the former Rockfield primary school unfold, and now it seems we are no closer to finding out the fate of the building.

The discovery of dry rot, and this forcing a potential bidder to withdraw, is concerning to say the least.

If Oban Communities Trust can put forward a viable business plan to save the school, then great.

Passions seem to be running high with regards to the outcome of the building and it obviously holds special memories for some people in the town, but I'm sure I speak for many when I say I hope a use is found for the site, either with the building still standing before it deteriorates further, or another purpose.

The last thing we need in the middle of the town is a dilapidated building that serves no purpose other than providing some parking around about it.

Perhaps now it is time to stop romanticising about the memories the building holds for former pupils and realise that it's a large space in a prime location in the town that could be put to great use, whatever that use is.

Play park efforts bring people together

Sir, The fundraising efforts of those involved in the Oban Community Play Park continue to bring a smile to my face when I read about them in *The Oban Times*.

The coming together of people from all parts of the community to help such a worthy cause is great to see, and the recent £1,000 raised at a fashion show at the Oban Phoenix cinema is a testimony to the hard work of the organisers.

The target looks well within reach if grant applications to the likes of SportScotland

come good and with donations and all the fund-raising.

It shows what a bit of teamwork and community spirit can accomplish, and I for one am proud of the efforts of everyone involved.

Speaking to fellow residents, many are in agreement of how good a job is being done - we've never seen anything like it for a fund-raising campaign.

I'm sure the finished play park will do the efforts of the fundraisers justice, and I look forward to seeing generations of Oban children enjoying it.

Here's hoping the fantastic work continues and the whole community carries in with its support.

More help needed for low income working households

Sir, An increase to the national minimum wage, which came in to effect this week, is certainly a welcome boost for low income workers who are struggling to make ends meet.

With almost three-fifths of low income working households telling us that their financial situation has worsened in the last year, and two in five reporting that their outgoings now outweigh their earnings, this above-inflation rise is a positive step towards easing the immense pressure on household budgets.

However, with over half of the 13 million people in poverty now living in a working household, it is clear that more needs to be done to tackle this issue.

With difficult financial times ahead, we want to make sure that anyone struggling on a low income is aware of all the support available to them.

Our free website - www.turn2us.org.uk can help people check their eligibility for welfare benefits, charitable grants and other financial help.

Our benefits calculator also includes a 'better-off' function to show users how a change in employment hours or wages, or unemployment could affect their benefits entitlements and overall household income.

With the real impact of wage increases and other economic improvements unlikely to be widely felt for some time, we hope more people in need can access financial support that could make all the difference today.

Alison Taylor, Director of Turn2us, 200 Shepherds Bush Road, London W6 7NL.



Beachd Ailein Ailean Caimbeul

THA MOIT AM MEASG nam bàrd orm gus mo rann a chur an cèill!

Sin mar a dh'aithriseas cuid fogsgladh an dàin a sgrìobh Iain Dubh mac Dhòmhnaill nan Òran do dh'Fhear Hùsaboist, an t-uachdaran Neacal Màrtainn, is Iain a' sireadh cead cadail air lobhte Tigh Stòir a bh' aig Neacal faisg air Fearann MhicGuairne an Gleann Dail.

Bha fios aig Neacal nach robh airgead aig Iain a phàigheadh mál agus a rèir aithris, 's ann airson spòrs dha fhèin a dh'iarr e dan molaiddh. Chuir Iain car ma chnoc air an t-seann uachdaran a' moladh ceatharnach òg, dreachmhor, calma, coibhneil, air an robh mòr-mheas fad is farsaing! Thuir e cuideachd gun robh ùrnaighean nan daoine bochda a' guidhe 'cathair àrd' dhan uachdaran, a rèir a chuid gnìomha.

Chanadh cuid gur e bha seo ach fanaid air fear a bha cho trom air croitearan ri uachdaran sam bith a bh' ann san treas roinn den naoidheamh linn deug, ach cha b' urrainn do Neacal dùbhan a thogail le Iain gun aitheachadh nach robh an dealbh a bha san dàin frinneach! Sin pàirt den sgl shònraichte a bh' aig Iain Dubh agus chleachd e an aon seòrsa alt ann an Aoir Dhòmhnaill Ghrann; Òran Chatriona Ghrann; agus Tost Dhòmhnaill an Fhèilidh.

Bha moit cuideachd air na choinnich aig Talla Coimhearsnachd Ghleann Dail san Eilean Sgitheanach, Disathairne seo chaidh, nuair a chaidh cuimhneachan air Bàird Ghleann Dail fhòillseachadh. Thug Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir Nis (CGI) a' phròiseact gu buil le taic bhon Chomhairle Coimhearsnachd, Urras Ghleann Dail, Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, agus Tormod MacLeòid, ogha dha Niall Dhòmhnaill nan Òran, ann an Ameireagaidh. An dèidh an fhòillseachaidh chaidh an leabhar dreachmhor aig Birlinn fon tìotal Bàird Ghleann Dail a chomharrachadh cuideachd, agus chualas iomradh air obair Dhòmhnaill agus a mhic, Niall agus Iain Dubh. Chuir CGI agus Tormod MacLeòid taic ris an leabhar, còmhla ri Comhairle nan Leabhraichean, Urras an Eilein, Fèisean nan Gàidheal, agus Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

Bha e air leth iomchaidh cuid de dh'òrain Neill is Iain a chluinntinn bhon t-sàr sheinneadair Art MacCarraig. Chuir an ceòl aig a' phoibaire Eòghainn MacCruimein bàrr air cùisean, agus am measg na chualas bhuaithe bha Fàilte Dhòmhnaill Chaimbeil air Gleann Dail, port a sgrìobh an Dalach ainmeil Dhòmhnaill an Dannsair a bha na bàbaidh dha Dhòmhnaill nan Òran. 'S math cuimhneachan air Bàird Ghleann Dail agus 's math gu sònraichte an leabhar, agus mholainn dhuibh e!

THE GREATEST tribute for a bard is to have his/her compositions performed regularly, and in that regard the MacLeod Bards of Glendale in Skye have been remarkably honoured with their songs heard regularly over a century after the last of them died.

Last Saturday a memorial was unveiled at Glendale Community Hall to honour the work of Donald MacLeod and his sons Neil and John.

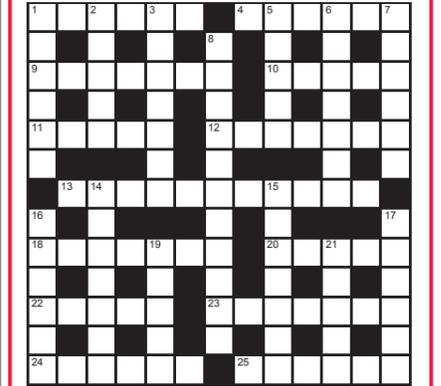
Following the unveiling, a new selection of the bards' work, Bàird Ghleann Dail The Glendale Bards published by Birlinn, was also launched.

I commend it to you!

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

SCOTS Heritage Magazine SPONSORS

THE OBAN TIMES GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- | | |
|---|--|
| Across | Down |
| 1 Measurement of period a computer is working (6) | 1 Maximum (6) |
| 4 Hurry (6) | 2 Meat lifter (5) |
| 9 Inorganic element found naturally (7) | 3 A certain spy's beverage (7) |
| 10 Olive green and white American bird (5) | 5 Hang (5) |
| 11 Raw food (5) | 6 Lemon or sand plant (7) |
| 12 Long-legged Brazilian bird (7) | 7 Land cultivator (6) |
| 13 Suited for work (11) | 8 Support for a break (7,4) |
| 18 Move precisely (7) | 14 Read the riot act to (7) |
| 20 Be (5) | 15 Be in humid heat (7) |
| 22 Tiger or or king (5) | 16 Chilled drink (6) |
| 23 Relapse (3-4) | 17 Fire tender (6) |
| 24 Stick out (6) | 19 Colourful contents of a cartridge (5) |
| 25 Passion (6) | 21 Adult insect (5) |

LAST week's SOLUTION

M	I	N	I	C	A	B	V	I	C	A	R
O	L	I	O	R	A	E	O	E			
L	O	G	I	C	A	L	S	O	R	A	N
A	G	K	I	T	G	E					
R	O	L	L	E	R	S	K	A	T	I	N
E	R	E	L	L	U						
A	F	R	E	S	H	A	V	E	N	U	E
R	I	A									
S	E	L	F	A	S	S	U	R	A	N	C
E	O	N	T	G	K	N					
N	O	U	R	I	S	H	I	L	E	U	S
I	S	E	M	N	E	U					
C	R	E	E	L	A	B	S	E	N	C	E

SCOTS Heritage Magazine

AUTUMN EDITION OUT NOW

www.scotsheritagemagazine.com

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 daytime 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.

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.

Children injured in three-car crash on A85 blackspot

TWO CHILDREN suffered head and facial injuries in a three-car collision at an accident blackspot next to Loch Etive this week.

Traffic came to a standstill on Monday, October 6, after the accident on the A85 at Achna-choich, east of Connel.

Police and two ambulances rushed to the scene of the crash. The first vehicle, a Vauxhall Zafira, driven by a 31-year-old woman, had four child passengers on board, with a 10-year-old girl and a two-year-old boy treated for head and facial injuries.

The 46-year-old driver of a Range Rover suffered a chest injury and whiplash while her 41-year-old male passenger was unhurt.

The third car involved, a Vauxhall Corsa, had no passengers, with the 24-year-old female driver uninjured in the collision.

Police confirmed a report has been sent to the procurator fiscal.



Man sentenced to 163 days for bottle attack on pub customers

A 34-YEAR old man was jailed for 163 days for wielding a broken bottle during a brawl in Oban's Skippinish Ceilidh House, which saw the owner and a staff member hurt.

The damage could have been worse but for the actions of one unknown, brave woman.

CCTV footage showed Neil McKinven, of Kiltarrie Crescent, Airdrie, and his employees Cameron Barclay, 22, of Dover Street, Coatbridge, and Jamie Hynes, 29, of Townhead, Coatbridge, in the fight.

McKinven admitted having the broken bottle as an offensive weapon; and Hynes admitted having an unbroken bottle. The CCTV footage showed Hynes pick up two bottles, hand one to McKinven, who smashed it. The men then rushed to help Barclay, who was involved in an altercation.

'He was intercepted as he walked toward the group by this unknown lady,' said procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty at Oban sheriff court last week.

Barclay and Hynes pleaded guilty to assault and Barclay also pleaded guilty to repeatedly punching another man on the head and body.

McKinven and Hynes also admitted assaulting a customer by butting and punching him, kneeling on him and brandishing bottles at him. They also admitted assaulting the venue's owner.

Oban Sheriff court heard how the three men had been working in the Oban area and McKinven, their boss, had taken the other two out for a meal and a drink to thank them for their hard work, but things deteriorated during the early hours of June 6 in the popular and well-respected Oban venue.

Of their victims, one was bruised around the eyes; another was bitten so hard it went through clothing and left a bruise but did not puncture the skin. The third victim suffered a broken nose and a door steward had minor bruising.

In sentencing McKinven to 163 days, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'You are in a different category to your co-accused; you have a schedule of previous convictions for assault.'

Barclay and Hynes were given the maximum 300 hours of community service. Barclay is to pay compensation of £300 each to two victims.

Hynes must pay £500 to one and £100 to the other people he assaulted.

Welcome decline in deliberate fires

THE NUMBER of deliberate fires started in the Highlands has almost halved since last year.

Figures show there were 51 intentional fires in the area between April and June this year, compared to 91 during the same period last year.

Scott Hay, Highland senior officer of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, said: 'The service has introduced a number of fire reduction strategies and thematic action plans, targeting these types of incident. We are working with partner agencies to reduce these incidents overall and I am pleased to see a reduction during the first quarter of the year.'

The statistics also show non-fatal casualties caused by accidental house fires have stayed relatively similar, (six in the first quarter this year, compared to five last year) but the number of accidental fires overall has risen to 36 from 27.

Fireworks set for waterfront show

AN article on Oban community council suggested that the town's annual fireworks may be held at Mossfield.

Council chairwoman, Marri Malloy, has asked *The Oban Times* to make clear there was never any suggestion from the BIDS company that this would be the case. The fireworks will be held on Oban's waterfront.

Family in desperate plea for 88-year-old mother to return to her village home

LOUISE LEE
lle@obantimes.co.uk

AN 88-year-old woman is 'stuck' in an Oban nursing home, unable to return home to her house in Bridge of Orchy due to a lack of carers.

After an eight-month battle to bring their mother home, Ian Andrew and Cathy Chalmers have 'gone public' to highlight their plight.

Ian, a former policeman who grew up in Bridge of Orchy, explains: 'My mum is a very private person and doesn't want her name mentioned.'

'But she was happy to have her

story in *The Oban Times* because despite living in an excellent care home in Oban, she wants to be in her home with all her friends and things around her.

'There is very little wrong with her but she needs some help around the house.'

Cathy, who now lives in Livingston, continued: 'My mum had a hip operation after a fall in February and then no one wanted to provide care services in Bridge of Orchy.'

'Every week the council would phone my mum with a different story about her moving home, or into a care home. It raised her hopes the whole time.

'Eventually, I asked that they didn't phone her as it was becoming really upsetting.'

'In June Argyll and Bute council decided my mum would be moved into a nursing home and ever since it has paid £505 per week for her accommodation, rather than moving my mum home.'

Their mum has lived in Bridge of Orchy since she was married in 1949, rarely leaving the village for much more than short holidays.

One of her lifelong neighbours was her sister in law - who is also unable to move back to the village because she hasn't got a carer.

The family explained that the two women have been close

friends and used to talk five or six times a day.

But now they are separated by the lack of care provision available in the rural village.

Cathy continued: 'We have meetings and receive letters. In fact, the last one I got told me they had appointed consultants to look into the matter.'

'I don't need consultants - we need a carer.'

'I have even given the name and address of a council-trained care worker who can help them out. But they have still to contact her.'

'I feel the problem here is that they don't want my mum to leave Oban because care in a rural area

is too difficult.' The family has seen the school in the village shut and the houses almost cut off due to lack of water over the last ten years.

They say that there is a real problem because only fit, middle aged people, can live in rural areas because children and pensioners are 'too expensive for the local authority.'

John Finnie, Highlands and Islands MSP, has raised the plight of the family with both Argyll and Bute council and the cabinet secretary for health and well-being Alex Neil.

But to date nothing has happened. He said: 'People have a right to

live in their own community.'

A spokesman for Argyll and Bute council said: 'We work to provide people with the care they need and would be happy to speak directly with the family.'

'Our priority is to deliver the very best home care to our communities and we are taking action to develop opportunities for people to be cared for in their home.'

'We have taken the step of commissioning the Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (IRISS) to bring key service providers together as an informal partnership to organise the planning and delivery of home care in Argyll and Bute.'

Community group backs campaign to build cultural hub

A CAMPAIGNING trust has been told to stop 'whingeing' and get on with saving the former Rockfield primary school.

That was the message from community councillors after Oban Communities Trust (OCT) criticised Oban community council for its stance on Rockfield.

Community council secretary Duncan Martin told fellow com-

munity councillors that he was very disappointed with comments that OCT chairman Gordon McNab made at a recent meeting.

Mr Martin said: 'We told them we were fully supportive of a community trust - but we were concerned about where the money was coming from to do all the work required.'

Chairwoman Marri Malloy

added: 'I am very disappointed in comments that I have heard have been made by Mr McNab.'

'We did not know about their offer and therefore we supported the Argyll Community Housing Association bid to build affordable homes on the site.'

'It wasn't until two weeks later that we found out there was a community trust. There was no going

back on our decision then.'

Councillor Iain Angus MacDonald said that while there had been differences between the community trust and the community council, it was time for both groups to work together.

Newly elected Oban, Lorn and the Isles area chairman Roddy McCuish said: 'If I can, I will put all the information in the public

domain and people can see what information we had to go on to make our decision about Rockfield.'

OCT has elected members from the community to sit on a board, and have secured support from the Scottish Land Trust.

They have appointed Eleanor MacKinnon to work on the group's community action plan.

Local solicitor and Rockfield campaigner, Gordon McNab said:

'Things are progressing very nicely with all the community's ideas and suggestions being discussed at our very productive directors meeting last week.'

'We are building more momentum each day and the offers of support from the community have been overwhelming.'



PRIZE GUY: Andy MacDowall (centre) with son Andrew and Michael Russell MSP at the awards

Andy's the handiest of volunteers

OBAN'S Andy MacDowall won volunteer of the year at the Age Scotland Awards.

Andy, 82, has profound hearing loss and is awaiting a hip operation but none of this

prevented him from giving up his time to support older people in Oban in numerous ways.

From being a volunteer driver for the local soup group, frail walking group and setting

up lunches, to doing heavy gardening work and taking away rubbish, he does it all.

He is available to take anyone to church on a Sunday who can't make it by themselves,

along with taking people to visit the cemetery or loved ones in hospital or care homes. He is also chairman of Oban in Bloom and runs senior sessions at The Shed, a community workshop.

Golden occasion for staff



STAFF shared a golden moment with company directors when they were given the day off to mark a special celebration last Friday, October 3.

Employees of Wyvex Media, the publishers of The Oban Times group, the Scottish Field and Fish Farmer joined in celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of Howard and Joan Bennett, chairman and vice-chairman of the company.

The couple wished to show their appreciation and thanks to staff by giving them a day's holiday.

The Bennetts, who have owned the newspaper group since the 1980s, said that working and living together was 'exhilarating and exciting'. Howard and Joan

are to celebrate their wedding anniversary at a special family gathering at Dunkeld in Perthshire.

Mrs Bennett said she was delighted with the cards and flowers she had received from the staff.

Saying thank you on behalf of staff members, Marek Madej, who has been with the company since the Bennett family took over 31 years ago, said: 'I have loved working at *The Oban Times*.'

'I thought it was lovely of Mr and Mrs Bennett to give us an extra day off. The staff in Oban wish them all the best - and of course we raised a glass in celebration of their long and happy marriage.'



There are some things you can't do with **The Oban Times** Digital Edition & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES but you can **save 64%** on an annual subscription obantimes.co.uk/digital



*Calculated against the cost of a printed annual subscription at £58 per year which includes postage and packaging. Please note this product does NOT work on iPhone, iPads or Tablets. Requires PC or Mac with access to the internet (Broadband recommended) with an internet browser that supports Flash.

care in the



My life, my care

People have different needs at different times of their lives. Below are some examples of how people have dealt with situations.

PAYING FOR CARE

Jean lived alone without help. Her only child had moved abroad some years ago and she had no nearby relatives to help. She had actively considered moving into a residential home and had enough money to pay for this. Jean's late husband had run a successful business and left her with a sizable sum of money. With this and her own private pension, Jean was not worried about paying for a care home. She talked about her plans with a friendly neighbour over coffee one morning. The neighbour agreed that Jean probably wouldn't get any financial help from the council, but there was no harm in asking. Jean called her council social workers to ask for help. The social worker visited Jean the following week and they talked about how she was coping day to day and what she wanted to be able to do. They then talked about Jean's finances.

The social worker confirmed that Jean was not eligible for council funding. However, she also talked about the pros and cons of residential care and the alternatives. She then left Jean with some information about home care.

After thinking it over, and getting more information, Jean realised she didn't want to leave her home. Instead, she chose to pay for a home care service. She now has a care worker who visits twice a day for an hour. The carer helps out with Jean's domestic and personal tasks and, just as importantly for Jean, she also provides the companionship that she had been missing. If you're thinking about paying for your own care because you don't think you'd be eligible for financial help from the council, you should still get in touch with your local authority. Even if they can't help financially, they can still advise on the best option.

WORRIES ABOUT FALLING

Mary lived with her husband, Jack. She had dementia and was prone to falls which resulted in her being admitted to hospital. Mary needed a lot of reassurance and became very anxious if Jack left the room and sometimes got up to

see where he was. Jack liked to watch television after she had gone to bed. However, if she woke, she would get out of bed to find him.

Jack found it very stressful to both look after Mary and worry about her safety. Having a carer come to the home twice a day helped, but did not remove the worry of getting up and falling. During a visit, an occupational therapist suggested installing Telecare with a chair and bed sensor. Although initially reluctant, Jack agreed on a trial basis. After a week or two, Jack reported that the Telecare solution was a great success. He was able to get on with jobs round the house, reassured that his Telecare pager would alert him if Mary stood up from her chair. He could also relax whilst watching the TV in the evening, knowing that the bed sensor would let him know if Mary got up.

LOSING WEIGHT

Bob had been living on his own since his wife passed away and was coping quite well. However, friends had recently started to tell him he seemed to be losing weight. Bob had never done much cooking and living in a remote village also meant that going shopping was quite a chore.

As a result of his friends' concerns, Bob talked to his GP about his weight loss.

His GP referred him to a dietician. Bob spoke with the dietician and told him about his friends' concerns and the problems he was having with eating.

The service gave Bob information about shopping services. This included information about how to get groceries and ready-made meals delivered to Bob's home. They also talked about nearby lunch clubs and community transport services that would take him to these.

Three months after his first meeting with the dietician, Bob is finding it much easier to get his groceries and is enjoying cooking for himself. He is also enjoying socialising at a local lunch club. He is not only maintaining a healthy weight but feeling much better in himself.

Lynn of Lorne Care Home

All Residents at the Lynn of Lorne are treated as individuals, their rights respected and all needs met in a professional manner with dignity and respect. Our dedicated and professional staff team support our residents to preserve as maximum level of independence as possible in a safe, relaxed and comfortable environment. We seek participation to plan their care and we welcome all visitors and friends.

Benderloch, Oban PA37 1QW Tel: 01631 720278

VISITATION AT TAYNUILT

Prayer Group Meetings

7pm Wednesdays
Craig Lodge, Dalmally
Visitation Catholic Church, Taynuilt.

Need help with home care for a loved one?

We provide outstanding personal care and support for all your homecare needs.

For professional advice, help and support, call us on **01631 569 550** or visit us at www.carersdirect.com

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE OBAN AREA
Together for older people

Royal Voluntary Service has a proud history in volunteering, providing support to older people in our communities. In Oban we have several initiatives including Befriending, operating our shop and Cafe, Meet and Greet Service with Lorn and Islands Hospital and delivering Meals on Wheels.

The majority of those we support in this way are older or vulnerable people. Our volunteers will offer friendship, information, practical support, delivery of a hot lunch and a great cuppa in our hospital.

To support these initiatives we are looking to recruit volunteers for our services in the Oban area. Volunteering is flexible - volunteers let us know when they are free and available and we design our rota around their busy schedules. We know our volunteers always have lots of other things to do!

If you could offer an hour or so per week to support an older person, perhaps by visiting them for a chat and a coffee, taking them out to get some shopping or just accompany on a quick trip to the Post Office, or if you would like to volunteer for any of the above, please get in touch.

You will be offered full training and support from our on site team.

If you would like to get involved please contact Audrey on 01631 570233, mobile 074442498868 or Theresa at our hub office on 01475 600442.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Carers Direct Ltd
Providing outstanding Personal care and Support

71 Sinclair Street, Helensburgh G84 8TG

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

Argyll Voluntary Action
Supporting People and Communities to thrive

We are the leading support organisation to the Third Sector in Argyll & Bute. We offer a range of services, based on identified need, making a difference to our communities and volunteers.

Supporting older people in the community
Supporting people who have experienced difficult times
'Saltire' Awards for Young People & Intergenerational Work
Guided Self Help for people who are feeling low or anxious

We have offices in Lochgilphead, Campbeltown, Dunoon & Helensburgh
Main office: 21 High Street Oban. 01631 564839
Reg. Charity Number SC029947 Company Number 277345

Rape and Sexual Abuse Support

ARGYLL & BUTE RAPE CRISIS
Tel. 01631 567190
Offers free confidential support to Women, Men and Young People (13+) who have been raped, sexually assaulted and/or sexually abused at any time in their lives.

Female Helpline 08001 214685
Male Helpline 08000 320399
support@ab-rc.org.uk
E-mail: info@abrc.org.uk
www.ab-rc.org.uk

Great stories, news, views and photos are just a click away

as well as sport, leisure, what's on, recruitment, property section and much more - you can even order a copy online

VISIT US AT
www.obantimes.co.uk

Worry-free means all this is included:

- A new scooter or powered wheelchair every three years
- Standard pricing nationwide
- Insurance
- Breakdown assistance
- Servicing, maintenance and repairs
- Tyre and battery replacement
- A dedicated UK based Customer Service team
- Reliability and peace of mind

Motability
www.motability.co.uk

Find out if you're eligible to get a Motability scooter or powered wheelchair by calling 0800 953 3060

City MOBILITY
46a Seafield Road
Longman Industrial Estate
Inverness IV1 1SG
Tel: 01463 250850 Fax: 01463 250950
email: info@city-mobility.co.uk
Covering the North of Scotland

SURVIVORS OF BEREAVEMENT BY SUICIDE

We know it happens.....So let's talk....

Those who are left behind after someone takes their own life can be helped by talking to others who have experienced the same. If you have been personally affected by a suicide and are looking for help and advice, we offer are now offering various support groups throughout Argyll & Lochaber.

For more information
Contact: Anne on 07552 503118 or Joyce on 01397 700958
Registered in Scotland Charity No. SC041397 Company Number 4754829

Great stories, news, views and photos are just a click away

as well as sport, leisure, what's on, recruitment, property section and much more - you can even order a copy online

VISIT US AT
www.obantimes.co.uk

community



BEFRIENDERS

Befrienders is a voluntary organisation which covers Argyll and Bute. We are now in our 26th year of operation.

We offer 1:1 befriending for vulnerable children and young people aged six to 16 who are resident within the area.

Befrienders is looking to recruit adult volunteers in Oban and Lorne at the moment.

Befriending is about offering a child the support and friendship of a trusted adult from outwith their own family group. Befrienders engage in many activities with their beneficiaries including walking, cooking, cinema trips, window shopping, sports and just chatting over a meal or coffee.

Volunteer befrienders are given support and supervision from staff at Befrienders. Volunteers' out of pocket expenses are paid.

No formal qualifications are required, just a sense of fun, and an ability to see the world through someone else's eyes.

If you feel this is an opportunity you could be interested in please contact Cathi at the number in our adjacent advertisement.

NORTH ARGYLL CARERS CENTRE

Do you provide unpaid help and support to a family member, child, partner, relative or friend, who could not manage without you?

This could be due to age, physical or mental health issues, disability, long term condition or addiction.

We provide: advice and information, support groups, emotional and practical support, training and activities, therapies, counselling and advocacy.

We have an outreach service supporting carers in rural and remote areas with regular visits and activities organised for carers across the area.

Our Young Carers Service offers after-school clubs, activities, respite and support to young carers from the age of eight years upwards.

Why not come along and see how we can help you. We are open Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm. You are welcome to drop in or can phone to make an appointment. Staff are always available and you will be most welcome.

Befrienders

Because children's lives are never just black and white

Do you have a few hours to spare to support a vulnerable local child or young person?

Please contact Cathi Bertin
01546 603144 or 07918601567
www.befriendersforchildren.co.uk

PO BOX 9576,
Lochgilhead, PA31 9BB

SOROBA YOUNG FAMILY GROUP

Offers weekly Respite Creche, Parent & Toddlers and Reception Group for families with children aged birth to 3 years. We have space for children aged 3-4 years in the nursery. Wrap around care for 3-5 year olds.

Tel: 01631 565263
E: enquiries@sorobayoungfamilygroup.com

Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre (Oban) Ltd,
Glencruitten Road,
Oban, PA34 4PU

Registered Office: 252 Union Street,
Aberdeen.
Registered Company No. 115820,
Scottish Charity No. SC016889

In Oban we have a Hyperbaric Oxygen Centre for treating and supporting people with Multiple Sclerosis.

The aim of oxygen treatment in M.S. is to minimize the amount of damage being caused, promote rapid healing and to limit the scar formation which can prevent nerve function being restored. It is more beneficial to start treatment as soon as the diagnosis has been made. Please telephone Sandra for more information 01631 566602

CROSSREACH

providing a caring future

Auchinlee Care Home Providing Care since 1952
Specialising in Dementia care.

24 single rooms all with en-suite facilities.
Dementia Friendly Garden with Excellent views over Campbeltown Loch

Experienced and fully trained SVQ Level 3 staff team offering tailored One to One and Group Activities with Activity Co-ordinator and key-workers

contact Sharon Scott, Service Manager
High Askomil, Campbeltown, PA28 6EN
01586 552568

Sheltered Housing
Lorne Campbell Court
Millknowe Road, Campbeltown.
Flats available to let.

Please telephone for further information.
Telephone: 0141 353 1944

Crossroads Caring SCOTLAND

- Respite** - Offering Carers a much needed break and spending quality time with the cared for person.
- Homecare Service** - personal care, including support with bathing, showering, shaving, medication, shopping and light domestic duties as required.
- Overnight Service** - Sleeping "on call" offering security and support in the case of an emergency. Waking - providing overnight care and support as detailed in Personal Plan.
- Palliative Care Service** - Specially trained Care Attendants working closely with GP's Community Nurses provide comforting care and support at home in final days.
- Escort and Support** - For people of all ages who may need one to one support
- 24/7 Care Packages** - provision of round the clock care for individuals with complex needs. From Personal Care to promoting independence and realising outcomes.

Direct Line: 01397 701020
Email: helen.martin@crossroads-scotland.co.uk

Glenloy Street | Cool Shopping Centre | Cool | Fort. William | PH33 7DR
National Office: 0141 226 3793 | www.crossroads-scotland.co.uk

Lochaber Action on Disability - Lochaber District Lunch Club

Freshly prepared two course home-made cuisine
Every day: Monday - Friday
Arrive for 12.30pm
Served at 1.00pm
£4.70 per head

Come along and enjoy our open friendly manner at Caol Community Centre
All ages welcome

L.A.D.'s fully accessible transport available on request.
Give us a call on 01397 701171 and ask for Laura or just turn up and give us a try!

COMMUNITY CAFE

(You can find us opposite Caol Post Office, Glenloy Street, Caol)

Monday - Friday 9.30 - 3.00pm - Saturday 9.30 - 12.30pm
Chef's Special
Homemade Soup, Toastie and a cup of tea / coffee £3.80
Afternoon Special
Homemade scone and a cup of tea / Coffee £2.10
Hot or Cold Roll and Drink of your choice
(1 filling) £2.70, (2 fillings) £3.00

RELATIONSHIPS SCOTLAND

Couple Counselling Argyll

Do you have a relationship problem?
IT HELPS TO TALK

We provide confidential professional relationship counselling for both couples and individuals.

Appointments are available in
OBAN, LOCHGILPHEAD, ROTHESAY,
HELENSBURGH & CAMPBELTOWN

We also offer telephone counselling for those that may not be able to get to a counselling centre.

Call 01631 563297
www.argyllcouplecounselling.org
SCO23995

We offer support and information to anyone on self-directed supported.

If you would like us to support you, or you would like to volunteer, please get in touch

Contact Becs to find out more

✉ becsbarker@carrgomm.org
☎ 07766 925388
@ www.carrgomm.org/communitycontacts

A company limited by guarantee in Scotland: SC236436
Scottish Charity: SC 033491
National and Registered Office space, 11 Harewood Road, Edinburgh EH16 4NT

North Argyll Carers Centre
Supporting Carers in North Argyll and the Islands

For further information visit our office at Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AL
please call us on 01631 564422 or e-mail on info@northargyllcarers.org.uk

Registered as a Scottish Charity No: SC040902

Concerned about a relative living alone?

Abbeyfield Carradale provides supported living accommodation for older people where they can continue to live as they want in an atmosphere that's safe, reassuring, supportive and friendly.

Short term (RESPITE) stays available

Abbeyfield Carradale
Abbeyfield Carradale & District Society Ltd, SC006765 Phone: 01583-431278

Dochas Carers Centre

Bringing together people who care

Offering carers support, information and guidance

Counselling Skills Service

Supported by Macmillan Cancer Support

For more information or to make an appointment contact the Dochas Centre, Lochgilhead or telephone on 01546 605261/600022

Our Day Hospice has recently moved to Lynnside Day Centre on Soroba Road. It is open on Mondays from 9.30 am until 3 pm. Our Hospice services include the use of two patient beds and a separate relatives room at the local hospital.

For further information please contact chairman, David Entwistle on 01631 711 823 or 07582220648.
www.obanhospice.org.uk; Facebook; @ObanHospice

Enhancing the quality of life

Like like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

what's on

THE OBAN TIMES
FREE EVENT LISTING

- THURSDAY 9TH OCTOBER**
Head in the Clouds, A play for under 4s, Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern, 10.30am
Gaelic Conversation Group, Furan Gaelic Centre, Corran Halls, Oban, 7pm
Mike Vass - In The Wake of Neil Gunn, St John's Cathedral, Oban, 7.30pm
- SATURDAY 11 OCTOBER**
Gaelic Conversation Group, Furan Gaelic Centre, Corran Halls, Oban, 11.30am-1pm
Annual Beer Festival, The Inn at Loch Lomond, 12pm onwards
Lorn Organic Growers Apple Day, Barguillan Nursery, Taynuilt, 12-3pm
Soup Lunch in aid of Oban Pipe Band, Pipe Band Hall, Shore Street, Oban, 12-2pm
Scottish Opera: Verdi's Macbeth, Corran Halls, Oban, 7.30pm
- SUNDAY 12TH OCTOBER**
Crafters and Producers Market, Great Western Hotel, Oban, 11am-4pm
Craft Fayre, Creagan Inn, Appin, Every Sunday, 12-5pm
- MONDAY 13TH OCTOBER**
Oban Camera Club, Regent Hotel, Oban, Text Alex 07799 353140 for more info, Every Monday, 7.30pm
- THURSDAY 16TH OCTOBER**
Gaelic Conversation Group, Furan Gaelic Centre, Corran Halls, Oban, 7pm

Email details of your event to
whatson@obantimes.co.uk.

"See local press for details"

★★★★ "Your local paper - a must-see"

Regional Press
closer to home

MACDONALD OF GLENCOE

Seeking descendants of the Macdonalds of Drumnatorran, Strontian, possible heirs to be Chiefs of Macdonald of Glencoe

Please contact Hugh Millar Peskett FSAScot
28 Woodfield Drive, Winchester SO22 5PX
Tel: 01962 864623 or
email hugh@hughpeskett.co.uk

CEILIDH BAND WANTED

For Hogmanay
Stunning Venue at Crinan Hotel

Crinan, by Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SR
reservations@crinanhotel.com
www.crinanhotel.com
Tel: 01546 830261

Eye to eye with John Wallace

Why Computers Keep Us Awake

A few days ago I had the pleasure of attending the first ever International Congress of Behavioural Optometry to be held in the UK. This four yearly conference usually is held in the US or Australia. This conference deals primarily with vision and reading disorders both in children and adults. One area to which the conference devoted considerable time was in the visual rehabilitation of brain injured soldiers and of stroke victims. Sadly, because of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars there are lots of people who would benefit from this mode of therapy.

My own interest was in the area of reading problems. Several family members have these, ranging from relatively minor to full blown dyslexia. I will discuss progress in this area another time.

How often have you struggled to get the kids to bed when they have playing on their computer or smart phone? Probably virtual-

ly every night! Why is it so difficult to get kids to switch off at bed-time? The answer would appear to be the latest ultra-bright screens stop our brains from producing Melatonin which is a chemical we all need to regulate our sleep patterns. These ultra-bright screens emit high levels of blue light. This makes them appear much brighter and clearer. The down side of this increased clarity of comfort of viewing is blue light slows down the production of Melatonin. Hence our brains struggle to switch off at night.

In my household, much to my son David's disgust, I have insisted on all computers being switched off and all smart phone use ceasing one hour before his bed time. The difference has been quite amazing. He actually feels tired and some nights he even wants to go to bed voluntarily. Not normal behaviour for a thirteen year old! I wonder how long it will last?

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

Walled garden welcomes folk to share special space

THE WALLED garden on the outskirts of Oban is a very special place.

It feels like walking into a wee world of its own. It seems warmer inside the centuries old walls of the garden at Glencruitten House or perhaps just a gentler micro climate than the early October day when The Oban Times visited would give rise to.

The history of the garden must be long and illustrious. Whoever it was that marked out and then managed to build the walls of the garden was ambitious.

Its vast size - probably slightly bigger than a football pitch and a half - is divided into a multitude of areas.

Much of the future of the garden has still to be realised - but there are lots of ideas.

Catriona Petit, along with her husband John, came from Nottingham with their two high school aged children to set up the garden.

The couple have achieved, with the support of adult and child volunteers, something that is quite amazing at the Hope 2 Oban's (H2O) Green Shoots Walled Garden.

They are making a place that encourages community cohesion by welcoming people into the garden to share the food, to grow the food - but most importantly to work together on a task that might change a life. Catriona says she

would not have guessed that one day she would leave behind her old job with drug users in the centre of the busy city of Nottingham to the relative tranquillity of the walled garden.

'We want this place to be open to the whole community whether people know how to garden or not. There is something for everyone. 'We recently had a school group which was amazed with what the garden has to offer - that the food that we grow here can actually be eaten by them.'

The project was funded by various sources, building on the success of H2O, a group that was established by churches in the town. H2O's mission is to

help to meet the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of the community through reaching out to them.

The garden was an extension of the work of the Christian organisation - but those who take part are welcome if they come from any faith or none.

Catriona added: 'People who are coming at the moment are working with us on various projects - including giving people the space that they need.

'Sometimes the space is all that is needed to let people get on with their lives. Other times it is about giving people a task and when they go home they can say that they have achieved something quite spe-

cial. One man working with us at the moment is working on a project to bring some stairs back into use.

'While my husband, John, who is the gardener, has been making a bug houses with young people.'

The garden is already picking up a loyal dedicated band of volunteers and groups are paying one-off and regular visits to the site.

At the moment there are three poly tunnels growing various fruit and vegetables, including some massive pumpkins that would make any potential guiser proud.

To visit the garden and find out more, contact Catriona on catriona@hope2oban.org.uk.



GREAT OUTDOORS: Visitors young, old and from all walks of life are welcome to enjoy the Hope 2 Oban Green Shoots Walled Garden.



Catwalk a festival

THE FASANTA Community Catwalk event has been designed to encourage creativity in an innovative way to celebrate local heritage.

Fasanta is a two-day competitive festival of costume and textiles, inspired by the collection at Dunollie House, which celebrates fashion through the ages.

Competitors are being asked to choose a theme and design an outfit to wow judges.

Last year the event was met with high praise from all who attended and this year is all set to be even better. Organisations, businesses and individuals are invited to design, up-cycle, re-style or accessorise up to three

outfits. Creativity, innovative recycling, overall quality and overall design will be considered in the adjudication and the Fasanta Award will be presented for the design with the most points.

The designs will then be modelled on the catwalk and compete for the Fasanta Award 2014 on Saturday November 1 at the Corran halls in Oban. The 2013 award was won by charity shop Mary's Meals.

The three themes are: Tapping into Tapestry - where contestants are asked to create designs incorporating tapestry in any form. Panels of this tapestry will be displayed around the town during

the two-day festival. Dare to Scare - as it is Halloween weekend - asks competitors to create a boo-tiful spooky design.

Finally My Home - which organisers are saying should be used as an inspiration for design. Primary schools have designed tapestries for this theme and they will be unveiled on the night.

Contestants are required to provide models, but a full rehearsal with hints and tips on catwalk skills will be provided on the lead up to the show.

The deadline for registrations is Friday October 17. More details can be found at www.dunollie.org.



FASANTA: Robin MacDougall of Dunollie with the Dalriada tartan. 07_143fasanta3

Corncrakes making a comeback



CORNCRAKES: One of Scotland's rarest breeding birds has enjoyed its most successful breeding season. Photo: Chris Gomersall

ONE OF Scotland's rarest breeding birds has enjoyed its most successful season in at least 45 years, with the national population of corncrakes reaching its highest level since counts began.

A total of 1,289 calling males were recorded in Scotland between May and July this year, as part of an annual Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Scotland survey.

The new figures are a welcome surprise to experts, who had previously predicted corncrake numbers would fall this year, after the species suffered an alarming decline of 23 per cent in 2013.

Corncrakes are shy, pigeon-sized birds which breed in Scotland and migrate to Africa in winter. They mainly stay hidden among tall vegetation where they can safely raise a family, and are much more often found by hearing their distinctive rasping 'crex-crex' call, rather than actually being spotted.

Corncrakes were once common right across the farmed landscape in Scotland. However,

they suffered huge declines throughout the 20th century and, by the early 1990s, the population had dwindled to a mere 400 singing males, highly concentrated in the Inner Hebrides, Western Isles and Orkney.

Research conducted by RSPB Scotland identified intensifying agricultural production, especially a shift to earlier mowing of hay meadows and silage fields, as the main cause of the drastic declines.

In 1991, a cooperative conservation programme began to improve corncrake populations in Scotland. With support and advice from RSPB Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Government, farmers and crofters have played a key role in the recovery of these birds, by managing cover vegetation at field edges, leaving grass fields un-cut or un-grazed until August, and using mowing operations that favour the birds' survival and breeding success.

The corncrake population immediately stopped declining and began to recover in response to

this programme, with numbers reaching a new high this season. The biggest single island population is on the Isle of Tiree - a location holding 396 calling males in 2014.

Paul Walton, head of habitat and species, said: 'This year's figures for Scottish corncrakes are fantastic. They are testament to the dedication of crofters, farmers, the conservationists working alongside them, and to the Scottish Government and SNH officials who have helped target agricultural support to deliver this result for wildlife.'

'However, last year's fall in corncrake numbers was worrying and this bird remains highly vulnerable, so we can't afford to be complacent. Even though there has been an increase in numbers this year, we have so far failed to expand the corncrake's breeding range.'

'They are still found in only a few isolated areas of Scotland, mainly on the islands, so that's where we need to focus our efforts next.'

'We also need to bring

together the methods we've used for corncrakes and apply them to other Scottish birds that are in trouble, like the curlew and the corn bunting, to help secure their future in Scotland.'

Jamie Boyle, site manager for RSPB Scotland's Uist reserves, said: 'The number of calling males that we've recorded this year has been very encouraging. Corncrake populations really seem to have bounced back after a worrying decline in 2013, and that is a tribute to local crofters whose land management has provided these birds with the habitat they need to breed successfully.'

'The geographical spread is also extremely positive, particularly the robust population in Lewis which is an area that we were concerned about. Preserving the special wildlife of the islands for locals and visitors is all about landscape-scale conservation which works hand-in-glove with the crofting community. I very much hope that we can continue to work with the townships to build on this success.'



ISLAND LIFE: Tiree hosts the biggest single population of corncrakes.

THE ORGANISATION responsible for raising awareness of Argyll and the Isles as a top quality visitor destination today unveiled its latest recruits. Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative (AITC) has appointed seven development agents, who will work on its behalf, across the area, with local marketing groups and tourism associations in a bid to promote Argyll and the Isles as a tourism hot-spot.

The dynamic new agents will start almost immediately. They will work on a freelance basis for an average of two days a week until March next year, with the possibility of their contracts being extended over the following two years.

Each of the new recruits will cover a particular area within Argyll and the Isles. The names of the successful applicants and the initial areas they will work within are: Sam Jones working in Mull and Iona, Linda Battison working in Oban and Lorn, Lynn Jones working in Mid Argyll, Iain Johnston working in Kintyre and Gigha, Bonnie Wood working in Islay, Jura and Colonsay, Virginia Sumsion working in Bute and Cowal while Tasha Watson will be working in Loch Lomond and the Clyde sea lochs.

AITC chairman Gavin Dick said the appointments marked a major step forward in the efforts to grow tourism capacity across Argyll and the Isles and tackle priority projects at a local level.

'This is a very exciting time for tourism in this area, with AITC recently securing significant funding for the next three years,' he added.

'The profile of Argyll and the Isles as a top tourist destination continues to rise, and this is in no small part down to the fantastic work being done by individual groups and associations up and down the region.'

'We are delighted to have attracted this group of high calibre agents, who will provide an extra level of support for local enterprises. Their job will be to work with the people on the ground to ensure that their efforts have a lasting impact and secure growth in the tourism sector, wherever they happen to be.'

'I am particularly pleased that we have found people who are so familiar with the areas in which they will work and what they have to offer, and are passionate about promoting them.'

'These are people who love Argyll and the Isles and believe it can cement its place as one of the very best tourism destinations in the UK, if not the world, by working at a grassroots level.'

'They join a team which is committed to ensuring that Argyll and the Isles has the infrastructure and support in place to enable it to reach its full potential, and we very much look forward to seeing their work starting to bear fruit over the next few months.'

New talent unveiled to boost Argyll and the Isles tourism



DEVELOPMENT: tourism agents, from left to right, Lynn Jones, Virginia Sumsion, Tasha Watson, Iain Johnston and Linda Battison. Bonnie Wood, Islay, Jura and Colonsay and Sam Jones, covering Mull and Iona are not pictured.

Hogmanay in Oban announces second talent competition



Judges and winners from last year's competition; with instruments is the Oban High School Traditional Band and second from the right is Amy Leigh Boyce. 15_1450pkn0ck2

COMPETITION season is underway as Hogmanay in Oban announces its second annual competition to find a star in the making.

The event, last year titled Opportunity Knocks, will this year see the door of the town's community cinema thrown open to anyone with a bit of talent to come forward. This year there are

more categories and for everyone a chance to take on the opportunity of performing in front of thousands of people - in their own home town of Oban.

Two acts will be selected to perform on the main stage and will be photographed and sent all over the world. As the closing date is fast approaching all entrants are reminded to let organisers know

that they will be taking part. The event is also open to spectators and if last year's competition was anything to go by it will be a nail-biting fight for the top.

Last year's winner, Amy Leigh Boyce, made quite a stir and sang beautifully for the town. The Oban High School Traditional School of Music have also had quite a time since performing on

the main stage. The competition is being held at the Oban Phoenix on November 1 and acts are asked to book their slots beforehand. The winning act will be announced on the day; three judges will make the decision. Like the event on Facebook and enter via www.hogmanayinoban.co.uk or email info@hogmanayinoban.co.uk.

Moving voices and minds for mental health arts festival

THE SCOTTISH Mental Health Arts and Film Festival, one of Scotland's most diverse cultural events, has come to Argyll this year.

The annual festival, now in its eighth year, takes place in venues across Scotland throughout October and uses the arts to challenge perceptions about mental health and promote wellbeing.

This October, in partnership with Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project (MECOPP), a number of festival events will be happening in the Argyll area.

MECOPP provides a range of services to minority ethnic carers and those in receipt of informal care, including Gypsy Travellers.

The fascinating 'Moving Minds' exhibition, created by MECOPP and Gypsy Travellers from across Scotland, took place in Oban library last week and it will be shown in Lochgilphead library from yesterday (Wednesday) until October 15. The exhibition is a collection of storyboards in which contributors have used stories, poetry and photographs to describe their life experiences, providing a wealth of fascinating detail and challenging stereotypes.

On October 16, from 7pm -9pm, 'Moving Voices' comes to Oban Phoenix Cinema - an evening celebrating the traditions of Scottish Gypsy Travellers, with storytelling from acclaimed author Jess Smith and a performance from drama artist Naomi Breeze.

For more information on any of these events, please contact siubhan@mecopp.org.uk or visit the group's website.

Mountain safety day

ONE of the best-known faces in Scottish mountaineering, writer and broadcaster Cameron McNeish, is urging climbers and hill walkers to learn and manage the risks before they go to the hills.

Speaking at a major mountain safety event next month, he will also underline the immense benefits of heading for the Scottish hills.

Cameron McNeish is the headline speaker at Mountain Safety Day 2014, held in the Albert Halls, Stirling, on October 11.

He'll be making the point that, although mountain accidents are tragic, and make headline news, every year there are something like seven million participation days when people going to the hills come back fitter, refreshed and rejuvenated.

Mountain rescue teams, youth organisations such as the Scouts and Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, hill walking and mountaineering clubs will all have stands at the event.

Wildlife cameraman touring Highlands and islands

A MULTI-award winning wildlife photographer, cameraman, and explorer, who has twice been awarded the Polar Medal, is visiting village halls this winter.

Doug Allan will be hosting an evening of enthralling personal recollections from his travels around the world as one of the world's leading wildlife cameramen.

From being dragged under water by a hungry walrus to being poked by a polar bear in his sleep, Doug never fails to entertain with his exciting stories, Scottish charm and warm sense

of humour. In 2012 Doug published his book, Freeze Frame, about his life as a polar cameraman.

He has recently appeared in the BBC's Wild Cameramen At Work, where David Attenborough said: 'For me, wildlife cameramen don't come much more special than Doug. There's just no one else who knows these frozen worlds as he does.'

Doug is well known for his award winning photography and for his camerawork on hugely successful BBC series such as Life, Human Planet, Blue Planet,

Planet Earth and the recently acclaimed Frozen Planet and Ocean Giants.

Doug also filmed and presented for the BBC's Operation Iceberg.

In July, he was the castaway on Radio 4's iconic series Desert Island Discs.

Tour dates include November 14 - Aros Centre, Isle of Skye, November 16 - Craignish Village Hall, Ardfirn, and November 17 - Sunart Centre, Strontian.

For further information contact Haley Miles; theatre@josarsby.com, 0117 927 9423 or www.dougallan.com.



ADVENTUROUS SPIRIT: Doug Allan is putting on a Highlands and islands tour this winter

Oban Phoenix Cinema	Magic in the Moonlight	Thurs 9th	18.00, 20.30
	A Walk Among the Tombstones	Thurs 9th	18.00, 20.30
	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Sat 11th	13.00, 15.30 3D, 18.00, 21.00 3D
		Sun 12th	13.00, 15.30 3D, 19.00
		Mon 13th	13.00, 15.30 3D, 19.00 3D
		Tues 14th	13.00, 16.00 3D, 19.00
		Wed 15th	13.00, 15.30, 19.00 3D
		Thurs 16th	13.00, 16.00 3D, 18.00, 21.30
	The Equalizer	Fri 10th	18.00, 20.30
		Sat 11th	18.00, 20.30
		Sun 12th	18.00
		Mon 13th	18.00
		Tues 14th	19.00
		Wed 15th	18.00
	Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day	Thurs 16th	20.30
		Fri 10th	18.00, 21.00
		Sat 11th	13.00, 15.30
		Sun 12th	13.00, 16.00
		Mon 13th	13.00, 16.00
Tues 14th		13.00, 16.00	
Wed 15th	13.00, 16.00		
Thurs 16th	13.00		

• Magic in the Moonlight (12A)
Set in the 1920s on the opulent Riviera in the south of France, Woody Allen's romantic comedy is about a master magician (Colin Firth) trying to expose a psychic medium (Emma Stone) as a fake.

• A Walk Among the Tombstones (15)
Formerly a detective with the NYPD, now a recovering alcoholic haunted by regrets, Matt Scudder has a lot to make up for. When a series of kidnappings targeting the city's worst drug criminals escalates to grisly murder, the circuit's ruthless leader convinces Scudder to find the culprits and bring them to bloody justice.

• Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (12A)
The city needs heroes. Darkness has settled over New York City as Shredder and his evil Foot Clan have an iron grip on everything from the police to the politicians. The future is grim until four unlikely outcast brothers rise from the sewers and discover their destiny as Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. The Turtles must work with fearless reporter April O'Neil (Megan Fox) and her wise-cracking cameraman Vern Fenwick (Will Arnett) to save the city and unravel Shredder's diabolical plan.

• The Equalizer (15)
In The Equalizer, Denzel Washington plays McCall, a former black ops commando who has faked his death to live a quiet life in Boston. When he comes out of his self-imposed retirement to rescue a young girl, Teri (Chloe Grace Moretz), he finds himself face to face with ultra-violent Russian gangsters. As he serves vengeance against those who brutalize the helpless, McCall's desire for justice is reawakened. If someone has a problem, the odds are stacked against them, and they have nowhere else to turn, McCall will help. He is The Equalizer.

• Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (PG)
Disney's Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day follows the exploits of 11-year-old Alexander (Ed Oxenbould) as he experiences the most terrible and horrible day of his young life - a day that begins with gum stuck in his hair, followed by one calamity after another. But when Alexander tells his upbeat family about the misadventures of his disastrous day, he finds little sympathy and begins to wonder if bad things only happen to him. He soon learns that he's not alone when his mum (Jennifer Garner), dad (Steve Carell), brother (Dylan Minnette) and sister (Karris Dorsey) all find themselves living through their own terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Advertise in the Community Notice Board for just £15.71 (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

APPIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Clydebuilt - The Story of George Reith: Marista Leishman
Saturday 18 October
Port Appin Hall 2.30pm
All welcome!
www.appinhistorical society.co.uk

Lorn Organic Growers **APPLE DAY**
Barguilean Nursery
Taynuilt
Saturday 11th Oct
12-3pm
Bring apples to juice or identify. Apple baking, coffee apples
Plants and veg for sale

A SOUP LUNCH
IN AID OF
OBAN PIPE BAND
will be held in Oban Pipe Band Hall
Shore Street
on Saturday
11th October 2014
From 12 noon - 2.00pm
Admission: £3.00

Four out of five adults use their local paper to find out what's on

★★★★ "Your local paper - a must-read"

Source: Community Choice, The Newspaper Society

Regional Press
CLOSED TO 10.15.16

To advertise in our community noticeboard call 01631 568000

Find us on **Facebook**
www.facebook.com/obantimes

Who Are Your Ancestors? Where Do Your Roots Lie?

Are you from: The Glens of Scotland, other parts of the UK or did your family come from Viking Seafarers?
Were your ancestors: Farmers, Fishermen, Weavers, Traders or Teachers?

I can help you find the answers to these questions. My services are FREE.

I have been helping family and friends find their roots and search out their ancestors for over 40 years. My wife and I are here in Oban until the end of November working as volunteers. We are currently helping local people find out information about their ancestors. We would love to help you. In just 2 weeks we have helped one local resident trace back 8 generations into the 1600s.

If you are interested in having help find your roots/ancestors then please contact us.

Telephone/text: 07800 614747
Email: stephenwilliams68@ntlworld.com
Stephen and Lesley
We provide our time free, we love this work.

OBAN FM
Tune in to **103.3** or listen live at **www.obanfm.com**
your local radio station
For requests, competitions or questions please email: studio@obanfm.org.uk or call us on 01631 570057

THIS WEEK'S LISTINGS	Made of This with Ken Hunter, 1330 The Quiz with Danni Hay, 1500 Lesley Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drive-time with Jim Lynch, 1900 Sounds Scottish with Archie Cameron, 2000 Highest Praise with Stuart, 2100 Elaine Lamb, 2300 Northern Soul with Gordon Covey	THURSDAY: 0800 Maggie May's Carousel, 1100 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Gordon Covey, 1700 Drive-time with DJ Taz, 1900 Christine's Collection, 2100 Ann's Ceilidh, 2200 Margo Till Midnight	Craig, 2000 Friday Night with Innes, 2100 TFI Friday with Jim Lawn
MONDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Monday Morning With Andy and Stephen, 1100 Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Jim Edge, 1700 Drive-time With Danni Hay, 1900 Rosie's Highland Fling, 2000 John McLuckie's Show, 2100 David Cullen, 2200 Americano Show with Michelle	WEDNESDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Sound Scottish (repeat), 1000 Comfort Zone with Doug Carmichael, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Elaine Lamb, 1700 Drive-time with Campbell and Maggie May, 1000 Ken Hunter, 1200 Memories are	FRIDAY: 0800 Jean Ainsley Breakfast Show, 1000 Teeny and Tiny Show, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Weekend Warmup with Ian Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 1845 Sports View, 1900 Country Meets Country with Jackie	SATURDAY: 0900 Maggie's Swingin' Sixties, 1000 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Crowther, 1330 CLYDE 2, 1800 Sports View with the Dream Team, 1900 Marcus, 2000 Dave Lewis
TUESDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show with Maggie May, 1000 Ken Hunter, 1200 Memories are			SUNDAY: 0900 Sunday Morning with Breege, 1100 - 1400 Allan, 1630 Archie Darling, 1800 Ken's Friends with Ken Hunter, 1900 New Country Show with David Entwistle, 2100 Drum & Bass with Graham Scott

Join a Party Night

Come and join us at the Regent Hotel for that festive party night you will remember well into the New Year

Whether it is family, friends or that end of year office party we will get you in the mood for Christmas.

Enjoy a delicious 3 course dinner with crackers and party novelties followed by entertainment late into the evening.

£19.95 per person
(which includes novelties, entertainment and a delicious 3 course dinner.)

Party Nights in December
5th 6th 12th 13th
20th 21st 27th 28th

STAY OVER for just **£30.00*** per person per night

All dates and party sizes considered
Please call for details

REGENT HOTEL
Regent Hotel, Corran Esplanade, Oban PA34 5PZ
T: 0843 178 7135 F: 0843 178 7136
E: reservations.regent@bespokehotels.com
W: www.bespokehotels.com/regenthotel

"bespoke"
HOTELS
belong beloved bespoke



There is definitely something in the distance and it's getting closer every day!

BOOK NOW for Christmas

WHETHER you are organising the office party or a family gathering, now is the time to start planning your Christmas event. It seems a long way away and can be a daunting task, with so many people to please, but fear not - The Oban Times is here to help with some helpful hints.

If you want to look your best over Christmas and New Year, book your hairdresser appointment now. Slots fill up really quickly throughout November and December.

Equally, if you want to get your nails or other beauty treatment done in time for the festivities book your appointment as soon as possible.

If you're heading out for a meal with family or friends the same rule applies - restaurants book up rapidly in the run up to Christmas so be sure to reserve your table to avoid disappointment.

Getting to and from any events you're attending is also something you'll need to consider. Trying to flag down a taxi, or waiting by the taxi rank in the cold and wet weather can make you late and be a miserable end to the night, so it is wise to book taxis in advance to make sure you're not left standing.

If you have children and want to head out over the festive period, book a babysitter now - demand is at its peak over Christmas and New Year.

If you're not staying at home for the festivities be sure to book any transport and accommodation you'll require, including ferries and trains - especially if you want a reserved seat. If you're driving a long distance to be with loved ones you might want to consider booking your car into the garage for a winter check-up.

Don't forget about your pets either, if you are not taking them with you be sure to book them into kennels or arrange a pet sitter.

Of course if you're staying at home and preparing a festive feast for the family you'll need to remember to get your turkey order into the butcher soon.

Remember to inform any other small producers of your orders for things like chutneys or cakes as soon as possible too.

The 'big shop' takes on a new meaning as we approach Christmas. For those in rural areas, especially, planning and stock taking is as important to having a merry Christmas as remembering to hang out your stocking. Make sure you buy what you can in advance so you don't have to dash around the aisles on Christmas Eve.

Winston Churchill Venison at Balagowan Deer Larder

Now taking orders for Christmas. Venison and oven-ready pheasant and pheasant breast

Tel: 01369 705 319 Larder: 07879 491 181
Email: info@winstonchurchillvenison.com

ONICH HOTEL
& Lochside Gardens

BOOK TODAY
£25.95pp
including a 3 course meal & entertainment

Christmas Party Nights

80s Disco Nights Ceilidh Party Nights
Fri 12th Dec 2014 Sat 13th Dec 2014
Fri 19th Dec 2014 Sat 20th Dec 2014

Onich, Near Fort William, PH33 6RY
T: 01855821214
E: enquiries@onich-fortwilliam.co.uk
www.onich-fortwilliam.co.uk

Kallin Shellfish Ltd.
the hebridean catch

Fresh Hebridean king scallops, lobster, crab meat and white fish

Place your order now at our online shop
www.thehebrideancatch.co.uk
T: 01870 603258 E: info@thehebrideancatch.co.uk

Shippers Bar & Bistro
Argyll Caravan Park, Inveraray
01499 302604

Recently refurbished to a very high standard with a new head chef and menu. Expect great food and a stylish, fun experience at this venue just three miles south of Inveraray on the A83. They are dedicated to serving authentic classic dishes with a modern twist, using local seasonal produce.

MELFORT VILLAGE
Family Friendly, Hassle Free Holidays - Luxury cottages included

FESTIVE BREAKS 2014

Melfort Village is the perfect location for a Fantastic Family Festive Break or to get away from the stresses of the Festive Season!

Our beautiful self-catering cottages are situated at the head of Loch Melfort, ideally located between Oban and Lochgilphead.

Facilities include:
On-site The Shower of Herring Restaurant - Indoor swimming pool
Sauna - Games rooms - Tennis court - Playground

Fantastic Festive deals available - BOOK TODAY!

Contact Us
Melfort Village, Kilmelford, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4XD
Tel: 01852 200257
Email: rentals@melfortvillage.co.uk

Lochnell Arms Hotel

Christmas Menu and Festive Menu
Available from October 14th

Booking advisable
North Connel · By OBAN · Argyll · PA37 1RP
Tel: 01631 710408
Email: enquiries@lochnellarms.co.uk
www.lochnellarms.co.uk

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant

Join us for a special Christmastime Lunch or Dinner
Overlooking the harbour
Gallanach Road · Oban
01631 562087
www.manorhouseoban.com

Loch Awe Shetlands

We sell meat & wool to order
Now have new lambs
Tups and shearlings for hire

Contact us on
01866 833354
Email vburtonsmith@me.com

We present a fabulous party line up just for you....

Mistletoe Madness Christmas Disco
Friday 12th December
You will be Rocking Around The Christmas Tree with our resident DJ
Only £25 per person

Rod Stewart
Saturday 13th December
Tonight's The Night you WILL want to talk about it
Only £30 per person

Elvis
Friday 19th December
We're certain this party will get you All Shook Up & won't leave you Lonesome Tonight
Only £30 per person

fABBAulous
Saturday 20th December
You can Dance, You can Jive, Having the Time of your life!
Only £30 per person

...book your place now before it's too late!

All party nights include a 4 course dinner & live entertainment
Christmas menus available throughout December - see online for full details

COLUMBA HOTEL - OBAN
BOOK NOW...IT'S EASY, JUST CALL 01631 562183
The North Pier, Oban, PA34 5QD
www.columbahoteloban.co.uk or email columba@sgehotels.com

Avalon Hair & Beauty

CHRISTMAS STOCK NOW IN!

Celebrating 1 year of business, thank you to all of our customers for their continued support.

Full Range of Hair and Beauty Services including:

- All cutting and colouring
- Perming
- Microdermabrasion
- Bronze leaf spray tan (only salon outside Ireland to offer it)
- Mii cosmetics
- Hypnotherapy every Wednesday
- Nioxin - for thicker, fuller hair
- Bridal packages
- Monu facials
- Waxing
- Massage
- Billion dollar brows
- Wella Retail Range
- InstaGlam Package NEW (Hair dry styled and make up done just £25)

And Much much more!!

We are also happy to offer a complimentary collect and drop off service for clients within the Oban area.

Gift Vouchers Available

WELLA T: 01631 563964 M: 07919 187230
E: avalonoban@btinternet.com

The Olive Garden

CHRISTMAS DINNER MENU
3 COURSES
£25.00

The Olive Garden creates a warm, friendly and relaxed atmosphere with great food and service.

Festive menu available throughout December

BOOK NOW for our Christmas party nights.
Resident DJ on 12th, 13th, 19th & 20th December.
Come and celebrate the Festive season in style!

STARTERS	MAIN COURSES	DESSERTS
Minestrone Soup (v)	Turkey Breast	Tiramisu
Duo of Smoked Salmon	Roulade	Crème Brulee
Chicken Liver Pate	Pan Fried Salmon	Pannacotta Trio
Grilled Goats Cheese (v)	Andaluz	Chocolate & Amaretto Mouse
Chicken Caesar Salad	Roasted Loin of Cod	Luxury Sorbet
	Venison Casserole	Christmas Pudding
	Scottish Sirloin Steak (£5 supplement)	
	Festive Risotto (v)	

BOOKING NECESSARY!
PLEASE CONTACT 01631 570347
www.theolivegardenoban.co.uk

Farming

Sponsored by NFU Mutual
Oban, call Euan Warnock
and Donna MacDougall
on 01634 567 036 for
your insurance needs.

Agent of The National Farmers Union
Mutual Insurance Society Limited.



OBAN

CALEDONIAN Marts sold 3,290 store lambs, breeding and feeding sheep through Oban mart last Tuesday. Texel lambs sold to £64 from L A McLean & Sons, Knock, Isle of Mull. Suffolk lambs sold to £61 from I Campbell & Son, Strongorm, Balvicar. Cheviot lambs sold to £63 from S McGregor, Slaterich, Isle of Kerrera. Mule lambs sold to £61 from N McLeod, Balliemore, Kilchenan. Beltex lambs sold to £58 from G Brechin, Upper Largie, Kilmartin. Blackface lambs sold to £45 (twice) from Clachan Farm, Kilniver and W Kelly, South Achindue, Isle of Lismore. Cheviot ewe lambs sold to £51 from J & E Moore, Craig A More, Isle of Mull. Blackface ewe lambs sold to £42 (twice) from M Cameron, Pottie, Isle of Mull and W McPhail, Ensay, Isle of Mull. Cheviot ewes, correct to £64 from W McPhail, Ensay. Mule ewes, correct to £60 from M Poulton, Lochdar, Bunnassan. BF ewes, correct, £46 from J McNicol & Sons, Turnault, Barbreck and W McPhail, Ensay. Leading Prices
Suffolk lambs: £58 - Achadaphail and Scriob-Ruadh; £57 - Kilbridge (Anderson), Strongorm & East Hynish; £55 Achenreir; £54 Dalvore. Texel lambs: £59 Slaterich; £54 Clachan; £53 Knock; £51 Ardachy. Mule lambs: £53 South Achindue; £52 Pottaloch; £49 Scarba Cottage. Blackface lambs: £40 Achuroa; £38 Escart & Knockvoulagan; £36 Ardachy, East Hynish, and Creagan Inn. Cheviot lambs: £55 Kilbride; £52 Strongorm & Eray; £51 Slaterich. Cheviot ewe lambs: £47 Loch-na-Meal. Mule feeding ewes: £48 Achnacone; £46 Lochdar; £45 Achnacroish. Cheviot feeding ewes: £44 Slaterich; £42 Ardlarach.

LOCHMADDY

ALL classes of lambs and ewes met a satisfactory trade in keeping with recent mainland rates at Lochmaddy on September 29 for Dingwall & Highland Marts Ltd sale of 2,477 store sheep of all classes. Lambs (1,758) sold to £84 per head for mules from 32 Liniolate, Benbecula. Ewes (542) sold to £74 per head for Cheviots from 11 Carinish, Lochport. Gimmers (110) sold to £92 per head for Blackfaces from 5 Dunganichy, Benbecula. Feeding sheep (67) sold to £60 per head for a Cheviot wether from 8 West Gerinish, Lochboisdale. Other leading prices per head:
Store lambs: Chev - 8 West Gerinish, £76, 4 Tigharry, Lochmaddy, & 7 Balranald, Lochmaddy, £61, 7 Minish, Lochmaddy, and 9 Malaglate, Lochmaddy. £59; SuffX - Crois Moirag, Clachan, £64, 4 Tigharry, £59, 3 Hosta, Tigharry, £58; Mule - 32 Liniolate, £60; BF - 32 Liniolate, £58, 3 Nunton, Benbecula, £50; BeltX - 34 Liniolate, Benbecula, £57.50; Cross - 86 Bualadubh, Eochar, £55.50, 4 Tigharry, £52.
Ewes: Cross - 11 Carinish, Lochport, £62, 20 Balemore, Bayhead, £56, 3 Creagorry, Benbecula, £53; Chev - 5 Balemartin, Lochmaddy, £59, 17a Liniolate, Benbecula, £57, 7 Balemore, £53; Suff - 4 Ahmore, Sollas, £51; BF - 1 Ahmore, Lochmaddy, £40.
Gimmers: TexX - 4 Knockqueen, Lochmaddy, £80; BF - 34 Liniolate, £80; Cross - 7 Balemore, £72; SuffX - 7 Balemore, £68.
Feeding sheep: Chev wdr - Creagorry, Benbecula, £57; Chev ram - Faight, Backhill, £55; Cross wdr - 6 Tigharry, Lochmaddy, £54.50; BF wdr - 9 Cheesebay, Lochmaddy, & 7 Claddach, Carinish, £51.
A total of 64 rams of all classes were also sold on September 29 at lochmaddy by Dingwall & Highland Marts. Rams (64) sold to £500 gross for a Cheviot from Sidinish, Lochport. Other leading prices per head:
Rams: Suffolk - Corunno, Claddach, £380, 15 Liniolate, Creagorry, £300; Tex - 32 Liniolate, Benbecula, £300, 4 Knockline, Bayhead, £240, 3 Knockintorran, Bayhead, £180; Chev - 9 Illeray, Lochmaddy, £300, 2 Newton, Lochmaddy, £240, Corruno, £220; BF - 9 Illeray, £200, Corruno, £200; BFL - Tigh na Mara, Castlebay, £160.

ISLAY

UNITED Auctions held its annual show and sale of rams at Islay Auction Mart on Friday, October 3, also its sale of breeding sheep, store lambs, and feeding sheep etc. A record entry for this centre was on offer and 5,346 head was sold. Judging of the rams was in the hands of Angus MacGillivray, Portsonachan, Dalmally and he awarded the champion to a Charolais cross Beltex shearer from Mrs Petra Archibald, Craighens which later sold for £500 to the judge. Reserve champion was awarded to Tony Rozga, Kilmey, for a Texel shearer which realized £700 to M/s McMillan, Ardbeg. Overall, a good selection of sheep and lambs were on offer in all sections which sold readily to a good ringside of buyers, and the entry of store lambs sold to average £52.24. Principal lots and prices:

Top prices per lamb:
Lambs: SUFFX: £66.00 - Kintra: £63.50 - Coull and Ardbeg: £63.00 - Octofad: £62.50 - Starchmill and Kintra: £61.50 - Coull, Duich and Island: £60.50 - Octofad: £60.00 - Frederick Crescent: £59.00 - Portanruan and Paire A Chlissan: £58.50 - Duich: £58.00 - Octofad. TEXX: £67.50 - Mulindry: £65.00 - Coille Farm and Ardvie: £64.50 - Ardbeg and Gartloist: £63.50 - Dunlossit Keills: £62.50 - Kirkby, Ardbeg, Mulindry and Octofad: £62.00 - Blackrock: £60.00 - Gartloist: £59.50 - Octofad and Texa Crescent: £58.50 - Duich & Woodend. BELTx: £59.50 - Grulinbeg. CHEVX: £61.00 - Duich: £58.00 - Aoradh: £57.50 and £56.00 - Keppols. CROSS: £63.00 - Woodend: £60.50 - Ardvie: £60.00 - Coull and Corray: £58.50 - Coille Farm: £58.00 - Kilchoman House. Mule: £63.00 - Island: £61.50 - Corray: £59.50 - Ardbeg: £58.50 - Island. BF: £57.50 - Ardnave: £54.50 - Coull: £53.50 - Ardnave: £52.50 - Dunlossit Knocklearach: £52.50 - Duich: £51.50 - Coille Farm.
Feeding ewes: TEXX: £85.50 - Mulindry: £82.50 - Dunlossit Keills: £75.50 - Blackrock: £70.50 - Carrabus: £63.50 - Dunlossit Knocklearach. BFL: £61.50 - Island Farm. CHEVX: £68.00 and £66.00 - Kilchoman House. CROSS: £58.50 - Claggan. MULE: £58.50 - Ardnave farm: £57.50 - Octofad and Mulindry. BF: £51.50 - Ardvie: £50.50 - Corray.
Breeding sheep: ewe lambs: MULE: £95 - Ballachlaven and Corray: £88 - Kindrochaid and Island: £84 - Corray: £80 - Ardvie; BF: £68 - Blackpark. Gimmers: MULE: £102 - Windyedge: £100 - Claddach: £95 - Lorgba (R Page): £90 - Kindrochaid and Conisby. TEXX: £120 - Claddach. CROSS: £90 - Claddach. CHEVX: £85 - Claddach. BF: £88 - Carn: £85 - Mansfield Road: £80 - Dunlossit Knocklearach and Keppols. Correct ewes: TEXX: £100 - Dunlossit Knocklearach. MULE: £90 - Ballachlaven. BF: £78 - Dunlossit Keills: £66 - Lossit: £65 - Black Park: £62 - Craighens: £60 - Mansfield Road & Craighens. Rams: SUFF: £600, £580, £550 (2) - Smaladh: £550 and £500 - Eorrabus: £450 - Neriby: £400(2) - Smaladh. BFL: £700 - Coille Farm. BELTEX CROSS: £500 - Craighens: £480 - Coille Farm. TEX: £700 - Kilmey: £500 - Bayview. BF: £400 - Ballachlaven.
Lambs per kilo: SUFFX: 171p - Octofad: 166p - Coille Farm: 165p - Coull and Octofad: 164p - Coull, Paire A Chlissan and Kintra: 163p - Ballinaby. TEXX: 194p - Blackrock: 179p - Ardbeg: 178p and 175p - Carrabus: 167p - Kirkby: 166p - Dunlossit Keills: 164p - Ballinaby. CHEVX: 162p - Ardvie: 160p - Tormisdale Croft and Tormisdale Farm. CROSS: 166p - Coille Farm and Kilchoman House: 163p - Ballinaby: 162p - Ardvie: 160p - Coille. MULE 157p - Kintra. BF: 166p - Dunlossit Knocklearach: 163p - Kintra: 161p - Ardnave.

PORTREE

A TOTAL of 2,629 store sheep of all classes were sold at Portree mart on Monday by Dingwall and Highland Marts Ltd. Lambs (1,049) averaged £35.59 and sold to £60 gross for Blackfaces from Millburn, Strathaird, Broadford. Ewes (1,460) averaged £33.64 and sold to £89 gross for Texel crosses from 44 Borneskitaig, Kilmuir. Gimmers sold to £100 gross for Cheviots from 2 Annishadder, Snizort. Feeding sheep sold to £78 for a Cheviot ram from Penifiler Sheep Stock Club, Portree. A spokesperson for Dingwall and Highland Marts said: 'All classes of feeding and breeding sheep sold exceptionally well.' Leading prices per head:
Store lambs: Chev - 7 Upper Edinbane, Portree and 3 Totescore, Portree, £57; TexX - 44 Borneskitaig, £56; BF - Lynnton, Staffin, £52; Cross - Skeabost Farm, Portree, 4 Bay, Waternish and 9/10 Flashadder, Portree, £50.50; SuffX - 11/12 Garafad, Staffin, £44.50; BeltX - 8/14 and 15 Struanmore, Struan, £38.
Ewes: Tex - 2B Penifiler, Portree, £84; Chev - Minchview, Valtos, £77; Suff - 2B Penifiler, £75; TexX - 44 Borneskitaig, £71.
Gimmers: Chev - 14 Geary, Waternish, £90.
Rams: Chev - 7 Hallistra, Waternish, £230.
Feeding sheep: Chev wdr - 7/8 South Duntulm, Portree, £73; TexX wdr - 44 Borneskitaig, £64; Bf wdr - 1 & 2 Conon, Uig, £59.

STORNOWAY

ALL classes met a strong demand with quality kinds short of requirements on Tuesday at Stornoway mart when Dingwall and Highland Marts Ltd sold 145 weaned calves and store cattle, three breeding cattle and 15 OTM cattle at its annual show and sale. Prior to the sale the judge Mr E. Macdonald, Old Inn, Lochmaddy, awarded the following results:
Overall champion and first prize bullock: J Macdonald, 7 Kershader, 325kg £880; reserve champion and second prize bullock: J Maclean, 100 Cross Skigersta Road, 330kg, £885; first prize heifer: J Maclean, 100 Cross Skigersta Road,

340kg, £760; second prize heifer: J MacLaughlin, 1 Sheildinish, 310kg, £770. Weaned bullocks (68) averaged 261.6p (+14.5p on the year) and sold to 356.8p per kg for a 185kg Charolais cross from 7 Ballantrushal, Isle of Lewis, and £955 gross for a 380kg Charolais cross from 100 Cross Skigersta Road. Weaned heifers (47) averaged 239.0p (+12.9p on the year) and sold to 286.0p per kg for a 250kg Limousin cross from 11 Garyvard, Lochs, and £790 gross for a 370kg Charolais from 7 Kershader, Isle of Lewis. Store bullocks (19) averaged 191.0p and sold to 233.7p per kg and £1,110 gross for a 475kg Charolais cross from 100 Cross Skigersta Road. Store heifers (11) averaged 179.8p and sold to 232.1p per kg and £1,300 gross for a 560kg Aberdeen Angus from 42 South Bragar, Barvas. Breeding cattle (3) sold to £700 gross for a Simmental cross cow from 25 Lower Barvas. OTM cows (15) sold to 103.2p per kg for a 630kg Limousin cross from 4 Urgha, Isle of Harris, and £790 gross for a 770kg Charolais cross from 100 Cross Skigersta Road, Ness. Other leading prices per head and per kg: Weaned bullocks: up to 200kg - 7 Ballantrushal, £660, 57B Breasclate, Isle of Lewis, 335.1p; 201-250kg - 8 Ballantrushal, Barvas, £740, 25 Lower Barvas, 320.5p, 251-300kg - 8 Ballantrushal, £845, 25 Lower Barvas, 298.1p; 301-350kg - 100 Cross Skigersta Road, £885, 7 Kershader, 270.8p; 351-400kg - 100 Cross Skigersta Road, £930, 251.3p. Weaned heifers: up to 200kg - 23 Laxay, Lochs, £520, 260.0p; 201-250kg - 11 Garyvard, £715, 22 Laxay, Lochs, 278.7p; 251-300kg - 7 Kershader, £740, 8 Ballantrushal, 264.2p; 301-350kg - 25 Lower Barvas & 1 Sheildinish, £770, 1 Sheildinish, 248.4p. Store bullocks: 351-400kg - 24 Laxay, £710, 200.0p; 401-450kg - 24 Laxay, £980, 223.2p; 451-500kg - 50 North Tolsta, Lewis, £845, 57 Coll, Back, 181.3p; 501-550kg - 21 Lower Barvas, £1080, 198.2p. Store heifers: 301-350kg - 16 Aribruaich, Isle of Lewis, £660, 216.4p; 351-400kg - Mill Brae, Aribruaich, £760, 194.9p; 401-450kg - Glebeland, Back, £860, 204.9p. QUALITY rams sold extremely well at Stornoway for Dingwall and Highland Marts Ltd., sale on Monday when 197 rams of all classes were sold. Rams (197) sold to £480 gross for a Suffolk from 24 Laxay, Isle of Lewis. Other leading prices per head: Rams: BF - 17 Habost, Ness, 25 Lower Barvas, Stornoway and 6/7 Borve, Isle of Harris, £400, 41 Upper Carloway, Isle of Lewis, 40 Crossbost, Lochs and 6 Shulishader, Point, £350, 17 Habost and 6 Shulishader, £300; Chev - 6/7 Borve, £450, 10 Aird, Point, £350, 1 Portnaguran, Point, 8 Coll, Lewis, Dell Farm, Ness, 7 Fleming Place, Stornoway and Waters Edge, Stornoway, £300; Tex - 8 Sand Street, Stornoway, £300, 12 Lionel, Port of Ness, £250, 2A Tong, Stornoway, £200; Suff - Sheshader (Nicolson), Point, £250, 6 Glen Kyles, Leverburgh, £200.

FARMERS had the chance on Tuesday to bring the major issues on their minds to a face-to-face surgery with representatives of the National Union of Farmers Scotland (NFUS). Planned to coincide with Caledonian Marts' annual show and sale of suckled calves, store, breeding and over thirty month (OTM) cattle in Oban Mart, the surgery saw a number of farmers take advantage of the offer to meet with Alan Bowie, vice-president of NFUS and Jonny Hall, director of policy at the NFUS. While the sale continued in the mart, farmers booked time-slots in the NFU Mutual offices to meet the men. Among the issues raised with the pair were bovine tuberculosis testing; spray certification and the problems with accessing the training required for the certificate, which all farmers are required to have by November 2015; and the details emerging from Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) reform. Lucy Sumsion, regional manager covering Argyll and Bute, said it was the first time a surgery concept had been held at the mart and over-all she felt it had gone well and it was hoped that a similar event could be held in the future. The next events being held by the NFUS are meetings around Scotland on the details emerging from Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) reform and the implications for farmers. A luncheon meeting is to be held in Tarbert and an evening meeting in Oban, both on November 14.

Face-to-face surgery with National Union of Farmers Scotland



SURGERY: Alan Bowie, Fife farmer and vice-president of NFUS, Jonny Hall, director of policy at the NFUS and Lismore farmer and NFUS member David White.

UNITED Auctions had a catalogue entry of 8,773 at their annual sale on Monday of Blackface breeding sheep at Stirling. A centre record was set with a pen of 24 BF reg draft ewes consigned by E McMillan, Lurg and realised £700 to M/s Barclay, Harestone. Top in the gimmer section was a pen of 10 consigned by M/s Wood & Hunter, Dalchirla purchased at £620 by M/s Barclay, Harestone. Averages: Overall BF ewes £73.65 (+£5.24 on the year); Acc BF ewes £74.62 (+£4.39 on the year); Non ACC BF ewes £72.46 (+£7.04 on the year); Acc BF Gimmers £156.23 (+£44.00 on the year); Non Acc BF Gimmers £132.88 (+£52.72 on the year); NC Chev Ewes £82.38 (+£33.05 on the year); NC Chev Gimmers £121.00 (-£6.02 on the year). Leading Prices: Acc BF Draft Ewes; West Bracklinn £120, Cromlix £110, Cromlix £102, Glenfermate £102. Non ACC BF Draft Ewes; Outerwards £160, Lurgan £118, North Amulree £100. Acc BF Gimmers; Dalchirla £620, £540, Remony, Glenfermate, Littleport, East Bracklinn £150, Rhodders £140. Non Acc BF Gimmers; Lurg £340; Connachan £300; Outerwards £170. Cheviot Draft Ewes; East Green £120, £110; Dullator £79, £77; Culreugh £77. Cheviot Gimmers; Sunnybraes £154, £150 Westhall £147, £134; Toxside £130. BF stock ewes 1 crop; Jerah £112, £108; Glentrummie £98; Sligrachan £80. BF Stock ewes 2 crop; Jerah £103, £102, Glentrummie £90. BF Stock ewes 3 crop; Jerah £93, Glentrummie £84. BF Stock ewes 4 crop; Jerah £84, Sligrachan £70.

Scottish Field NOVEMBER ISSUE OUT NOW

A PASSION FOR PERTH

Whisky special READERS' VERDICTS

10 of Scotland's best ever No.1 hits

WIN A LUXURY DEESIDE BREAK

A passion for Perth: Stuart Cosgrove on why he loves his home town

Legendary composer James MacMillan Ann Cleaves: My Shetland obsession The scandalous muse Effie Gray Stunning images of the Moray coast

10 of Scotland's best ever No.1 hits



Old photos and catalogues sought

OLD PHOTOS and catalogues from Dalmally Auction Mart are being sought as the history of the building is charted. United Auctions is calling on the Argyll rural community to help discover and preserve the history of Dalmally market. The livestock auctioneer is appealing for old photos taken at the mart to trace its history, including when and why it moved to its current location. The old photo appeal also hopes to document some of the family history of farmers, with many selling through Dalmally for generations. Images will be shared in sale catalogues and displayed around the mart itself for everyone to enjoy. Dalmally Auctioneer for the West of Scotland, Peter Wood said: 'We've already started speaking to some local farmers and there's a real interest to find out more. 'A few people have mentioned a photo taken in the ring in the 1950s or '60s, which would be a great find. 'It will be fascinating to look back in time and see how the mart has changed through the years and for farming families to recognise ancestors.' Digital or scanned photos can be emailed to oldphotos@uagroup.co.uk or post a copy, not originals, to Dalmally Market Photo Appeal, United Auctions, Stirling Agricultural Centre, Stirling FK9 4RN and include any information you have about the photograph, especially date and people pictured, as well as your name and contact details.

Salmon production highest since 2003

SALMON production in Scotland is at its highest level in a decade, according to statistics published this week. The Scottish Fish Farm Production Survey 2013 report revealed that 163,234 tonnes of farmed Atlantic salmon was produced last year - the highest figure since 2003. The farmgate value of farmed salmon was £677 million for 2013, up 26 per cent from the previous year, and the salmon itself is in demand all around the world. The aquaculture sector is now estimated to be worth £1.75 billion to the Scottish economy and employs around 2,000 people across the country.

Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/obantimes

Highland Cattle Society

EUROPE'S PREMIER FEMALE SALE OF HIGHLAND CATTLE

Furan Gun Dail 12th of Glengorm sold for 4200 gns

A tremendous selection of in calf heifers, two year olds, yearlings and males. Transport available throughout Britain and Europe.

OBAN LIVESTOCK CENTRE

SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER 10.30 a.m. Show

MONDAY 13th OCTOBER 10.00 a.m. Sale

Full details from: Highland Cattle Society Stirling Agricultural Centre Stirling FK9 4RN t: 01786 446866 www.highlandcattlesociety.com

W M Burns

Blaircochrane Farm, West Linton, Peeblesshire

Visit our new website www.burnstractors.com

All used tractors and plant wanted from 1960 to 2014

Call Nigel Burns on 07766522751 for immediate inspection and payment

COVENTRY for FENCING

Scotland's No. 1 WIRE, STOCK FENCING, BARBED, HIGH TENSILE, MILD STEEL BEST PRICES

TIMBER DIRECT FROM OUR SAWMILL Deposits throughout Scotland • Delivery available

For a competitive quote please call 01631 566866

Like

like us on facebook www.facebook.com/obantimes

Wintering Required For 35 B.F. Hoggs Telephone 07760338212

There are some things you can't do with The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Digital Edition

but you can save 64% on an annual subscription

obantimes.co.uk/digital

*Calculated against the cost of a printed annual subscription at £58 per year which includes postage and packaging. Please note this product does NOT work on iPhone, iPads or Tablets. Requires PC or Mac with access to the internet (Broadband recommended) with an internet browser that supports Flash.



Autumn Property FOCUS

SCOTLAND'S housing market is 'like food in a microwave,' says Spencer Dale, the Bank of England's chief economist.

It can 'turn from lukewarm to scalding hot in a matter of a few economic seconds'. Since the banking crisis of 2008 the bank has gained new tools to control the market's temperature. Now that the heat is rising, it may soon start testing them out.

Falling real wages, economic uncertainty and the memory of plummeting house prices during the crisis curbed Britons' obsession with property - but now that the country is back on track things are beginning to change.

Prices rose by 6.8 per cent in the year to January, according to the Office for National Statistics.

They are still increasing fastest in Glasgow—up 13.2 per cent compared with last year—but the inflation has spread to the west coast.

From statistics compiled by Home.co.uk in the last two months, 60 properties have gone on sale in Oban - the median price of property in the area is £194,975. It takes an average of one year to sell a property, but most properties are on the market for around 189 days.

Two houses in the area were sold for between £500,000 and £1 million while 20 were sold in the £100,000 - £200,000 price range.

Houses at the cheaper end of the market (i.e. less than £105,000) are generally on sale for a shorter period of time.

In the Fort William area the average price is £220,000 and the market is still quite slow, compared to Oban.

There were as few as 13 £100,000 houses sold with 27 houses on the market sold from £200,000.

Nationally, house prices remain 16 per cent below their pre-crisis peak, adjusted for inflation.

Borrowing costs have fallen over recent decades, in part because of savings, making it easier for Scots to sustain larger mortgages.

Getting ready to borrow for a mortgage

If you need a mortgage it is time to get financially fit. When spenders strengthen their personal finances, they have more freedom to afford the items important to them and they can feel more secure about the future.

To strengthen your money picture, you'll have to replace bad spending habits with good ones. That can mean ending wasteful spending, paying down debt and/or socking away money in a savings account.

- set realistic and measurable money goals and plan a budget
- people who are financially successful track their expenditures
- There are several tools available to help track expenses
- Consumers can review recent bank statements, record purchases in software programmes like Mint.com or Quicken, or use related smart phone apps to document expenses

To improve financial fitness, consult with a certified financial planner or other qualified adviser.



Ardshellach Farm, Ardmaddy

Opportunity to purchase a house and a running farm with grounds extending to approximately 36.62 hectares (90.08 acres). Located in an area of natural beauty in Ardmaddy. Farm House accommodation: front porch, hallway, living room, kitchen/ diner, kitchenette, rear pantry, cloakroom, two bedrooms, study/bedroom three.



MN
MUNRO & NOBLE
SOLICITORS & ESTATE AGENTS

Price: Offers Over £465,000
Munro & Noble, 47 Church Street, Inverness, IV1 1HX
T: 01463 225533
F: 01463 225165
E: property@munronoble.com
www.munronoble.com



DAWSONS Celebrating 40 years of successful sales in Argyll

<p>GLENMORE ROAD, OBAN</p>  <p>Well Presented Family Home In A Peaceful Sought After Area With Views Over The Rooftops Towards Town Living Room : Lounge : Kitchen/Dining : Utility Room 3 Bedrooms : Bathroom : Shower Room : Sun Room Double Glazing : Mains Gas Central Heating Well Stocked Established Garden : Double Garage : Store</p> <p>Guide Price £290,000 EPC E52</p>	<p>DUROR OF APPIN</p>  <p>Attractive Detached Home Set In Idyllic Seclusion Amidst Dramatic Highland Scenery On The Fringe Of The Village Lounge/Dining Room : Conservatory : Dining Kitchen Utility : Study : Sitting Room With Kitchen Area 4 Bedrooms : 3 Bathrooms : Shower : Greenhouse : Store Gardens Of About 2/3 Of An Acre : Double Garage</p> <p>Offers Over £380,000 EPC C76</p>	<p>KILCHRENAN</p>  <p>Contemporary Country Home Enjoying Expansive Rural Views Towards Ben Cruachan In Popular Lochside Village Hall : Spacious Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen/Dining Room 3 Bedrooms (1 En-Suite Shower Room) : Bathroom : Utility Garage/Workshop : Garden/Tool Shed : Polytunnel Garden & Grounds Extending To About 2.25 Acres</p> <p>Guide Price £320,000 EPC C71</p>	<p>PULPIT ROAD, OBAN</p>  <p>An Attractively Presented Well Maintained Semi-Detached Bungalow Pleasantly Situated Within An Established Quiet Residential Development Lounge/Dining Room : Kitchen : 3 Bedrooms : Shower Double Glazing : Electric Heating Easily Maintained Garden : Patio : Parking Area : Store</p> <p>Guide Price £170,000 EPC D66</p>
<p>GLENMORE ROAD, OBAN</p>  <p>Impressive Villa Delightfully Situated In Quiet Residential Area With Views Over The Town To The Seascape Halls : Sitting Room : Lounge : Dining Room/Kitchen 4 Bedrooms : Study : Bathroom : Shower : Utility Substantial Double Garage/Workshop : Established Garden £70,000 Below Home Report Valuation</p> <p>Guide Price £280,000 EPC E52</p>	<p>ARDUAINE</p>  <p>Well Maintained Detached Bungalow Commanding Superb Views Across Asknish Bay Towards The Islands Of Shuna, Scarba & Jura Lounge : Kitchen/Dining Room : 3 Bedrooms (1 En-Suite) Bathroom : Double Glazing : Electric Heating Landscaped Garden : Summerhouse : Garage : Shed</p> <p>Guide Price £250,000 EPC E55</p>	<p>BONAWE</p>  <p>Attractively Presented Detached Bungalow In A Delightful Rural Location With Fine Open Views Over Loch Etive Vestibule : Hall : Lounge : Kitchen/Dining Room 3 Bedrooms : Bathroom : Toilet Double Glazing : Electric Heating Established Garden With Parking : Decking : Shed</p> <p>Guide Price £185,000 EPC F34</p>	<p>LOCHAWE</p>  <p>Impressive Modern Detached Villa Enjoying Outstanding Loch Views In A Popular West Highland Village Hall : Lounge : Kitchen/Dining : Utility : Shower Room 4 Bedrooms (2 with En Suite & Dressing Areas) : Toilet Extensive Loch Facing Deck : Electric Heating Established Garden with Timber Shed & Ample Parking</p> <p>Guide Price £330,000 EPC D65</p>
<p>KILMELFORD</p>  <p>Beautifully Presented Detached Home In Picturesque Rural Village Location With Views Towards Loch Melfort Porch : Lounge : Dining Room/4th Bedroom Kitchen : Utility Room : Toilet : Family Bathroom 3 Bedrooms (1 With En-Suite Shower Room) Level Garden With Gravel Driveway : Timber Shed</p> <p>Guide Price £240,000 EPC D68</p>	<p>ANGUS TERRACE, OBAN</p>  <p>Well Proportioned Ground Floor Flat In An Established Residential Development Within Level Walking Distance Of The Town Centre Enjoying Reasonably Open Aspects Sitting Room : Modern Kitchen : 2 Bedrooms : Bathroom Double Glazed Windows : Central Heating Communal Drying Green</p> <p>Guide Price £95,000 EPC D61</p>	<p>CLACHAN SEIL</p>  <p>Charming Traditional Detached Cottage Providing Substantially Extended And Modernised Accommodation Conservatory : Lounge : Kitchen : Bathrooms : 2 Bedrooms Large Office/Store Room : Dressing Area & Toilet Double Glazing : LPG Central Heating Attractive Established Garden : Garage : Fuel Store</p> <p>Guide Price £200,000 EPC E52</p>	<p>BARCALDINE</p>  <p>Charming Cottage With Converted Outbuilding Providing Additional Accommodation In Delightful Rural Location Sitting Room : Dining Room : Conservatory : Study 3 Bedrooms : Kitchen : Utility : Shower : Bathroom : Toilet Outbuilding - Bed/Sitting Room : Bathroom : Bedroom Mature Garden Of About 2.5 Acres : Burn : Shed : Garage</p> <p>Guide Price £340,000 EPC E46</p>

Continued



From statistics compiled by Home.co.uk in the last two months 60 properties have gone on sale in Oban - the median price of property in the area is £194,975.



ALLIED SCOTLAND
Chartered Surveyors

Local Surveyors operating throughout Argyll, Bute and Lochaber

Home Reports and Valuations, Energy Reports, Quantity Surveying and Project Management

Dunoon Office 01369 705000
Email: dunoon@alliedsurveyorsscotland.com

Helensburgh Office 01436 674976
Email: helensburgh@alliedsurveyorsscotland.com

Fort William Office 01397 705541
Email: fort.william@alliedsurveyorsscotland.com

www.alliedsurveyorsscotland.com

07872 986 164
info@fiuran.co.uk
www.fiuran.co.uk

Fiuran PROPERTY

Property Classifieds

Window Blinds

Chris Craft window blinds

- FREE MEASURING
- FREE ESTIMATES
- FREE FITTING
- MADE IN SCOTLAND
- MADE TO MEASURE

OBAN 01852 300174 FORT WILLIAM 0800 371250
www.chriscraft.co.uk

Woodburning Stoves

AFFORDABLE Country Kiln

Woodburning & Multifuel stoves

Delivered Nationwide
01560 483966
www.WoodburningStovesLimited.com

Promote your business in our Property Classifieds section. Tel: 01631 568010

TO LET

Properties to let on Isle of Seil

Furnished or Unfurnished

2 bedrooms (£500/month)

3 bedrooms (£550/month)

Contact: 07827 946675

TAYNUILT - LONG TERM LET

BRIGHT AND SPACIOUS WELL MAINTAINED 2 BEDROOM FLAT SUITABLE FOR 1 OR 2 PEOPLE (SORRY NO CHILDREN). FULLY FURNISHED INCLUDING COOKER, FRIDGE AND WASHER/DRYER.

£430PCM + BILLS

REFERENCES REQUIRED

LANDLORD REGISTRATION NUMBER 79941309410

CONTACT: 01631 570060 DURING OFFICE HOURS

Long Term Let or may sell

1 Bedroom Mid Terrace Cottage Easdale Island

Contact: 01852 300 154

Failte, Oban

- 5 Bedroom semi-detached Bungalow
- Walk-in condition, popular residential area
- Hall, Kitchen, Lounge/Diner, Bathroom
- 5 Bedrooms, 1 with En Suite, Loft
- Double glazing, underfloor heating
- Wood-burning stove, storage heating
- Easily maintained, enclosed garden
- Decking, shed & greenhouse, parking
- Convenient to Oban Primary Campus

Guide Price £195,000

5 Park Road, Oban

- Immaculate 3 Bedroom family home
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC, Conservatory
- 3 Bedrooms, En Suite, Bathroom, Loft
- Range of appliances included in sale
- Built-in wardrobes in all Bedrooms
- Double glazing, electric storage heating
- Attractive fireplace with electric fire
- Enclosed & landscaped garden, shed
- Raised decking, private off-road parking

Offers Over £190,000

Cuillarach, Oban

- **£5,000 below Home Report valuation**
- 3 Bedroom detached Dorran bungalow
- Breath-taking countryside views
- Front & Back Porch, Hall, Kitchen, Loft
- Lounge/Diner, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Solar panels & multi-fuel stove
- Double glazing, detached garage
- Sizeable well-kept garden
- Private parking for several cars

Guide Price £150,000

49a Combie Street, Oban

- Well presented first floor flat
- Situated in Oban town centre
- Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen
- Bathroom, 2 Bedrooms
- Electric storage heating, double glazing
- Built-in wardrobe in Bedroom Two
- Fitted Kitchen and modern Bathroom
- Communal garden/drying green, store
- Shared private parking

Guide Price £95,000

19 Balvicar Road, Oban

- 2 Bedroom semi-detached bungalow
- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Loft
- 2 double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Good storage space throughout
- Double glazing, electric storage heating
- Easily kept garden with patio area
- Potential for an extension
- Off road private parking
- Popular residential area

Guide Price £150,000

39b Combie Street, Oban

- Beautifully presented fully renovated flat
- Hall, Lounge, large Kitchen/Diner
- 2 Double Bedrooms, Shower Room
- Modern Kitchen with range of appliances
- Fitted wardrobes in both Bedrooms
- Double glazing and gas central heating
- Wall hung electric fire in Lounge
- Store, communal garden/drying green
- Excellent town centre location

Offers Over £95,000

2 Park Road, Oban

- 2 Bedroom semi-detached house
- Porch, WC, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- 2 Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Loft
- Range of appliances included in sale
- Built-in wardrobes in both Bedrooms
- Double glazing throughout
- Electric storage heating
- Enclosed garden, shed, private parking
- Convenient to town centre

Guide Price £150,000

1 Tobar Oisinn Drive, Oban

- 3 Bedroom semi-detached family home
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory
- WC, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Loft
- Range of appliances included in sale
- Great storage, built-in wardrobes
- Double glazing, electric storage heating
- Floored Loft with electricity & spotlights
- Underfloor heating in Conservatory
- Enclosed rear garden, shed, parking

Guide Price £180,000

32a Lorn Avenue, Oban

- Well presented, spacious top floor flat
- Lounge, Bedroom, Kitchen, Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Modern Kitchen & Bathroom
- Great storage space including Loft
- Free on-street parking nearby
- Communal garden and drying green
- Convenient to town centre

Guide Price £80,000

Get The Oban Times for only 40p!

Subscribe to our digital edition for one year and save 50%

Subscribe today!
Visit www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

Delivered straight to your inbox

Thinking of selling? Fees from only £595 or 0.95%



www.bellingram.co.uk

Bell Ingram, formally D M Mackinnon Estates have built an enviable reputation for providing professional advice to both vendors and land owners throughout Argyll and Lochaber.

The Oban Office, led by Hugh Nicol MRICS complements the Bell Ingram national network of offices which significantly assists in the effective marketing of properties whether they be cottages or castles.

FOR SALE



The Boathouse East & The Boathouse West Melfort, Argyll

A unique opportunity to acquire a luxury waterside holiday property overlooking its own Pier and Harbour located in one of the prime locations on the West Coast of Scotland
 Three-bedroom lochside holiday houses with disabled access to Category 2
 Opportunity for moorings on Loch Melfort. Fishing rights from Melfort Pier
 Part of an award winning holiday development with on-site staff and year-round concierge available
 EPC Rating E
Offers over £335,000 (East)
Offers over £325,000 (West)



Closing Date Friday 17th October 12 Noon

Laggenbeag House, Scammadale, Kilninver

Superior detached country home with spectacular views and finished to an extremely high standard
 Accommodation comprises, Lounge, dining room, kitchen, library, shower room, 3 double bedrooms and bathroom
 Garage with large guest accommodation above and large outbuildings
 Private driveway leading to the gravelled courtyard with ample parking for up to six cars
 Business opportunity
 Oil fired central heating. Double glazing throughout
 Viewing highly recommended
 EPC Rating: D61
Offers Over: £380,000



The House of Dunmore Estate, Tarbert, Argyll

A historic coastal Estate on the shores of West Loch Tarbert centred around the House of Dunmore
 Four self catering cottages and modernised lodge producing a useful income
 Extending to approximately 114 acres (46 hectares)

Spectacular panoramic view that embraces the entire length of West Loch Tarbert, peaks of Arran, the Paps of Jura and the island of Gigha
 Available as a whole or in 2 lots
 Lot 1: Offers over £615,000
 Lot 2: Offers over £260,000
 EPC Rating: E44
Offers over £875,000



Waterfront Living, Bonawe, Argyll

A rare opportunity to acquire a large building plot with sea frontage and Planning Permission in Principle within the popular village of Bonawe
 The sites benefit from a north easterly aspect and are gently contoured to maximise privacy, yet benefit from the views over the sea
 Each plot runs down to the sea and offers the opportunity to create a jetty or simply lay a mooring to allow the full benefit of the sea to be enjoyed
 All four plots each have different attributes but should with flair allow a purchaser to create a most attractive environment around their house
 The plots which vary in size from 0.552 to 0.855 acres can be landscaped to cater for individual requirements
 The sites are currently un-serviced although each of the plots has been delineated
 Vendor will provide a common entrance road, water and a septic tank to each plot
 The planning consent gives latitude for an innovative design which may be interpreted as modern but with a Scottish vernacular twist
Prices from £120,000



Phone today for your free valuation and friendly advice



Autumn Opening Times:
Monday to Friday 8.45am till 5pm
Saturday 9.30am till 3.30pm



Boswell House, Argyll Square, Oban, PA34 4BD 01631 566122
 oban@bellingram.co.uk



www.bellingram.co.uk

Bell Ingram Estate Agency and Lettings department offers local knowledge, national coverage and competitive rates. The office also provides strategic advice to estates, farmers and landlords, why not telephone or call in to our new offices to see how Bell Ingram, a national agent with serious local knowledge can help you.

FOR SALE



Beinn Carraig, Dalmally
Beautifully presented and spacious 4 bedroom family home finished to an extremely high standard. Excellent development potential (subject to the necessary consents) Double Glazing, Oil Central Heating Good sized garden grounds. Ample parking
EPC Rating: C78
Offers in the Region of £235,000



Tigh Cladich, Clachan Seil
Traditional detached home with waterside frontage and far reaching views over Clachan, Seil Driveway providing parking. Extensive garden grounds Storage sheds, Double Glazed, Multi fuel heating
EPC Rating: F38
Offers in the Region of £290,000



Seaview, Ardrishaig
Characterful and well presented, four-bedroom, semi-detached, Victorian villa in an elevated position in Ardrishaig Replacement double glazing. Solid fuel central heating Private, easily maintained garden to front and rear. Workshop. Wood store
EPC Rating: E46
Offers in the Region of £195,000



1 Cnoc Beag, Balvicar
Extremely well presented three bedroom detached property set in the desirable village of Balvicar Double glazing. Night storage heating (E10 meter). Well maintained garden. Two timber sheds. Private parking
EPC Rating: D64
Offers Over £190,000



8E Alma Crescent, Oban
Beautifully presented one bedroom top floor flat with partial sea views Town centre location and close to all amenities Shared private parking. Communal garden Private store shed. Electric heating
EPC Rating: D56
Offers Over £82,000



1 Polloch, Strontian
A rare opportunity to acquire a traditional cottage in one of the most spectacular areas of the West Highlands Constructed predominantly of stone under a sheeted roof with additions to the south and east The accommodation comprises: Porch / Entrance lobby, hall, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms, W.C.
Guide Price £95,000



1 Ben Cruchan View, Oban
Well-presented, three bedroom detached property offering panoramic views over Oban Bay and the seafront Double glazing predominantly throughout. Gas central heating Off street parking. Attractive garden. Basement storage
EPC rating D58
Fixed Price £175,000



27 Creag an Airm, Oban
Well presented, spacious, two-bedroom, top floor apartment situated in a superb location Stunning harbor views Prime location, double glazing, electric heating, Newly fitted kitchen, security entry, off street parking
Offers in the Region of: £160,000



Gortonronach, Lochgair
Offering four prime south facing lots comprising open land and properties Available for purchase as a whole or as individual lots Services available for connection close by Further development potential opportunities (subject to obtaining the necessary consents)
Prices from £25,000



Oakbank, Tayvallich
Modern, detached three bedroom bungalow with scenic, countryside views across Attached 'granny flat' suitable for conversion to holiday letting unit Garden ground extending to 0.9 acre. Substantial outbuildings Double glazed. Oil fired central heating. Ample parking
EPC Rating D55
Offers in the Region of £290,000



Llamedos, Isle of Mull
Detached timber framed 3 bedroom bungalow situated in a pleasant location in Upper Tobermory, Isle of Mull Approximately 1/3 of an acre of grounds Detached double garage/workshop and stores Off street parking Energy rating: E53
Offer Over £160,000



Croft at Glenegadale, Islay
A rare opportunity to acquire a substantial croft extending to approximately 225 acres (91 hectares) Planning consent for the erection of a croft house Within easy reach of sandy beaches and dunes of Knockangle Forestry potential, subject to consents Fantastic opportunity, sea views, services close by
Offers in Excess of £180,000



Grogport Old Manse, Kintyre
Stunningly situated, four-bedroom, Category B listed Georgian manse, Cliff-top holiday letting house and caretaker's cottage set within 15.5 Ha (38 acres) of grounds Magnificent views across the Kilbrannan Sound to Arran EPC Ratings: Old Manse F35, The Steading E39, Cliff Cottage E54
Offers Over £695,000



Ardchiavaig Cottage, Isle of Kintyre
Charming, 5 bedroom detached property with stunning views over Uisken Bay Spectacular panoramic sea views. Business Opportunity Building plot with outline planning permission
EPC Rating: E48
Offers Over £340,000



10 The Glebe, Kilmelford
Modern three-bedroom, semi-detached bungalow In good decorative order and walk-in condition Double glazing. Electric storage heating Off street parking. Large, easily maintained garden. Garage
EPC Rating: D65
Offers in the Region of £140,000



Rowanbank House, Ardmaddy
Superior detached home set within 1 acre grounds Pleasantly located in a peaceful location with beautiful views Double garage with fully floored space above with electric Geo Thermal Heating with downstairs underfloor heating Decked seating area and private driveway
EPC Rating: B81
Offers in Excess of £400,000



3 Scott Terrace, Dalmally
Well presented one and a half storey semi-detached 3 bedroom property Pleasant mountain views, on street parking Easily maintained gardens, shed and covered drying area Double glazed. Solid fuel heating
EPC Rating D55
Guide Price £105,000



Glenaros Lodge, Isle of Mull
Traditional, stone built, detached 5 bedroom property Secluded location with sea views Large grounds and driveway offering ample parking Excellent holiday letting potential Biomass heating (log boiler)
EPC Rating: F31
Guide Price £325,000



1 Aros, Isle of Mull
In need of upgrading/ refurbishment, this semidetached three bedroom property offers great potential Large garden and driveway offering ample parking Three external storage sheds, double glazing
EPC Rating: E38
Offers in the Region of £100,000



Heatherbank, Cairnbann
Last few remaining, end and mid-terraced, two-bedroom houses Full NHBC Guarantee. Eligible for Help to Buy assistance (terms & conditions apply) Attractive views. Double glazed throughout. Modern electric heating Private gardens and designated off street parking
EPC Rating: C77
Fixed Price £140,000



21A Combie Street, Oban
This detached two bedroom ground floor flat Walk in decorative condition Double Glazed. Total control electric heating On street parking available
EPC Rating D58
Offers in the region of £92,000

To find out more visit our website www.bellingram.co.uk or pop into our new office at Argyll Square

TO LET



32 Lorn Avenue, Oban
Well presented ground floor flat located in a popular housing development situated a short walk from the Town Centre The un-furnished accommodation comprises: Hallway, living room, double bedroom, kitchen and bathroom. Good sized storage cupboards. Shared communal drying green Fully double glazed. Night storage electric heating Available on a six month Short Assured Tenancy with option to extend Council Tax Band "A". One month's rent required as a deposit. References essential. Available now Energy Rating: E50 Landlord Registration No: 376501/130/13381
Rent £450 per month plus Council Tax and utility bills



4C Battery Terrace, Oban
This extremely well presented second floor apartment is situated in a quiet residential area of Oban The well-appointed, fully furnished accommodation is in walk-in condition and comprises: Entrance hallway, open plan lounge/kitchen, one bedroom and shower room Fully double glazed. Total control electric heating One month's rent required as a deposit, Available on a 6 month's short assured tenancy. References essential. Viewing highly recommended Available now Energy rating C69 Landlord registration No: 282986/130/13421
Rent £450 per month plus Council Tax and utility bills



Lismore Apt, Lonan House, Taynuilt
Lonan House is an impressive Grade B listed mansionhouse standing in 30 acres of garden grounds, it offers a peaceful and quiet location, whilst still only approximately 1 mile from the village of Taynuilt Accommodation Comprises:- good sized conservatory, open plan kitchen/lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. This apartment is fully furnished and would ideally suit a single person or couple Strictly no pets References essential. Available now Energy rating E43. Landlord Registration No: 53394/130/28250
Rent £450 per month plus Council Tax and utility bills



Cruachan House, Kilchrenan
This detached farmhouse is situated in a lovely rural setting and is not overlooked by other houses. The property enjoys wonderful views overlooking Lochawe and the surrounding countryside Part-furnished accommodation comprises Ground Floor: Large utility room, kitchen, scullery, lounge, dining room/office and bathroom. Upper Floor: Four bedrooms and bathroom Oil Central Heating. Council Tax (Band "E") References essential. Available now Landlords Registration No: 211719/130/09470. EPC rating F24
Rent: £700 per month plus Council Tax and utilities



Tigh Na Craig, Craobh Haven
Modern architect designed detached property in Craobh Haven set within approx. 4 acres of garden ground Magnificent sea views towards the island of Shuna and Gulf of Corryreckan and beyond and within minute's walk of the beach at Lunga Bay Accommodation comprises - open plan - office / lounge/ kitchen/ dining/sunroom. W.C. three bedrooms and bathroom. Multi Fuel Stove in lounge. Electric wet heating system Available on a 6 month's short assured tenancy with option to extend Viewing highly recommended. References essential. Available now. EPC Rating E47 Landlord Registration No: 402302/130/03161
Rent £850 per month plus Council Tax and utilities



Garden Flat, Gibraltar St, Oban
One bedroom basement flat conveniently situated for the town centre and is close to all recreational and shopping facilities. Accommodation comprises - Living room with fire place, kitchen, bedroom with built in walk in wardrobe and bathroom. Large storage cupboard. Available on a 6 month's short assured tenancy with option to extend References essential. Available November 2014 EPC rating F38. Landlord Registration No: 00264/130/08140
Rent: £400 per month plus Council Tax and Utilities



Ardchonnell Farmhouse, By Dalmally
This detached farmhouse is situated in a lovely rural setting and is not overlooked by other houses. The property enjoys wonderful views overlooking Lochawe and the surrounding countryside Part-furnished accommodation comprises Ground Floor: Large utility room, kitchen, scullery, lounge, dining room/office and bathroom. Upper Floor: Four bedrooms and bathroom Oil Central Heating. Council Tax (Band "E") References essential. Available now Landlords Registration No: 211719/130/09470 EPC Rating F24
Rent: £600 per month plus Council Tax and utilities

Struggling to sell??
Bought an investment and want to find the right tenants?
Want to let your property hassle free?
Contact our lettings manager Jackie Moore today for free advice on the letting process and our management offers.



Boswell House, Argyll Square, Oban, PA34 4BD 01631 566122

oban@bellingram.co.uk

ADVERTISING IN OUR DRIVETIMES IS ONLY £30 FOR TWO WEEKS

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Motors & Drivetimes

new car index

ISUZU S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel: 01292 880080 / 880440

S & S SERVICES
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel: 01292 880080/880440

Great Wall

SUBARU S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel: 01292 880080/880440

W.D. SEMPLE
www.wdsemple.com
Inveraray - Shore Street
Tel: 01499 302150
Lochgilphhead - Highbank Park
Tel: 01546 606767 / 01546 606272

TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000

Landrover Freelander



2003 TD
5 door, long mot & tax
Immaculate for year
84000 miles

£2700

Tel: 01770 700697 (Arran)

2006 Vauxhall Zafira 1.8i Design



63700 miles,
good condition,
great running
family car.

£3900 o.n.o.

Tel: 01586 554329

WANTED URGENTLY



MOTORHOMES & CARAVANS
WE WONT BE BEATEN ON PRICE, FINANCE SETTLED, INSTANT COLLECTION AND DIRECT PAYMENT.

**CALL: 07711 573308
01250 872424**

2003 VW Golf GT TDi



130hp. Black. Alloys. CD multichanger. Sports interior. 3 doors. 147000 miles. Good service history. In good condition inside and out. Very economical, 50+mpg! Will come with full MOT. No tax. Used daily until very recently. New car forces reluctant sale!

£1500 o.n.o.

Tel: 07812 010906

Kawasaki KLF 220 ATV 2WD



Includes new battery and cover. Infrequent use since new.

£750

Tel: 01631 770357

WANTED

All types of 4 x 4 vehicles
Landrovers, any 4x4, Toyotas, Nissan, considered. Also non-runner and accident damaged, MOT failure, single or double cab. Genuine people to deal with.

**Telephone 01250 884306
Mobile 07885 203020**

Fin's Place
Free pickup from BALLACHULISH SOUTH
Timing belts, exhausts, brakes, clutches, batteries, servicing, M.O.T, repairs, diagnostics

11 Old Tweedmill, Oban
01631 566220
01766 757013

Broken down?
We'll get you home!
We are certificated to B.S.P.A.S.43 for recovery work.

AA Green Flag RAC Fuel • Repairs • Oils

MacDougall's Garage Telephone:
Corrie Glen, Fionnphort 01681 700294

Call now to advertise your business in the **Motoring Classifieds** section Tel: 01631 568020

WANTED

4 x 4's, all makes and models, Toyota, Landrover, Mitsubishi, high miles no problem, MOT or not, instant decision, same day payment.

Contact William 07730 130284 or 07923 091694 or email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

WANTED

All types of good quality 4x4 vehicles, Landrovers, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford etc and all 4x4 pickups, must be in good condition and reasonable mileage. Older 4x4s and non runners/ MOT failures etc considered. Will collect.

Telephone 07546 788945

URGENTLY REQUIRED



4X4s
TOP PRICE PAID
INSTANT COLLECTION AND PAYMENT
ANY AGE AND CONDITION

**CALL: 07711 573308
01250 872424**

WANTED

All 4 X 4 Vehicles
any make or model, from 1990 to new, also high mileage, non runners, MOT failures etc considered.
Finance settled, top cash prices paid, instant payment and collection.

Tel: 07546 788945

WANTED

Motor homes, caravanettes and camper vans, all makes or models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.

Contact William 07730 130284 or 07923 091694 or email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

WANTED ALL 4 X 4'S

Toyota, Mitsubishi, Landrovers etc, mileage no problem. Distance no object. Specialise in Vauxhall Brava and Isuzu pick-ups.

Telephone 07789 138028

Fiat Panda 2008



1.3 Dynamic Multijet, 5 door, Diesel, 56,000 miles, 10 months MOT, Yellow, Superb condition, Up to 70mpg. FSH.

£3495

Tel: 07771 918430

WANTED

Wanted all 4 x 4s, old or new
Toyota Hilux, land cruiser, all pickups single or double cabs, any condition, runner or not, high miles no problem.

Telephone: 07703490572 ask for Robert

WANTED 4x4

Any year or condition, would consider any kind of pick-up or jeep, will collect and pay cash.

Telephone 0792 5715321

58 plate Suzuki Swift 1.3 GL



Mot'd and taxed. Ready to go.

£2500

Tel: 07917 470155

Highlander fast fisher 15½' 2010



Tohatsu 25hp 4 stroke & 2.3hp Tohatsu 4 stroke 2010. Boat and engines in new condition. Trailer, cover, fish finder, echo sounder, GPS, ship to shore. Cost new £13,000. Quick sale required. Can be seen at North Ledaig.

Reduced £6,995

Tel: 07788 731967 Ask for George

Motor Sailor 25' X 10'



V. good condition, Surveyed 2005, Leyland Daf Diesel 40hp. Mooring Tarbert paid to 31/03/15.

Reduced to £3750 o.n.o.

Tel 01259 750443

54%
of people travel 10 miles or less to buy a second-hand car

Regional press is the relevant choice for motors advertising.

Regional Press
closer to home

CRAOBH MARINA

The ideal west coast cruising base.
Book your winter storage/afloat/ashore now.

Tel 01852 500222 craobhmarina@talk21.com www.craobhmarina.co.uk

Don't get caught out by the new 'non-paper' tax disc law

VEHICLE owners in Argyll and Bute are being reminded that they no longer need to display tax discs on their vehicles.

The Driving Vehicle and Licensing Agency (DVLA) made the widely-publicised move from paper tax discs to online administration on October 1.

Car owners still need to have vehicle tax to drive or keep a vehicle on the road, but now the DVLA is taking payments online, including Direct Debit payment options or motorists can still visit their local Post Office branch.

Instead of using paper tax discs to spot tax evaders, police cameras will automatically check a car's number plate.

Dealers will no longer be able to purchase vehicles with a tax disc in force; tax discs will not be transferable when a vehicle is sold.

Importantly, under the new rules, used car sellers including motor dealers are responsible for notifying the DVLA when they sell a car and then they will receive a refund for any months left on the vehicle tax.

Dealers and vehicle testers still need to apply and pay for a new trade licence once it needs renewing, but there will no longer be a paper trade

licence to display with the trade plate.

The new rules no longer require a trade licence holder to display a trade licence, however, the rules for trade plates have not changed.

Dealers can either use trade plates, provided that the vehicle is used within the conditions for use of trade plates, or obtain new vehicle tax, if the vehicle needs to be registered in a dealership's name.

The new rules also put the onus on used car sellers to inform the DVLA, when they sell their vehicle. Dealers who fail to inform the DVLA could be fined and they will still be liable for vehicle tax on a car they don't own any more.

Dealers are being warned to ensure they don't get caught out with fines for a car they no longer have on their forecourts.

Phil Peace, commercial operations director for vehicle information provider HPI said: 'We're hoping that the new DVLA initiatives will make it harder for drivers to head out on the road untaxed.'

'It's easy to check if a vehicle is taxed by heading online at the Vehicle Enquiry Service, making this the first step for dealers and consumers who want to avoid the risk of fines.'



The end of an era for the tax disc.

1997 SWIFT CONQUEROR 640L CARAVAN



5 berth, new elec mains fridge, elec water heater, includes new Kampa Rally porch awning, breathable cover for winter storage, water barrel, waste container, elec cable. Only towed within campsite in recent years so unsure of road worthiness. Well cared for tidy clean van. £1,900 ono

Tel: 07929 027044

Fiat Ulysse



MPV, 7 seater 03 reg, 2 ltr petrol. MOT Feb 2015, tax Oct. 45,000 miles, full service history. Clean and tidy. £1850 ono

Tel: 07756591034

Land Rover - Freelander TD4 SE

Automatic, diesel
2 lady owners
Full service history.

£3250 o.n.o.

Tel: 07872 475279 or 01631 730325

LANDROVER FREELANDER



SE 2ltr Turbo Diesel, BMW engine, X reg (2000) 12 months MOT
4 good tyres, central locking, lots new parts, good condition for year, good on fuel, CD multichanger.

Tel: 07788 505224

Oban Times DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times DRIVE TIMES

Honda Motorcycle



1983, 99cc Petrol. At present SORN and needs some attention. £250

Isle of Arran 01770 860222

ARGO Avenger



2004 26 hp Kohola engine, full waterproof canopy with windows all round. Full roll cage. All chains and sprockets in good condition. 2 winches, gun racks. Had new gear box. Very good tyres. Lots more extras. Would consider quad bike part exchange + cash difference. £6,995

07786 864877

Hyundai Tucson



CRTD CDX Diesel 2000cc, 4 wheel drive, MOT - Oct 2015, 4 brand new tyres, leather heated seats, air conditioning, 87000 miles. £2750 ono

Tel: 01583 431 311

Fiat Scudo (Similar to Peugeot Expert)



1.9 diesel, 52 reg. 12 months MOT
Twin side sliding doors, power steering, wood lined, 2 new tyres, lots of money spent, good condition, very good on fuel. £850 o.n.o.

Tel: 07876 302583



find us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

VOLVO C30



Se Sport R Design (Sept 2008). Taxed May 15. MOT Sept 15. Full service history by Taggerts Glasgow, 46500 miles. One Owner Inc's. 4 spare wheels with winter tyres. £6300

01631 562734

Hyundai Matrix GSI 1600



2005, 62,000 miles. Mot June 2015. All new exhaust, new timing belt, new suspension bushes. Air con, electric windows, cd player, abs brakes. Drives like new. Very reluctant sale due to buying a campervan. £1650

Tel: 01770 601319

Citroen Berlingo Multispace Forte



2.0L HDI Diesel. 5 door estate. Immaculate condition, silver, 2002, only 72,000 miles. High 56 m.p.g. model, electric front windows, towball. MOT April '15 View Arran or Kintyre. £2100

Tel: 01770 850516 or 07836 743944

Fiat Scudo Comfort Swb Multijet 90

Panel Van, Diesel, 1.6 Turbo Diesel 5-Speed, Grey 2008, 66k miles, MOT December, twin side loading doors, fully ply lined, electric windows, remote central locking, 3 seat cab, CD radio, Good condition inside and out. £5,995

Tel: 01397 702722

Toyota Aygo



3 door (2006) MOT/Tax to July 2015 40,000 miles Service history Road Tax £20 per year £2900 ono

07554709290 (Mid Argyll)

FORD TRANSIT 140



T330, RWD, 2008, green, 53,000 miles, electric pack & Bluetooth. £5,500 excluding VAT o.n.o

Contact 01496 810 382 or 07768 576 544

There are some things you can't do with

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Digital Edition

but you can **save 64%** on an annual subscription

*Calculated against the cost of a printed annual subscription at £58 per year which includes postage and packaging. Please note this product does NOT work on iPhone, iPads or Tablets. Requires PC or Mac with access to the internet (Broadband recommended) with an internet browser that supports flash.

obantimes.co.uk/digital

WIN THIS CAR



The RNLI BRZ raffle prize - tickets available from S & S Services 01292 880080 £5 per ticket

S & S Services Heathfield, Ayr.
UK's No.1 Subaru & Isuzu Dealer Tel: 01292 880080



The New XV from £199 per month

John Spicer will be in Oban on Sunday 12th October. Contact him now to discuss your requirements. Mob: 07831 808702

SUBARU

With an impressive range of vehicles such as the versatile New Forester, the stylish and practical XV, the BRZ with its balance, precision and performance, the rugged Outback, executive Legacy and the legendary STI, there's a Subaru to suit every need.

Excellent finance rates available throughout the range
Deposits and final contributions vary.
Contact John for details. Tel: 07831 808702

NEW STEED
includes: A 6 YEAR 125000 mile warranty and a 2.5 tonne towing limit. Price from £14998 + VAT



ISUZU D-MAX
Scottish Farmer Special Edition with towbar, bedliner and rubber mats with 3.5 tonne towing limit and 5 years / 125000 mile warranty



Antarctica post office gets new employee - from Oban

AN OBAN woman is to travel 11,000 miles to Antarctica, to work in the most southern post office in the world.

Amy Kincaid, 23, will take up a post with the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust for four months, one of four staff members manning the office in Port Lockroy, part of the British Antarctic Territory.

Amy, a recent geography graduate from the University of St Andrews, will help tourists send postcards and letters all over the world from the remote spot on the Antarctic Peninsula, as well as monitoring the 2,000 penguins who live in the area.

She explained: 'I did a project in primary seven about Antarctica and got really interested in it and ever since then it's been on my radar as a place I wanted to go to. Then I saw the job advertised and I'd just finished university so realised it was a great opportunity.'

'I'll be living on an island the size of a football pitch. There's a historic base there, where people who researched in the area lived

between the 1940s and the 1960s, which is now a museum.'

Amy will be living with three others in a building called a Nissen hut, a half-cylinder shaped building made of metal, which has power from a diesel generator, a wind turbine and solar panels.

Describing the work she will be doing at the post office she said: 'It'll be mainly post from the cruise ships, a majority of which is postcards.'

'Because the area is part of the British Antarctic Territory, the post goes to the Falklands then it's distributed from the UK.'

'As far as I'm aware, it only costs 65p to send a postcard anywhere in the world.'

Amy's journey begins on November 5 when she will fly to Ushuaia in Argentina.

From there she will leave on a vessel around November 8, arriving in Port Lockroy in around five days.

Port Lockroy gets incredibly busy with approximately 18,000 cruise ship passengers visiting in

the summer season, with temperatures ranging from 0°C to 15°C. A historic scientific base, Port Lockroy is home to the only

gift shop in the continent and a museum which displays aspects of Antarctic life in the 1950s and early 1960s.



A small house in the British Antarctic base in Port Lockroy.



Amy Kincaid, right, who will travel 11,000 miles to work in Antarctica for four months.

Yorkshire Building Society saves Oban Youth Café

THE OBAN branch of Yorkshire Building Society has come to the rescue of a youth club after its camping equipment was destroyed in a storm.

Colleagues at the branch, on George Street, nominated the Oban Youth Café Project for a £1,506 donation from Yorkshire Building Society's Charitable Foundation last month.

The charity, which is based on Albany Terrace, used the money last week to buy camping equipment including tents, midge nets and waterproof clothing.

Kirsty McLuckie, project coordinator at Oban Youth Café Project, said: 'We do a lot of camping with our young people but unfortunately last year we had a disaster when our tents were destroyed after a storm hit while we were camping.'

'The tents were ruined and we had no way of affording replacements until Yorkshire Building Society came to the rescue.'

The Oban Youth Café Project has been catering for youngsters aged between 12 and 19 years old since 2001, offering trips out, craft activities, pool sessions and much

more. Sally Jackson, manager of the Oban branch of Yorkshire Building Society, said: 'Everyone at the branch is delighted that the charitable foundation was able to help the Oban Youth Café Project

buy the equipment.'

'It is a great charity that does so much for young people in our community and we're really happy to be able to play our part in supporting its work.'



Kenny McCorquodale and Lori Hannah of the Oban Youth Café with Yorkshire building society staff members Amy Trengrouse, Sally Jackson and Lynsay McLeish. The building society donated funds to the youth café to purchase new camping equipment. 16_139yorkshire01

west coast recruitment

Exciting Times
You could be part of it

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

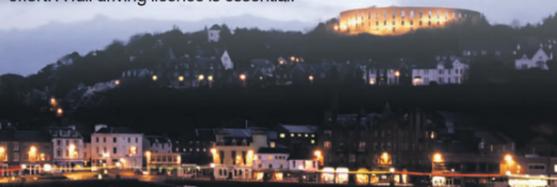
BASED IN OBAN

£ Excellent Basic + £ Bonus + Private Health Care + Pension + Good Holidays

If you've got the energy, drive, determination and ambition, we can offer you an exciting and rewarding career with one of Scotland's foremost independent newspaper publishers.

You would be part of a small, highly motivated team selling advertising and features for our well established, award winning publications.

You will be responsible for calling new and existing clients to generate and maintain lasting business relationships, and you will benefit from on-going training, first class support, job stability and the opportunity to work for a professional company that believes in rewarding success and effort. A full driving licence is essential.



Please apply by email with full C.V and covering letter to: ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk

Lancaster Hotel requires GENERAL ASSISTANT

Any interested parties please hand in CV and contact details to hotel reception.

Mid Argyll Community Pool MACPool is Recruiting

Duty Managers - Outgoing and enthusiastic people to be responsible for day to day running of the business. Experience within the leisure industry or a customer-focused business; preferred

Salary: £12,800- £14,500

Lifeguards - Self motivated and willing to learn new skills as part of a dynamic team. No experience necessary as training will be given.

Salary: £11,750 - £12,800

Full time and part time positions are available for both roles

Closing Date: Friday 24th October 2014

Application packs from www.macpool.org.uk/recruitment or manager@macpool.org.uk

Charity Number: SC020084 • Company Number: 137229/1992

ACHA
argyll community housing association

Director of Finance & IT

Based in Lochgilphead

Salary £52952 - £61725 35 hours per week (salary review pending)

Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 24th October 2014

Interviews will be held in Oban on Monday 3rd November 2014

To apply visit our website at www.acha.co.uk/recruitment

If you are unable to access the website contact the recruitment team:

Tel 01546 605917 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk



DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
BAND 5, 37.5 HOURS

6 MONTH FIXED TERM CONTRACT
POSSIBILITY OF SECONDMENT FROM WITHIN CHP
We are looking for a Development Manager to join our friendly, dynamic Practice.

- Rural Practice with 6660 patients
- 6 full time and 1 part time Partner and 1 salaried GP
- 3 practice nurses and 2 Healthcare assistants
- Full complement of admin and ancillary staff
- High QOF achievers

The successful applicant will work alongside our Practice Manager to lead in a major Practice project involving integration of a previously single handed Practice into our existing team and should be someone who is focused, motivated and have good communication skills along with previous experience of managing change.

To apply or for a copy of job description and Practice Profile, please send CV with a covering letter explaining why you feel you would be the right person for this post to:

Muriel Miller, Practice Manager, Lochgilphead Medical Centre, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8JZ

Recruiting Now!!!

Rate:- £18-£22 per hour!!!

Immediate and part-time staff wanted. Select your hours/days & region of work.

No fees & No experience required!!!

- Numerous Positions available in:-
- Education • Retail • Transport
 - Admin, Secretarial & PA • Finance
 - Customer Service • Sales • Freelance

Don't miss out, contact us: info@ajtlimited.com

Andrew Gray

Company number: SC314341

HIGHLAND FUELS

TANKER DRIVER

Connel Depot

Highland Fuels Ltd is seeking to recruit a tanker driver operating from our Connel Depot.

The successful applicant must hold a minimum LGV category C licence (Class 2). A valid ADR certificate would be beneficial but not essential as Highland Fuels has a full tanker training package available.

We welcome applicants from general haulage wishing to specialise in the transportation of dangerous goods. This role comes with excellent rates of pay and very good working conditions.

The position is full-time working dayshift Monday - Friday, with occasional Saturdays.

Please e-mail your current CV to ops@highlandfuels.co.uk or contact our operations department on (01466 794131) for an application form.

Please note that interviews can be held out with work hours if required.

Closing date for applications is Friday, 24th October 2014.

MECHANIC REQUIRED

for busy family owned and run workshop in Dunoon. Would prefer MOT class 4 tester. Competitive pay rate, dependant on skills and experience. Assistance with re-location expenses possible. Stewarts Garage (Dunoon) Ltd 01369706053

Simmers & Co
Chartered Accountants

Bookkeeping & VAT

35 hours per week

We require an individual with a pleasant and professional manner to maintain client records and prepare VAT returns in our busy accountancy practice. Previous experience would be of advantage but full training will be available. Salary offered will depend on level of experience.

Please send CV and a covering letter to:

The Staff Partner at Albany Chambers, Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AL or by e mail to mail@simmers.co.uk www.simmers.co.uk

corrie CONSTRUCTION

GENERAL OPERATIVES

Corrie Construction Ltd seek applicants for General Operative Positions. CSCS cards and a full Driving License are essential.

Apply in writing to: - sales@corrieconstruction.com

Corrie Construction Ltd

Carn Mor House, Glen Nevis Business Park, PH33 6RX

Bell Ingram Estate Agent

We are looking for a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual to join our team based in Oban. You will be responsible for delivering and expanding Estate Agency services throughout the West Highlands and Islands while managing a team of property sales professionals.

You will be a highly organised individual with excellent communication skills. Qualifications and/or experience essential. Car owner/driver essential plus flexibility for island travel.

Salary commensurate with skills and experience.

Bell Ingram is an equal opportunities employer.

Informal enquiries are welcomed by Hugh Nicol on 01631 567794. Please forward your CV and covering letter to: Bell Ingram Ltd, Boswell House, Argyll Square, Oban PA34 4BD or email hugh.nicol@bellingram.co.uk

Oban Times RECRUITMENT Oban Times RECRUITMENT
Oban Times RECRUITMENT Oban Times RECRUITMENT
Oban Times RECRUITMENT

YOUR LOCAL PAPER

Regional & local press advertising gets the job done.

Source: Recruitment Choice, The Newspaper Society 2005

Regional Press
closer to home

WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION JOB ADVERTISEMENT

An exciting opportunity has arisen with West Highland Housing Association for the following two posts:

Quality Services Co-Ordinator - 2 Year Fixed Term Post
£21,000 - £26,000 [Dependent on experience]

This post will work principally with the Operations Manager in developing a customer first approach with particular reference to our reactive repairs and allocations services. Previous experience of working in the Housing Sector is not required however you will be required to demonstrate good analytical skills; critical thinking; a strong understanding of IT and experience in working with and presenting various forms of data. Good communication skills are essential and experience of managing a small team would be preferable.

Customer Services Assistant (Income Collection) -

1 Year Fixed Term Post
EVH Band 3/4 £15,813 - £21,474

Reporting to the Housing and Customer Services Officer this post holder will assist the team to ensure that the Association continue their excellent record in rent collection. You will require a mature disposition, excellent administration skills with good communication skills particularly on the phone and when speaking with people. You will be required to demonstrate good IT skills and organisational skills.

Our Association provides an excellent working environment with a strong culture of both organisational improvement and individual opportunities for learning and development. We have excellent conditions of service and these posts will provide the post holders an opportunity to make a difference.

These posts will be based in our office in Oban. We are committed to diversity and encourage applications from all sectors where transferable skills are present.

Potential opportunity for Housing Graduate/Post Graduate. We will consider a secondment opportunity for candidates with appropriate skills. All necessary in house training will be provided.

Application packs can be e-mailed by contacting Susan MacAskill, Finance and Corporate Services Officer susan@westhighlandha.co.uk

Closing date for Applications will be Wednesday 15th October 2014, with interviews being held during week commencing 27th October 2014

We are a Scottish Charity No SC017357

Balance required between farmers and conservationists

A CAUTIOUS welcome has been given to an accord balancing the needs of farmers and crofters with the conservation of sea eagles.

The convenor of the cross party group on crofting called the move by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the National Farmers Union Scotland (NFUS) 'a positive step.'

The new accord contains recognition from SNH that sea eagle predation on live lambs occurs.

Jamie MacGrigor MSP, who is convenor of the Scottish parliament's cross party group on crofting, said: 'I welcome the recognition from SNH that live

lamb predation by sea eagles is a reality. Over a number of years, on behalf of many farming and crofting constituents in the Highlands and islands, I have pressed successive environment ministers to recognise the concerns that exist among sheep farmers and crofters about the extent of sea eagle predation and its impact on their businesses.

'I have written numerous times to ministers, asked parliamentary questions and raised this matter in the debating chamber as well as having it on the agenda of our Cross Party Crofting group meetings. Indeed at a recent meeting

one Gairloch crofter reported that a healthy lamb weighing 20 kg had been taken by a sea-eagle and that ewes as well as lambs were being attacked by sea-eagles.

'Some of these ewes were later dying from septicaemia from the wounds inflicted by the sea-eagles' talons.

'While this new accord is a positive step in the right direction, we need to see sea eagle management schemes that are genuinely responsive to the needs of crofters and farmers who feel helpless in terms of being able to defend their livestock against predation by sea eagles.'

Argyll and Bute pupils show potential for energy management

PUPILS from schools across Argyll and Bute filled the shoes of engineers and emergency personnel when they were asked to reconnect power following a snowstorm.

Attending a careers event hosted by Scottish and Southern Energy last month, S5 and S6 students were confronted with the same snowstorm which saw parts of Kintyre and Arran closed off for

almost a week last year. Divided into groups, students from Lochgilhead High school, Tarbert academy, Campbeltown grammar, and Islay High school developed strategic plans at the event on September 24 to restore electricity supplies.

Samantha O'Connor, SSE communications manager, said: 'During the storms everyone across the

company pulled together and we wanted to deliver an activity that would demonstrate that to young people, and show that you don't have to be an engineer or have higher physics to work within a company such as SSE Hydro.'

Roles that were introduced to pupils include call-taking, administration, meteorology and media. 'We are constantly advertising

positions and apprenticeships in the likes of Oban, Minard and Campbeltown, at our wind farms and substations,' Samantha added.

Rory Davidson, an S5 pupil from Lochgilhead, said: 'I'd like to get into energy and put my name down to come today to learn more about what they do.'

'If I did I'd like to think I could stay and work in Argyll.'



Pupils from Argyll and Bute high schools who attended the careers event hosted by Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE), along with Samantha O'Connor, who is networks Communication manager for SSE. 16_142hydro01

Oban dental practice future secure

THE DENTAL practice in Oban's Argyll Square has been secured by an up-and-coming Glasgow dental practice.

Not only do owners from ISmile.co.uk want to secure National Health Service (NHS) patients but are also looking to recruit new staff to the business.

Dentist Dr David Kennedy says that he is looking forward to working in the town and welcoming patients to the practice.

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

Bield chief executive vows to make viable changes

THE HEAD of Scotland's leading provider of housing, care and support services for older people has spoken of the need to manage the on-going financial pressures facing the sector while continuing to deliver high standards.

Bield housing, which has services in Dunbeg and Oban, said delivering its next five-year plan from 2015 would be crucial as the charity looked to lead the modernisation of the organisation through difficult times.

Brian Logan, chief executive of Bield, said: 'My priority will be to ensure we have a sustainable financial plan which allows us to do all the good things we want to do but keep us viable in the long-term.'

'That means being serious about making the best use of existing limited resources, reviewing our processes and harnessing the

investments we've made to help us reduce our costs.

'I meet regularly with chief executives of other housing associations and they are all facing similar issues.'

Mr Logan, who was speaking at the annual general meeting (AGM) of Bield, added that there were a number of measures being planned that will create positive, exciting changes for people who use Bield services.

These include developing a handyperson service, providing repairs by appointment, building more new homes, upgrading existing stock, ensuring customer service scores consistently high, expanding the Bield at Home homecare service, further developing into the telecare market and providing the innovative services for people with dementia.

public notices

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 9.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the SERVICE POINT, LOCHABER HOUSE, HIGH STREET, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6EL and online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
14/03579/FUL	Lochaline Harbour Lochaline, Morvern PA80 5XT	Erection of a shore service amenity building to include a toilet, drying and changing facilities, small kitchen and seating area
14/03690/MSC	Land East of Dun Ma Siel Glenfinnan	Proposed dwelling house and detached garage
14/03714/FUL	Drimnin House, Drimnin Oban PA80 5XZ	Cooling Pond
14/03733/FUL	Land Sea And Island Centre Arisaig PH39 4NJ	Alterations and extension to existing building including alterations to the car park

Time period for comments is 14 days
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Mr Neil McEachern MacLean has registered his croft 1 Ballymeanach, Kilchoman on the Crofting Register held by Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 14th May 2015.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C415

The Foster Yeoman Retirement Plan 2000 (the "Plan")

Notice is hereby given to all parties who are or were members of the Plan that it is to be wound up. It is believed that all members of the Plan and their benefits under it have been identified and benefits under the Plan have been or are being secured. If you were a member of this Plan and believe you may be entitled to benefits from it and you have not already been contacted by the Trustees, please post notification of your claim specifying your full name and address and evidence of membership no later than 3 December 2014 to Punter Southall, Albion, Fishponds Road, Wokingham, RG41 2QE. Claims received after the above date will be excluded from benefits under the Plan. Dated 30 September 2014

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Mr Ronald MacColl Jnr has registered his croft known as Portnacraich, Lismore & Appin on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by the 24th June 2015.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C593.

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Mr William Alexander MacGillivray has registered his croft 221 Acharacle, Ardnarmurchan & Sunart on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by the 24th June 2015.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C585.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL
Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (SOROBA ROAD, OBAN) (TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2014

On Monday 6th October 2014, Argyll and Bute Council made the above named Order in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.

The Order, which comes into operation on 24th November 2014, introduces additional waiting restrictions on Soroba Road, Oban between the Fire Station and Drumore Road.

A copy of the Order as made and plan relative thereto are available for inspection during normal working hours Monday to Friday inclusive at the following offices:

(i) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban;

(ii) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Kilmory, Lochgilhead.

Any person, who wishes to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or on the grounds that any requirement of that Act or any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order may, within six weeks from 10th October 2014, apply to the Court of Session for this purpose.

THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (GANAVAN ROAD AND MILLER ROAD, OBAN) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS) (VARIATION) ORDER 2014

On Monday 6th October 2014, Argyll and Bute Council made the above named Order in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.

The Order, which comes into operation on 24th November 2014, introduces new waiting restrictions on Miller Road and Corran Esplanade/Ganavan Road in Oban. The restrictions include 1) an extension of 16 metres or thereby to the existing no waiting loading restriction on the north side of Miller Road and 2) an extension to the existing no waiting at any time restriction on Corran Esplanade/Ganavan Road, extending from its existing termination near the Queens Hotel north westerly for a distance of 205 metres or thereby.

A copy of the Order and plan relative thereto are available for inspection during normal office hours Monday to Friday inclusive at the following offices:-

(iii) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban;

(iv) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Kilmory, Lochgilhead.

Any person, who wishes to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or on the grounds that any requirement of that Act or any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order may, within six weeks from 10th October 2014, apply to the Court of Session for this purpose.

Jim Smith, Head of Roads & Amenity Services, Lochgilhead, Argyll PA31 8RD

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL
Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

COMMUNITY COUNCILS

NOTICE OF ELECTIONS
BY-ELECTION DAY - 27 NOVEMBER 2014

1. By-Elections are to be held for the return of Community Councillors to fill the vacancies for the undernoted Community Councils within the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area of Argyll and Bute.

Mull	Oban	Luang	Kilmory	Lismore	Appin	Connell	Ardochattan
AA42, AA43, AA44, AA45, AA46, AA47, AA48, AA49 & AA50	AA36, AA37, AA38, AA39 & AA64	AA62	AA63 & AA68	AA66	AA69	AA70	AA71
							AA72, AA73 & AA74

2. Persons wishing to represent their Community Council must reside in the community council area and be named on the electoral register for the community council area in which they are standing. A candidate's proposer and seconder must also be named on the electoral register and reside in the same community council area.

3. Nomination papers must be lodged with the Depute Returning Officer at Municipal Building, Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AR or Breadalbane Street, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, PA27 6NZ or at Kilmory Headquarters, Lochgilhead PA31 8RT on any day except a Saturday or Sunday after the date of this notice, but not later than 4.00pm on Monday 27 October 2014 and withdrawals of persons nominated must be intimated at the same address not later than 4.00pm on Monday 27 October 2014.

4. Nomination forms may be obtained from the Depute Returning Officer at the addresses below or can be downloaded from the Councils website, www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/elections or e-mail elections@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Municipal Building, Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AR
Breadalbane Street, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, PA27 6NZ
Kilmory Headquarters, Lochgilhead, PA31 8RT

Sally Loudon, Returning Officer,
Kilmory, Lochgilhead PA31 8RT
9 October 2014

PLANNING

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, Monday to Friday 9am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5pm. On Wednesdays, the Customer Service Points will open at 10am. 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.

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/01243/PP	Formation of campsite (part retrospective) - Masterplan in relation to Argyll and Bute Local Plan 2013 designation PDA 6/23 allocated for water based tourism/commercial development	Land South Of Pier Cottage Salen Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
14/02219/PP	Alterations and erection of extension to hotel	Brander Lodge Hotel Bridge Of Awe Tainuill Argyll And Bute PA35 1HT	Sub Post Office Tainuill
14/02362/PP	Renewal of planning permission 13/02692/PP (change of use of pavement to form outdoor seating area).	Pavement North Of 17 George Street Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5RU	Oban Area Office

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Lochgilhead Brae PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. 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.

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/02229/PP	Change of use from dwellinghouse (class 9) to form hotel (class 7) and formation of new vehicular access.	Islay House Bridgend Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA44 7PA	Sub Post Office Bridgend

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/02228/LIB	Internal alterations to facilitate the change of use from private dwelling to hotel.	Islay House Bridgend Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA44 7PA	Sub Post Office Bridgend

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Central Validation Team, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilhead PA31 8RD.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

NOTICE OF MEETING

MULL AND IONA FERRY COMMITTEE

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MULL AND IONA FERRY COMMITTEE will be held in CRAIGNURE HALL on Wednesday 29th October 2014 at 7.30pm

www.highland.gov.uk

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Are you a Gaelic speaker?

Would you be interested in part-time employment tutoring informal Gaelic classes for adult learners? If so, we would very much like to hear from you.

Training can be provided.

For informal enquiries please contact Margaret Mulholland, Highland Council Gaelic Team.
Phone 01463 703690 or e-mail margaret.mulholland@highland.gov.uk

Argyll Voluntary Action
Supporting people and communities to thrive
(Charity no.29947 Co. 277345)

Is holding it's AGM
21th November 2014
The George Hotel, Inveraray
AGM 10.30am - 12noon
RSVP by 14th Nov to 01631 564839
Or email kathleen@argyllvoluntaryaction.org.uk

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Mr John Allan MacKintosh has registered his croft 49,50and part 52 Banavie, Kilmallie on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 22 June, 2015.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C574

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT

Mr Alistair MacDonald has registered his croft 23&24a Carnoch, Lismore and Appin, on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 9 July, 2015.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C608.

CROFTING COMMISSION
COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD
DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

Mrs E McArthur Consibry, Bruichladdich, Kilchoman
0.19 ha - Existing house site
4.86.50631
Conditions: 3a, 4,

Mr R MacColl Portnacraich, Lismore & Appin
0.055 ha - Croft house site and garden ground
4.85.50181
Conditions: 1, 3c, 4, 6,

Conditions
(1) Acquisition area within 5 years of the date of direction.
(2) Complete enclosure of the land with a stock proof fence within 4 months of:
(a) the date of the direction (c) acquisition
(4) That fence shall be maintained in good order and repair by each successive owner or occupier of the land.
(6) The crofter must notify the Commission within 3 months of acquisition.

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.

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

To advertise a Public Notice in the Oban Times call 01631 568000

EVERY WEEK IN THE OBAN TIMES, WE HAVE A SELECTION OF LOCAL SERVICES TO ADVERTISE HERE, PLEASE CONTACT 01631 568000 OR ADVERTS@OBANTIMES.CO.UK

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

CRUACHAN
CONTACT William Clarke
t. 0800 0467323
m. 07789 488805
e. info@cruachanhome.co.uk
www.cruachanhome.co.uk
Exceeding expectations

- ROOFLINE
- SEAMLESS FLAT ROOFS
- TILED CONSERVATORY ROOFS
- DRIVEWAYS - WINDOWS AND DOORS
- GARAGE DOORS - CONSERVATORIES

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Gordon & Strathern Ltd
HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Roofline Conservatories/Porches
Fascias, Soffits & Gutters

GRP/Flat Roofs Replacement Sealed Units
Garage Doors Doors & Windows
Carports and Door canopies

Ronald or Lachie 01631 720074 or 07766402550
gordon961@btinternet.com

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

D&A MUNN LTD.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
EST. 1880

BREADALBANE STREET, OBAN

24 hour Family run business
Owned and run by Ian MacInnes and son.

TELEPHONE: 01631 562562
EMAIL: INFO@MUNNS-OBAN.CO.UK
WWW.MUNNS-OBAN.CO.UK

FAS Golden Charter Funeral Plans

GROUNDWORKS

ARGYLL & ISLES
CHIMNEY SERVICES

07834 640989

When Was The Last Time You Had Your Chimney Cleaned?

• AWARD WINNING POWER SWEEPING SYSTEM
• OPEN FIRES - WOOD BURNING STOVES
• OIL & GAS FLUES
• AGA & RAYBURN
• CCTV CHIMNEY INSPECTION

FULLY QUALIFIED & INSURED

Covering Oban, Lochgilphead, Inveraray and surrounding area, including Isle of Mull etc.

REMOVALS & STORAGE

MACQUEEN BROS LTD

Removals/Storage & Self Storage

Full range of packing materials
We store boats, caravans, trailers etc

Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HG
Tel: (01631) 564848
www.macqueenbros.com

STOVES

OBAN STOVE CENTRE

Experienced and Established Suppliers of Heizomat Biomass Boilers

TRADE SUPPLIES AVAILABLE

Scotland's Premier Stove, Spares & Flue Suppliers

Oban Stove Centre, Old Crofters Yard,
Soroba Road, Oban, PA34 4HU Tel: 01631 564790

Like like us on facebook www.facebook.com/obantimes

MOBILITY

Tower Mobility

we supply a wide range of mobility products from walking sticks to scooters

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

WHISKY TRADING

Fox Fitzgerald Whisky Trading Ltd are always looking to purchase casks of whisky from Islay or elsewhere; friendly and reliable service with best prices paid for whisky of all ages.

WE BUY CASKS OF WHISKY. BEST PRICES PAID.

Fox Fitzgerald Whisky Trading Co Ltd

Contact us for more info on: 07736432749 or samann.jones@foxfitzgerald.co.uk
www.foxfitzgerald.co.uk - www.sellyourcask.com

DRAINAGE

BLOCKED DRAIN?
Drain and septic tank survey, installations and repairs

Call 24/7 - 01369 840367
Your No 1 for drainage in Argyll

ABEL Drainage & Groundworks
www.aandbel.co.uk

PRINTING

Wedding stationery
Invitations, order of service, menus, place cards, thank you cards

Event stationery
Invitations, raffle tickets, thank you cards

krisp print

Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,
Main Street/Longrow South,
Campbeltown PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

WEST COAST CLASSIFIEDS www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

FREE LISTINGS FOR ITEMS UNDER £100

Advertise your unwanted items in The Oban Times, Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk. Simply use the coupon on this page or visit the website and input your details there.

BABY EQUIPMENT

Telephone 01546 603203 or 07427 502404.

BABYBJORN BABY CARRIER pink Spirit Baby Bjorn baby carrier, suitable from birth - 11kg, excellent condition, £30 Telephone 07762 109788.

BUMBLE SEAT with HARNESS and Table, baby pink Bumble seat with harness & removable table, very good condition, £20 Telephone 07762 109788.

CHICCO BAND BABY WALKER green, adjustable to 3 heights, removable electronic lights and sounds toy panel, folds for storage, 6 safety brakes, as new, £18 Telephone 01546 603203 or 07427 502404.

ELECTRIC PHILIPS AVENT BOTTLE Warmer heats up baby food jars and bottles quickly and evenly, designed for use with any bottles and jars, fast, safe, as new, £18 Telephone 01546 603203 or 07427 502404.

BRIC-A-BRAC

DINNER SET by Apilco of France, 14 pieces, black and gold in un-used condition (Greenock), £25 plus postage Telephone 01475 726360.

VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE Piggy Bank (Greenock), £10 inc delivery. Telephone 01475 726360.

BUILDING / DIY

CEMENT MIXER reasonable condition, £50 Telephone 01967 421248.

LADDERS wooden extending ladders, £15 Telephone 01967 421248.

PAINT SPRAYER Earlex HV1900 400W Paint Sprayer, used once. Can be viewed in Oban, £10 Telephone 01855 821519.

SCAFFOLDING DIY scaffolding, height over 9 metres. Galvanised iron, reasonable condition, £95 Telephone 01631 564209.

STIHL SMART HOLDER for holding timber to saw, brand new, £70 Telephone 01546 606612.

CARS AND CAR PARTS UNDER £250

G-WAGEN locking fuel cap cover and two keys, brand new. Made in Germany. (Greenock), £25 inc delivery Telephone 01475 726360.

LANDROVER FREE-LANDER Station wagon 1.8XEI for spares or repair, 8 month MOT, full new exhaust system and brakes. Non runner, £2490 Telephone 07909 794226 or 01631 571367.

STEERING WHEEL to fit Merc E-class saloon or 463 G-wagen and two gear knobs with gaiters in VGC. (Greenock), £40 inc delivery Telephone 01475 726360.

CDS, DVDS AND VIDEOS

100 ASSORTED VIDEOS at least 100 assorted videos all in good condition, £10 Telephone 01546 606242.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

GENTS ITALIAN WOOL SUIT totally unmarked Navy with pin stripes. Jacket 36" Trousers 30" with leather belt. (Greenock), £60 inc delivery Telephone 01475 726360.

COMPUTERS AND GAMES

COMPUTER MONITOR Dell computer monitor 15" screen, no longer needed as no computer now. Free to collector in Oban. Telephone 01855 821519.

COMPUTER SPEAKERS Dell Computer speakers no longer needed as I have

FURNITURE

Telephone 01631 564805 or 07990 731845.

2 RED SOFAS 2 large red sofas from Reid. Same size, 2 seaters but sits 3 comfortably. From pet & smoke free home, £99 Telephone 01631 740191.

BED HEADBOARD AND BASE solid wood headboard and base king size bed, matching armoire and matching dresser and 2 bedside tables, complete bedroom, £700 Telephone 07828 730964.

BUNK BEDS with pine frames, good clean set, £35 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

CHAIR plain cream large armchair. W=112cm, D=92cm, H=71cm. Good condition, £30 Telephone 01631 710335.

CORNER CABINET large corner cabinet, oak finish and glass. Perfect condition, £30 Telephone 01631 720364.

DARK OAK CABINET dark oak glass cabinet. Very large, viewing recommended. Perfect condition, £60 Telephone 01631 720364.

DINING TABLE & 6 CHAIRS with 2 inserts expanding from 5ft - 7ft, £60 Telephone 01546 606242.

DISPLAY UNIT dining room display unit with solid doors to base and glazed doors above, £60 Telephone 01546 606242.

DIVAN BED single, £25 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

EXTENDING DINING TABLE approximately 4 1/2ft x 5 ft, with three chairs, £12 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

FIRESIDE CHAIR wing back, £2 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

FOLDING SINGLE BED nearly new, £25 Telephone 07776 251218.

FUTON converts to single bed, green striped material, good condition, £20 Telephone 01967 421248.

SIDEBOARD small, light wood, £4 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

SMALL FOLDING TABLE and 2 stools, £15 Telephone 07776 251218.

SQUARE TABLE dark wood, 3 ft x 3ft, £4

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

TALLBOY cupboard with two doors, £8 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

THREE SEATER SOFA dark red with loose covers, £20 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

TV UNIT clear 3 tier glass TV unit with cable tidy, £20 Telephone 01631 720364.

TWO SEATER SETTEE small, light blue, £2 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

WICKER CHAIR modern style wicker chair on metal frame, £8 Telephone 01546 606242.

WOODEN 3 shelf book cabinet, £30 Telephone 07776 251218.

WOODEN OCCASIONAL TABLE solid wood ethnic style coffee table, £20 Telephone 01546 606242.

GARDEN

FLYMO SCIROCCO LEAF BLOWER excellent condition, hardly used. Corded power electric garden leaf blower. 2500w, 240v. (Oban), £35 Telephone 07931 500615.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

EXERCISE BIKE good condition, £10 Telephone 01967 421248.

HEATING, FIRES AND FIREPLACES

COMPANION SET 4 piece black companion set, as new, £15 Telephone 01546 606242.

FIRE GUARD 22" grid mesh collapsible fire guard as new, £10 Telephone 01546 606242.

FIRE GUARD brass coloured fire guard, £10 Telephone 01546 606242.

GAS FIRE Super Ser, with bottle, £20 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

MOBILE GAS HEATER infra-red space heater, two settings, safety failure device, 15kg capacity, nearly new, £50 Telephone 07587 046400.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

PEARLISED PAPER & CARD White, Baby Blue and Baby Pink colours in stock available in A3/A4/

SOLUTIONS SCOTLAND

ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH DEBT & IS IT AFFECTING YOUR LIFE?
DO YOU FIND YOURSELF PAYING OUT MORE THAN YOU CAN AFFORD?
WORRIED ABOUT ANSWERING THE PHONE OR LETTERS FROM CREDITORS?
HAVE SHERIFF OFFICERS ARRESTED YOUR WAGES?

CONTACT US TODAY FOR A DEBT FREE FUTURE ON 0141-227-6773

SPEAK TO ONE OF OUR ADVISORS TODAY & RECEIVE A FACE TO FACE VISIT FREE OF CHARGE!

WE COULD USE GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION TO:

A. GET YOU DEBT FREE IN AS LITTLE AS 48 MONTHS
B. PROTECT YOUR HOME & CAR
C. ONLY PAY WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD

CALL TODAY..... SOLUTIONS SCOTLAND ON 0141-227-6773

not got the computer now Free to collector in Oban. Telephone 01855 821519.

PRINTER small inkjet Dell printer with spare ink cartridges not needed now as no computer Free to collector in Oban. Telephone 01855 821519.

USB SCANNER Packard Bell Diamond 2400 plus colour scanner compatible windows 98/me/2000/XP. No longer needed. Free to collector in Oban. Telephone 01855 821519.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

COOKER white cooker under 1 year old, £50 Telephone 01631 720364.

FRIDGE under counter fridge with ice box. Under 1 year old, £50 Telephone 01631 720364.

CHEF KENWOOD CHEF KM201 hardly used but some paint flaking of the base to the R/H side. Comes with 3 attachments and white bowl, perfect working order, £70 Telephone 01852 200722.

NEW STEAM IRON brand new and boxed M.O.D. steam iron, £5 Telephone 01546 606242.

SMALL COOKER Cordon Bleu mini kitchen, 2 rings, £30 Telephone 07776 251218.

DOMESTIC PETS

5 COLLIE PUPS 3 dogs and 2 bitches. 4 are black/white and 1 red/white. Farm reared Benderloch. Telephone 01631 720240.

COLLIE PUPS off working parents, used to children, black, white and tan. Telephone 01631 760213 or 01631 760027.

CORGI PUPPIES beautiful friendly Corgi puppies, 8 weeks, 2 boys, 2 girls. Vet checked, first vaccination and wormed, £350 Telephone 01369 703413.

EQUESTRIAN

12-2 WELSH B GELDING good all rounder but need brought back to work, £500 including tack Telephone 07775 618606.

13-2 ARAB X WELSH GELDING done everything, perfect second pony, £1200 including tack Telephone 07775 618606.

NORFOLK GIG to fit 14 - 2+. Needs repainted as partly stripped, £400

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

Telephone 01586 554975.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

TV & FREESAT BOX Digital HDMI 15" TV with DVD player & Triax SR110 Freesat Box. With remotes, £45 Telephone 01546 606242.

HOME FURNISHINGS

LARGE MIRROR as new, £15 Telephone 01546 606242.

TRADITIONAL CARPET 3x4yds French wool carpet, dark blue with cream border, £40 Telephone 01631 564209.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

FRIDGE under counter fridge, ex condition, £45 Telephone 01631 730191.

LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE

FULL SIZE COMPETITION SNOOKER 12ft x 6ft Italian slate bed table in excellent condition. Aramith balls, full length professional light, cues, rests etc etc, £750 Telephone 01546 606242.

LIVESTOCK

SOWS 3 Sows, 1 Tamworth, 1 Large Black, 1 Luper Eared, good mothers. Buyer collects. Bowmore, Islay, £75 for the lot Telephone 07766 238099.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Places include: Stirling, Fort William, Glencoe, Aberdeen, Isle of Skye, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Kelso, Aviemore, Forfar, Rum and Eigg, Shetland, Gtrentool and Dryburgh. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Places include: Inveraray, Appin, Oban, Seil, Isle of Mull, Camp-

MISCELLANEOUS

DIGITAL PHOTO FRAME Displays J-Peg, still in box. (Greenock), £15 inc. delivery Telephone 01475 726360.

GUINNESS BATH TOWEL 50"x25" Black and gold with Harp trademark. (Greenock), £10 inc delivery. Telephone 01475726360.

HYDRAULIC ENGINE HOIST floor standing (fold-up) hydraulic engine hoist, 3 position. As new, £50 Telephone 01546 606242.

TWO LARGE BATH TOWELS 59"x29" by Christy of England. Multi-striped. Still in bag. (Greenock), £20 inc delivery Telephone 01475 726360.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

GOLF CLUBS golf bag and 8 clubs. Would suit beginner, £30 Telephone 01631 564209.

GOLF CLUBS unused set of Dunlop golf clubs with stand bag. Bargain at, £65 Telephone 01631 564578.

PET ACCESSORIES

DOG CAGE 30 inch by 21 inch, good condition, £15 Telephone 07919 995609.

DOG CLIPPER SET, £20 Telephone 07776 251218.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

COLOUR PHOTOCOPYING A4/A3, single/double sided, reduce/enlarge, from originals, file on disk

LOCAL SERVICES

TOYS AND GAMES

1950 SILVER CROSS DOLLS PRAM grey, loved and cared for. General condition good apart from hood. Reluctant parting. Tighnabruich. Buyer collects, £50ono Telephone 01700 811559.

FISHER PRICE PINK BOUNCE N Spin suitable from 12 months, features fun sounds, 5 songs & dancing lights, lots of fun for a little girl, excellent condition, £30 Telephone 07762 109788.

TRAILERS

BOX TRAILER 36" x 3'16" steel frame and mudguards. New timber body, wheel bearings, light board and fittings. Good tyres, detachable tail gate, £150 Telephone 01631 710548.

WANTED

ALL TYPES OF SCRAP METAL we uplift scrap cars, copper, brass, lead etc. Smaller quantities considered. Telephone 07435 589701

LOOKING FOR HELP to fit laminate floor and new bathroom(tiling and plumbing). Oban area. Telephone 07751 379689 evenings.

Oban Times PRIVATE CLASSIFIED

Oban Times PRIVATE CLASSIFIED

PERSONAL NOTICES

Happy Birthday

Happy 60th Birthday Roddy

This cowboy is still shooting from the hip!

MARRIAGES

FERGUSON - WELCH - Both families are happy to announce the marriage of Christina, daughter of Archie and Lena Ferguson, Castleton, to Jonathan, son of David and Karen Welch, Ardrishaig, on Friday 19th September at Dr. Roddy Macleod at St. Andrew's and St. George's West, Edinburgh.

DEATHS

BANNATYNE - Colin Currie, MRCVS. Suddenly at home on October 5, 2014, aged 92. Deeply loved devoted husband of Margaret Couits, dear father of Donald and the late Annabel. Funeral service at Shiskine Free Church, Isle of Arran on Monday 13, October at 11.30am and thereafter at Clachan Cemetery. In lieu of flowers there will be a retiring collection for RNIB.

CAMPBELL - Willie, late of Inverary. Unexpectedly but peacefully in Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley on October 4, 2014 after a very short illness. Loving husband to Anne, father to Donald, papa to Donald and Lorraine and great papa to Brooke and Harry, also brother to Donnie, Sheena and the late Maisie. Funeral will take place on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 11.15am at Cardross Crematorium.

MACLEAN - Suddenly but peacefully, at her home "Dunstaffnage", Soroba House Mews, Oban, on Monday, October 6, 2014, Elizabeth, (Liz), aged 69 years, beloved wife of the late Archie, much loved mum, sister, nana and great-nana. Sadly missed. Funeral service will take place at The Church of Scotland, Etive Road, Dunbeg, on Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 7.30 p.m. Interment will take place on Friday, October 10, 2014 at 1.00 p.m. at Kilbeg Cemetery, Sleat, Isle of Skye. Retiral collection/donations will be taken for Argyll Beats Cardiovascular Disease (known as ABCD).

MACINTYRE - Peacefully at home, on October 1, 2014, in his 67th year, John (Iain) MacIntyre, beloved fiancé of Jessie, dad to Hugh, Lorraine, Lachlan, James and the late John, a dear seaniar, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law and uncle. Rest in Peace.

McGAW - Very suddenly but peacefully at her home in Peterhead on Saturday September 27, 2014, Beatrice MacDougall, aged 86. Deeply loved wife of the late Douglas McGaw (lighthouse keeper) formerly of Oban. A much loved and loving mother of Christina and Robert, grannie, great-grannie and aunt. Very sadly and sorely missed.

MENZIES - Peacefully on Monday October 6, 2014, aged 66 years, Peter Dow, loved husband of Kirsteen, father of Niall, Blair and Beth, brother of James & Gail and a dear brother-in-law and uncle. Funeral will take place at Kilniver Parish Church on Tuesday October 14 at 1.00 pm. Thereafter to Kilniver Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection/donations if desired to Cystic Fibrosis Trust & Butterfly Trust.

Oban Times
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Oban Times
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

AITCHISON - Moira, David, John and Bryan would like to thank everyone for their kind support and expressions of sympathy following Ian's passing. Special thank you to Rev Richard Corbett, Rev Fr Roddy MacAulay and Rev John Cook for conducting the lovely service, to all the doctors and nurses for their kindness and care to Ian, Kilmallie Shinty Club, the musicians - Angus Grant and Asti Cameron, John McLellan & Co, Funeral Directors, Caol Community Centre for refreshments and to all who attended the service and gave so generously to Glen Mor Medical Practice.

BURNETT - Rosslyn, Michael and Paul would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming kindness and support following the sad loss of Norma who will be forever in our hearts. Special thanks to neighbours and friends for all their help; for the compassionate care shown by the nursing staff in Oban Hospital and to the Community Nurses at Lorn Medical Centre. Thanks also to Carers Direct for their TLC. Thank you for the donations for Argyll Beats Cardiovascular Disease, the collection raised £334.41. Thanks to the Rev. Dugald Cameron for his uplifting service.

MACDOUGALL - Murdoch, Christine, Susie and Mikey, family of the late Linda MacDougall would like to thank family and friends for their overwhelming support following the sad loss of Linda. The following for their support throughout her 9 month fight with cancer: The doctors and nurses in both Appin and Lorn Medical Centre. Hilary and Gaynor from Macmillan Cancer Support, Donna and staff at the Macmillan Ward and Dr Emma Boyle, whose compassionate care and attention ensured that Linda passed away peacefully at home with her family. Prof. Reid and staff at the Beatson. Graham MacQueen, his son Robin and team who moved us from Appin at a very difficult time. Mr Peter Bain, his staff and pupils at Oban High School. Jacqueline Campbell and her staff at Bield Housing to whom we are forever grateful. Ian MacInnes Jnr for his efficiency and assistance with the funeral arrangements. The staff at the Corran Halls. Michael Hewitt of Oban Spiroasts and Sara MacPherson of The Bridge Café who contributed to an excellent buffet. Jamie MacGregor our piper. Christopher MacDougall for conducting the service. All family and friends who attended the service and contributed to the collection for the Macmillan Nurses, which amounted to almost £900.

MATHIESON - Jaenette and family of the late Alexander Mathieson would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their generous support during his battle with cancer. Special thanks to Dr Frank, Dr Buchanan, Dr Shirley, hospital and surgery staff. Also to the district nurses and the home care team without whom Alex would not have been able to spend his last months at home. To the Rev. Paton and Billy McClymont for their kindness and support. Mrs Jack and Sandy MacAulay for their music at the funeral service. Also Tackle and Books for Order of Service sheets produced

at short notice, all very much appreciated. Thanks also to all family and friends who came to pay their respects at the church and graveside. For flowers cards and letters of sympathy received. The retiring collection raised £1015 for the Salen SWRI and Mull Highland Dancers.

SINCLAIR - Margaret would like to extend her grateful thanks to all family, friends and neighbours for the kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, phone calls and visits received, following Archie's recent passing. In particular, she would like to thank Dr. Alex MacLean, Anne Templeton and Joanne Robinson, Community Nurses; to the Home Carer's, the two Susan's, Eleanor, Jill, Julie and Mags; also to Claire and Laura for their help in the house; Louise from Crossroads, and especially to Phyllis, Marie Curie Nurse, for her exceptional care; you all made a difficult part of her life bearable, and she thanks you most sincerely for that. Thanks also to Rev. Roddy MacLeod and Rev. Robin MacKenzie for their friendship, pastoral care and a most compassionate service; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors, particularly Fiona, for their guidance, support and care with all funeral arrangements. To Bruce and his staff of the Smiddy for excellent catering at Furnace Hall. To Ken, Scotch Heather Shop, for the beautiful floral tributes. Margaret would like to thank the many who attended the Church and Graveside to pay their respects, your support was a great comfort and much appreciated. The retiral collection realised over £600 for Cumlodden Church Funds.

YOUNG - Doreen and family thank everyone who cared for Laurence at home and in hospital. Our thanks also to everyone who attended Laurence's funeral where donations to the National Centre of Excellence for Traditional Music reached more than £1,200. All the cards, letters and flowers which we received have been a real comfort to us at this very sad time. We greatly appreciated the support from Mike McFall and his staff, also Brian Hume and the staff at the Ben Nevis Hotel.

MEMORIAMS
CRAIG - In loving memory of a much loved husband, father, father-in-law and grampa, John (Jack) Craig, who died October 10, 1993. No longer in my life to share. But in my heart you are always there. I miss your smile, your cheery ways. I miss the things you used to say. The happy times I recall. It's then I miss you most of all. - Irene.
CRAIG - Not a day goes by without a thought or a tear. And the constant wish that you were here. - Carole, Neil, Allan, Graham and Alison.

MEMORIALS
Stokes Memorials
Serving Argyll and the Highlands & Islands for over 35 years
Established 1973 - Fraser, Downie, Master Sculptor
• New and traditional memorials. • Work carried out in any cemetery.
• Additional lettering. • Free estimates and advice.
• Cleaning and renovations. • Pet memorials.
• House signs.
312/314 Argyll Street, Dumoon - Tel/Fax 01365 702142 - Email: info@stokesmemorials.co.uk

McTAGGART - Precious memories of my dear husband and our dad Ian, who passed away October 10, 1995, also remembering others gone before. Dearly loved and very sadly missed. - Love Hilda, Ian W and Gwen, Glencoe.
STEELE - In loving memory of a special mum Margaret, who died October 8, 2000. Always in our hearts. - With love, Alan and Diane.
WALKER - In loving memory of my dear mother Marybell, who died on October 4, 1990. Always in my thoughts. - Inserted by her loving son Archie.

CHARITY DONATIONS

CANCER RESEARCH UK
Fighting Cancer on all fronts...
CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation
Commitment of over £15 million each year
Cancer Research UK
Angel Building
407 St John Street
London EC1V 4AD

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE
Oban & Lorn Fundraising Branch
Donations always gratefully accepted
Please contact
Mrs Lillian Kermodie
Tynwald, Glenburn,
Soroba Road, Oban
01631 571009

Oban Hospice
CARING FOR THE FUTURE
Donations always gratefully accepted
Please contact
Jack Tollan
Birch Hill
Achnacreebeag
North Connel, PA37 1RE

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT
Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer
West of Scotland Fundraising Office
1st Floor, Erskine House
North Avenue, Clydebank
Business Park, Clydebank G81 2DR
Tel 0808 100 6000
In memory of Dawn Joyce

Can you solve the mystery of the young chanter player?



COLLECTION: Madam Scotia's painting lodged with the Mitchell Library as part of her collection. #415cotia1no



MYSTERY BOY: Madam Scotia's collection at the Mitchell Library in Glasgow has unearthed a picture. Do you know who it is? #415boy1no

A SEARCH for Madam Scotia, a famous musician connected to the west coast, has thrown up another mystery - that of a young chanter player. The photograph of the young lad was found in the private collection of Heloise Russell-Fergusson - better known as Madam Scotia, from Appin, who was internationally renowned musician from the early part of the twentieth century. Heloise, or Jane, as she was known to her family, amassed

a collection of Scottish music and song that was eventually given to the Mitchell Library in Glasgow. Helen Witcher, a niece of the musician, has been researching her aunt's life and with it her collection. She said: 'In the archive box there is an enlarged colour photograph of a youth standing on the shore playing a chanter. I have contacted the few people I have met who recall Heloise, but they have been

unable to identify the boy. 'I wonder whether any of your readers might know who he might be?' 'In one of the boxes is a series of old tape recordings that we hope to get digitally reproduced over the next few months. 'Heloise entitled these collectively as 'Hebridean Story and Song - the Young Piper Series.' Information can be given to Louise Lee at The Oban Times newspaper on lee@obantimes.co.uk.

Obituary

Mrs Morag Mackenzie 1921 - 2014

MORAG Mackenzie, who died recently at the age of 92, was born Morag Maclean in Eoligarry on the Island of Barra in 1921. Childhood on the island was a happy one with her brothers and sisters and she often recalled these island days, in particular cycling the 10 miles each way from Eoligarry to Castlebay, with no gears, in all weathers. Following primary education on the island, Morag left home at the age of 14 and went to St Mary's Convent Boarding School in Fort William, where she spent the next four years. In 1940 she became a student at Notre Dame College in Glasgow, where she trained in the teaching profession.

As this was during the Second World War, security was high and the young student found herself in a spot of difficulty on one occasion when she arrived at the ferry terminal in Oban to sail to Barra. Morag had not been given the proper identification papers and when she appeared at the check-in desk without the appropriate documents she was 'arrested' and escorted to Oban Police Station as a potential alien! After some time, however, the authorities were able to find someone who could vouch for her and she was allowed to board the vessel and sail for home - somewhat relieved after her adventure. In 1943 Morag graduated from Notre Dame College in Glasgow and began a teaching career which was to take her to remote parts of the country and to town schools. Her first teaching post was on the Island of Eigg, and only recently she was reading Camille Dressler's book on the island and her memories of people and places during her time there were rekindled. It was during this time that she met her future husband, Tom Mackenzie of Roshven,



Lochalort. The couple met in Arisaig and they were married in St Aloysius Church, in Glasgow. They first met to live in Dingwall where Tom was appointed manager of the Prudential Insurance office there. It was in Dingwall that Morag gave birth to their daughter Mairi. A year or so later Tom joined the Civil Service in the Pensions and National Insurance Ministry and was posted to the island of Skye to open a new office in Portree. Various promotions and postings were to take them to Spean Bridge, Arisaig, Prestwick and Ayr. Throughout this time Morag taught in a variety of schools. The couple spent 10 years at Spean Bridge where they played an active part in the community. During that time Morag taught in Banavie School. She was also head teacher of Arisaig School where her sister-in-law Mrs Margaret Macdonald, nee Mackenzie, had also been head teacher before her. Morag loved travel and enjoyed the experience of discovering new places and travelled extensively in Europe and as far as the United States, New Zealand and Fiji. She was widowed in 1977 and from then on she entered a new phase of life with her grandchild-

ren Claire and Simon her focus. She became family adviser, babysitter, childminder, tutor, peacemaker, pancake maker and tablet producer. Morag was the gardener, addicted to crosswords and latterly Sudoku lover. Her proficiency in needlework was also well known as she made tapestries and did dress-making and needlepoint. In 1992 her daughter Mairi and husband Roger moved to Chalfont St Giles in Buckinghamshire and Morag went with them and loved the adventure and the new experience. In 2000 the family were on the move again, this time to Hampshire. By now her grandchildren were at university and their progress was keenly followed. The house in Hampshire has a large garden and Morag bought a greenhouse and helped create a wonderful garden and grow a variety of fruits, vegetables and flowers. Her grandchildren married and the family extended into Germany, France and Portugal. This inspired her to add to her language skills of Gaelic and French and she started to study once more. When great grandchildren appeared the instinctive teacher in Morag was rekindled and even in her nineties she could be found playing with them and instructing them whenever the opportunity arose. An excellent hostess she loved welcoming family and friends to her home, especially her nephews and nieces. She is survived by her daughter Mairi, son-in-law Roger, grandchildren Claire and Simon and great grandchildren and by her sister Annie, who is 97. Morag Mackenzie will always be remembered with affection by those who were privileged to know her. Gus am bris an latha RW - AM

The Oban Times
& West Highland Times
THE REGIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE WEST HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS AND ARGYLL

The Oban Times is the best-selling weekly newspaper in the Highlands and is distributed via 1742 newsagents every week

Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Tel: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001
www.obantimes.co.uk

Editorial

News Editor
Euan Paterson
epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Emma Grichton
egrichton@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Louise Lee
llee@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Steven Rae
srae@obantimes.co.uk

Web Co-ordinator
Marian Miller
mmiller@obantimes.co.uk

Newsdesk
Oban 01631 568060
Fort William 01397 703003
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising

Advertising Executive
Rhona McKillop
adverts@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Executive
Nadine Ross
nross@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Executive
Rosalyn Poulton
rpoulton@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Executive
Danielle Martin
dmartin@obantimes.co.uk

Branch Offices

Fort William
Tel 01397 703003
Fax 01397 702495

Lochgilphead
Tel 01546 602345
Fax 01546 602661

Campbeltown
Tel 01586 554646
Fax 01586 553006

Arran
Tel 01770 302142
Fax 01770 302021

www.obantimes.co.uk

GRADUATIONS

Colin Carswell graduated from Stirling University with a Bachelor of Arts in Professional Education in History and Sociology. Colin is the son of Steven and the late Nuala Carswell and former pupil of Park primary and Oban High school.

Tricia Beaton recently graduated with a Degree of Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours in Psychology from The Open University.

Eilidh Lamb from Oban graduated with a BA in Community Development with Distinction from Glasgow University. Eilidh is a former pupil of Rockfield Primary and Oban High School. Eilidh is the daughter of Jim and Patricia Lamb of Oban and is working at John Wheatley College in Glasgow.

Annabel Helene MacLeod has recently graduated from Aberdeen University with a joint honours degree in English Literature and International Relations. She is the youngest daughter of Alasdair and Marti Macleod, Tobermory, and the grand-daughter of Bobby and Jean MacLeod, Tobermory and Eddie and Nan Van der Vlies, George, South Africa.

Thought for the week

WHAT ARE you willing to do for Christ? Or do you merely want to reap the benefits of being a child of God with no struggle or consequence? How far are you willing to travel in this journey called life to please the Lord? Or are you looking for a quick fix for the moment? Are you willing to take up your cross daily and follow Christ? Tough questions that we all must answer, if we truly want to be Disciples of Christ. Today, being a Christian should be more than lip-service. It should be a way of life. We shouldn't turn Christ on or off when it's convenient for us, we should strive to serve Christ and do His will, His way. Watching the news over the past month has been a difficult and sometimes depressing experience. It has been hard not to experience despair. The cease-fire in the Holy Land has broken down so many times and the future of the peace negotiations is unsure. Un-speakably wicked horror and humiliation is being inflicted on Christians and Yazidi in Iraq. Libya is disintegrating and violent anarchy has broken out. Tension is mounting again in Ukraine and Russia. There are many other places we could mention too - Syria, Nigeria, Afghanistan. We are certainly privileged Christians here in the West and, daily, I thank God that we do not have to take up our cross as our sisters and brothers throughout the world do. Please pray for them all. The Very Reverend Nicki McNelly, Provost, St John's Cathedral, Oban.

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS
YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyves Media Limited. Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyves Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.
1. Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
2. The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
3. The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
4. An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
5. Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
6. The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
7. The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
8. The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
9. Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
10. Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
11. A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.
Published by Wyves Media Limited, P.O. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB. Tel: (01631) 568000 Fax: (01631) 568001 www.obantimes.co.uk and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. http://termsandconditions.wyvesmedia.co.uk

Last gasp penalty sees Saints through

Goalkeeper Cassells plays as a striker

Scottish Amateur Cup
2nd Round
Wallacetoun SC 1
Oban Saints 2

A VERY unusual looking Saints line-up, including first choice goal keeper Daniel Cassells playing centre forward, secured a narrow but deserved win over Ayrshire Amateur Football League Second Division table toppers Wallacetoun Sporting Club. Saints had almost an entire team unavailable through injuries, holidays and work commitments so full credit must go to the 14 players who travelled - all of whom played an important part in ensuring Saints go into next week's third round draw.

It was good to see former Obanites Iain 'Tanno' MacDonald and Cammy Smith, both now living in Ayrshire along at the match supporting Saints.

Allan MacKay opened the scoring in the 11th minute with a low free kick from 25 yards which nestled in the bottom corner of the net

Over the bar
The visitors had numerous chances to increase their lead, the first of which fell to goalkeeper-cum-striker Daniel Cassells who was causing the Wallacetoun defence no end of problems with his strong running but Daniel's shot from the edge of the box whistled over the bar.

Allan MacKay was next to try his luck but the home net-minder Matt McClymont made a good save.

Wallacetoun looked a good side and were pushing forward but they were getting little change out of the Saints defence who restricted them to a couple of long range free kicks one of which flew over the bar and the other was easily saved by goalkeeper Thomas McCulloch.

Just on the half time whistle Dugal Graham made a great run up the left flank before cutting the ball back from the byeline but unfortunately there were no takers so Saints had to settle for their narrow one goal lead at half time.

FOOTBALL

Wallacetoun came into the match more in the second half and in the 66th minute capitalised on a slip-up by Saints central defender Alex Craik. The ball spun loose and Mark McLean lashed an unstoppable shot past the helpless Thomas McCulloch into the net - game on.

Saints almost took the lead in the 69th minute but Daniel Cameron, who had come on for Martin Bonar, slid in at the back post and just missed connecting with the ball.

Both teams kept plugging away in a hard-fought, entertaining and sporting contest.

Double substitution
In the 74th minute manager Iain Jackson made what was to prove to be a telling double substitution withdrawing Daniel Cassells and Dougal Graham and replacing them with youngsters Shaun MacIver and David Beaton.

The tiring Wallacetoun defence were struggling to cope with the pace of the Saints substitutes and eventually in the 90th minute David Beaton was hauled down in the box by Nicky Warren after good work by Shaun MacIver.

Referee Paul Martin, who had an excellent game, had



ON TARGET: Saints goalscorer Allan MacKay shields the ball from Wallacetoun's Marty Douglas.

Photo: Derek Black



PENALTY KING: Young David Beaton, who had been brought down in the box, rushes to congratulate Allan MacKay after the striker scored from the penalty spot in the last minute to secure a 2-1 win for Saints. Photo: Derek Black

Oban Lorne ladies fight back to draw

RUGBY

Glasgow University 5
Oban Lorne 5

OBAN Lorne Ladies fought back in the dying minutes to record a draw in their first fixture of the season last Sunday.

Camilla Leslie's try in the final play of the day was met with relief from the Oban ranks, after Glasgow took a second-half lead with an unconverted try.

The scoreline did not tell the full story, however, with the Oban side dominant for large periods of the game and being disappointed to only record a draw in the end.

Furthermore, Oban were up against a substitute-loaded squad of 22, while having only 15 players themselves.

Oban were on the offensive for virtually the whole first period, with the ball never re-entering their half until after the break. Despite this and little in the way of attacks from Glasgow, the first half ended 0-0.

It was Glasgow who started the brightest after the break, but Oban managed to soak up the pressure and block a try with some robust defending during the first few minutes.

Glasgow then managed to win a penalty after a high tackle and went on to score an unconverted try to make it 5-0. Oban would cross the try line twice, only for their attempts to be declared held up.

In the final stages, Oban won the crucial penalty and Camilla Leslie crashed through the home defence to make it 5-5, in an encouraging display.

Scrum half Audrey Barr received Oban's player of the match award.

Duathlon diet drives hunger to win

STEVEN RAE
srae@obantimes.co.uk

THREE members of an Argyll and Bute family have won a prestigious national duathlon, shedding eight stone in weight between them to compete.

Stuart Ashley from Dunbeg was joined by his twin cousins Vince and Stephen Jordan from Campbeltown for the London Duathlon on September 14, which involved a 5k run, 44k cycle and a 10k run.

The preparation was gruelling for the trio, especially Vince, who lost a third of his bodyweight to get into shape, slimming down from 18 stone to 12.

Gardener Vince, 45, who ran the first leg of the competition, said: 'I saw a picture of myself in the Campbeltown Courier when I won a darts tournament, and all I could see in the picture was the state of how I looked rather than the trophy; that was in March last year.'

'It wasn't much of a testimony to my son to see me that size so I just set myself a target, got into better eating habits and stuck to it.'

Vince said he was inspired by Steve Way, an English runner who came 10th for England in the Commonwealth Games marathon this year, after shedding five stone.

'I just eliminated chocolate, bread, pastry and ate a lot of chicken, rice and mackerel.'

'By February I started to run and at that point I was 13.2 stone and felt I could justify giving proper commitment to running than if I'd been heavy.'

Stuart, 39, who works in online sales, said: 'I decided

in February or March that I was going to go for it. I asked the boys if they fancied it although at that time Vince was a bit of a wildcard.'

'My regime was very strict; I dropped three stone myself from January to the race, using the Chris Carmichael programme that Lance Armstrong used. I was cycling between 400 and 500k a week, but it's not so much the distance you cover than the intensity you do it at.'

Postman Stephen, 45, took a bit of convincing to compete, but was eventually persuaded by Vince and Stuart.

He said: 'Vince was more willing than I was, I was a bit reluctant as I thought I was a bit beyond it and couldn't be bothered with the training.'

'Although I wasn't too keen on the idea at first, I still did four or five nights of training a week.'

'Initially I found it hard to get motivated because when your heart's not in it it's tough.'

With an average age of 43, the trio said they knew the competition would be tough against younger participants.

Stuart said: 'We thought we would win the veterans section but not the whole thing, we thought, 'don't be stupid you can't come here at this age and win it.'

'There were definitely teams who were in their mid-20s and early-30s, and looked lean, but you can't judge a book by its cover.'

'There were also guys there with bikes that were twice as expensive as mine, but again that doesn't mean the person is going to be as fast.'

'My wife was watching the



Stephen, Stuart and Vince with their medals for winning the London Duathlon in September. 16_141duathlon01

DUATHLON

times updating online, and we were lying in first place, and because it was a staggered start, we knew that as the minutes passed it was more and more unlikely that a better time would come in.'

Stephen added: 'You always know what the approximate time is and you are more likely to go above it on race day because of adrenalin.'

'There might be some teams that have a good runner but we knew that Stuart's bike time would buy us a few minutes.'

Stuart said: 'When we found out we won we were surprised,

relied and overjoyed, and went into London to celebrate.'

'The competition took a lot of commitment and the travelling was expensive, so I think the plan for us will be to do some more events in Scotland.'

Vince chose the team name Invictus after the poem by William Henley. Vince said: 'The poem discusses the unconquerable spirit, and to be able to overcome obstacles in life, and that we are the masters of our fate and captains of our souls. The poet lost a leg to tuberculosis and almost had to have the other one removed, but what could never be taken from him was his spirit.'



The picture of Vince in the Campbeltown Courier last year, which was part of his motivation to get in shape for the duathlon.



Seil

ON A sunny day at Killin 18 members of Seil Golf Club had their last of the summer competitions.

First was Mary Phillips, followed by David Mudie in second.

The Graham Hunt Trophy was played each Wednesday afternoon throughout the season and the eventual winner was John Taylor with Iain Galloway second and David Nathan third.

The Wrinkly Cup played over 12 away venues during the year for seniors was shared by John Blackstock and Neil McCorkindale on equal points with third place held by David Nathan.

Taynuilt

Ladies Open Greensome was played on October 5.

Scratch Category: 1 Carol MacLarty / Fiona McGlynn (Taynuilt GC) 92 (BIH); 2 Alice MacCalman / Anne MacCalman (Taynuilt GC) 92; 3 Mairead Sim / Moira MacVicar (Taynuilt GC) 93. Handicap Category: 1 Mary Plunkett / Christine Cameron (Glencruitten GC) 72 (23); 2 Berenice Muir / Alison Ferguson (St Fillans GC) 73 (29); 3 Jane MacIntyre / Anne Weavind (Taynuilt GC) 74 (29). Nearest the Pin at 6th / 15th: Sally Thompson (Taynuilt GC); Longest Drive at 1st / 10th: Anne S MacCalman (Taynuilt GC).

Scottish national team seeks recruits

RUGBY

SCOTTISH Rugby are looking for talented players under the age of 20 to try out for the national team.

The Scotland under-20 Women's team has provided a growing number of players to the national women's team, including current internationalists Lyndsay O'Donnell and Sarah Law.

Organisers are inviting prospective players to come along and trial for this year's under-20 team on Sunday October 19 at Murrayfield.

Scottish Rugby's Sheila Begbie said: 'We'd really encourage as many young girls as possible to come along to the trials at Murrayfield.'

'It would be great to see as many talented young players here as we can possibly get.'

Potential candidates will have been born between September 1, 1994 and August 31, 1996.

Players wishing to be considered should submit a completed application form by Thursday October 16 and bring their kit along to Murrayfield for 9am on Sunday October 19.

All those interested must complete and submit a registration form by Thursday October 16.



like us on facebook

www.facebook.com/obantimes

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

COMpetition

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

WIN £900

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 Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

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

Please tape your £1 coin here

Name

Address

..... Tel No.....

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

D MacDonald, Mossziel, Mallaig

C Cameron, Iona Drive, Oban

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

Free-scoring Lorn Ladies secure promotion in first full season

LORN Ladies Shinty Club stand on the verge of becoming champions in their first ever season together.

The team sealed second place and promotion to the Women's National Division One after defeating Glasgow Mid Argyll 8-1 in their last second division encounter of the season last Sunday.

And draw or defeat for Dunadd against Mid Argyll - expected to be played on October 19 - will be enough to see Lorn win first place and the league championship.

The team has come a long way in a short space of time, having only formed

SHINTY

weeks before the start of the season. They are coached by Sandy McLeod and George MacKenzie.

The resounding 8-1 victory over GMA saw four goals from top scorer Alison MacVicar, two from Danielle Finlay and one each from Denise Gemmell and Lucy MacNiven.

Sandy McLeod said of his players: 'They have exceeded all expectations - myself and George are so delighted with them. They blew us away with that per-

formance - we would have taken a draw.' Lorn were only defeated once the entire league campaign - by Dunadd - which speaks volumes about the players' achievements.

The top flight league will naturally provide a tougher test, with much longer distances to travel for away matches.

Sandy admits his squad would be content with a mid-table finish.

He added: 'The team we have now are ready to go to another level.'

'But next season there are a few clubs who have been going for a while. There are a lot of good teams there.'



WE'RE GOING UP: Lorn Ladies have sealed promotion to division one and have a chance of being league champions.



JUMPING FOR JOY: Goal hero Alison MacVicar cannot hide her delight after netting her fourth of the day on Sunday.



Fixtures

Saturday, October 11

Marine Harvest National Division
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Kilmallie
Lachie Wood

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Newtonmore v Skye
Evan MacRae
Glenurquhart v Lovat
Archie Ritchie

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Ballachulish
Ewen MacDonald
(12pm throw up)

The Mod Cup
Inverness v Boleskine
Calum Girvan
(1.30pm throw up at Bught Park)

Throw ups 2.30pm unless stated

Results

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Beaully 0 - 0 Skye
Lovat 0 - 4 Newtonmore

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Ballachulish 2 - 2 Kyles Athletic

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Bute 3 - 3 Glenorchy
Glasgow Mid Argyll P - P Ballachulish
(Unplayable field)

Balla make sure of south league win by 'turning up'

AFTER a couple of weeks of talking about shinty rather than playing it, Ballachulish returned to the Jubilee to play their final league fixture against Kyles Athletic.

By simply turning up, Ballachulish had ensured they were league champions and the home club decided to add to the interest by playing for the Lyn Leven Cup.

In a fairly even first half, Kyles were the stronger team for long spells of the game but never actually got round to testing Cameron Sutherland in the home goal.

Ballachulish finished the half stronger and brought out a few good stops from the Kyles keeper, John Whyte.

In the 47th minute, a somewhat speculative shot from Duncan MacDonald ended up in the Kyles goal to give the home team the lead and this was advanced further when David 'the Bear' Campbell scored a rare goal for him, in 58 minutes.

Almost against the run of play Kyles went up the park and pulled one back through an own goal from youngster Cian MacPhee on the hour mark.

This spurred Kyles back into action and although the game still went from end-to-end it was no real surprise when Kyles equalised through Connor Gudichi, two minutes from the end.

The result means that Ballachulish finish their league programme unbeaten and the top two teams in the Marine Harvest South Division Two last year top South Division One this year.

As the Lyn Leven Cup was at stake, a penalty decision was required which Kyles won 2-0.

The Lynn Leven Cup was presented to the Kyles team by Mrs Priscilla MacLeod, from Lyn Leven Guest House.

Ballachulish's junior team hope to finish their league programme this weekend against Glasgow Mid Argyll.

Oban anger as defender suspended

Booking picked up in abandoned game means MacMillan is out

A BOOKING picked up by Oban Camanachd defender James MacMillan in the abandoned league decider against Fort William last month will rule him out of the rescheduled match.

The two sides met at Mossfield on September 27 to decide which team would lift the National Division title but the game was abandoned after 52 minutes when an injury to referee Robert Baxter meant he could not continue.

As a consequence, the 1-0 scoreline in Oban Camanachd's favour - which would have been sufficient to win the league - was scratched, as was the goal scored by Oban's Aidan MacIntyre.

But following a meeting of the Camanachd Association at the end of last week it was ruled that the booking picked up by MacMillan should stand. This booking pushed his disciplinary points over the maximum allowed and he has now been banned for two games.

His club plan to appeal the decision, which appears to have set a precedent for such unusual circumstances.

While the Camanachd Association says it is merely ruling on a clarification of laws already there, Oban Camanachd manager, Gussie Campbell, described the situation as 'an absolute disgrace'.

He added: 'If that game had

not been abandoned James would have been able to play the rest of the match but now he is not allowed to play another minute this season.

It is not fair in my eyes, it's not right.

'James is absolutely gutted. At our end-of-season trip to Newcastle last weekend I told the boys how the season wasn't yet over and there was still much to play for but this week I have had to tell James his season is over.'

Stressing there was no bad blood between his team and Fort William, Campbell added: 'We will appeal this decision and I will not get it overturned if I lose a lot of faith in the Camanachd Asso-

SHINTY



SUSPENDED: James MacMillan was booked during the abandoned match against Fort William

ciation. Going by this logic, if the booking has to stand then we should be playing the replay from 45 minutes with us 1-0 up.'

With the shinty/hurling international taking place through October, the rescheduled match looks set to be played on November 8 after Fort William were successful in requesting November 1 as their free weekend for a stag do.

Oban Camanachd president Allan Dunning said the mood in the camp was an 'unhappy' one. He said: 'There is a lot of frustration because we had a game abandoned that we wanted to play with a replace-

ment referee found, then we find out James is suspended for the next game which won't be played until November 8 because Fort William wanted November 1 as their free weekend. It's just one thing after another.'

But Torquil Macleod, the Camanachd Association's chief operating officer, said the association had provided a fair clarification of the rules in banning MacMillan.

He said: 'The discussion took place at the end of last week among the association to confirm that the offence [booking] took place during the course of an official match.'

'We are not the first sport to have to deal with these things

and a number of sports come to the same conclusion.'

'Because the ruling was not clear in the bye-laws we had to provide a clarification.'

Last month's match at Mossfield was abandoned in controversial circumstances when referee Robert Baxter took a shinty ball clearance in the groin and could not continue the match.

After a significant delay to proceedings, Billy Wotherpoon, a qualified referee, said he was willing to take on the game.

But both teams had to agree the decision and Fort William decided to abandon the game, stating too much time had elapsed.

'Shiel's Scotland stalwart is given captain's armband

SCOTLAND shinty manager Ronald Ross has named Kinlochshiel's Finlay Macrae as captain for the forthcoming 2014 Marine Harvest Shinty/Hurling International Series as the Scots look to restore pride against Ireland's hurlers.

Macrae has been a stand-out at international level and has starred every year since breaking into the national set-up aged 17.

Now 29, he has been handed the ultimate accolade by the new national boss, an honour he sees as a milestone in his career.

'I have been playing internationals for a number of years now and I think this is my ninth year at this level. The manager pulled me aside after training on Wednesday evening and told me I was to be the captain and it is something you want to do in your career, to lead out

SHINTY

your country. It means a great deal to me.

'I know it is something I will always look back on and I was delighted when I was told.'

Scotland has not won the annual shinty/hurling clash with the Irish since 2009 and await their first series victory since the fixture became a two-test contest in 2010.

However, head coach Ronald Ross has made some significant changes, melding a very young and mobile side around some senior figures.

Macrae said: 'There is a very youthful feeling to the side and a slightly different dynamic. Physicality is important but we also have a lot of young, fast players who are the best at their clubs. I was watching videos of some of the recent

games and I think we will go into the series with a point to prove. There is a pressure and an expectation level that goes with playing for Scotland but it means an awful lot to the players and we really want to put on a good show.'

Calum Miller of Kyles Athletic, Steven Morrison of Skye and Lorne Mackay of Lovat are the three new caps this year.

Scotland squad: John Barr (Glenurquhart); Kevin Bartlett, Callum Cruden, Stuart MacDonald and Lorne Mackay (Lovat); Conor Cormack, (Beaully); Gary Innes (Fort William); Grant Irvine, Roddy MacDonald and Calum Miller (Kyles Athletic); Paul MacArthur, Steven MacDonald and Fraser Macintosh (Newtonmore); John MacDonald (Ballachulish); Finlay Macrae, John Macrae (Kinlochshiel); Steven Morrison (Skye); Louis Munro (Kingussie); Shaun Nicolson (Lochaber).



FULL FLOW: Finlay Macrae in action for Scotland at Croke Park, Dublin.

The Orion Group Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	14	10	2	2	37	17	22
Lovat	14	7	5	2	32	20	19
Glenurquhart	14	7	4	3	25	16	18
Kingussie	14	7	2	5	31	29	16
Kyles Athletic	13	6	3	4	25	20	13
Inveraray	14	3	4	7	18	29	10
Kinlochshiel	13	2	2	9	21	34	6
Lochaber	14	1	2	11	18	42	4

Marine Harvest National Division							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fort William	13	11	2	0	70	10	24
Oban Camanachd	13	11	1	1	46	12	23
Kilmallie	13	9	1	3	50	19	19
Beaully	14	7	1	6	37	29	15
Caberfeidh	14	5	1	8	31	39	11
Glasgow MA	13	4	0	9	22	43	8
Glenorchy	14	2	1	11	12	57	5
Bute	14	1	1	12	8	67	1

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Skye	12	12	0	0	49	6	24
Newtonmore	12	8	1	3	37	12	17
Strathglass	14	7	1	6	38	32	15
Glenurquhart	13	5	3	5	25	26	13
Beaully	13	6	1	6	31	36	13
Kingussie	14	5	1	8	35	48	9
Lovat	12	3	0	9	23	41	6
Inverness	14	1	3	10	21	58	5

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ballachulish	14	9	5	0	39	15	23
Kyles Athletic	14	8	4	2	47	19	20
Oban Celtic	14	6	4	4	20	27	16
Aberdour	14	6	3	5	32	31	15
Lochside Rovers	14	6	3	5	32	34	15
Strachur	14	3	3	8	18	33	9
Taynuilt	14	2	4	8	32	46	8
Kilmory	14	2	2	10	16	31	6

Marine Harvest North Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fort William	14	11	1	2	55	20	23
Lochcarron	14	8	2	4	38	46	18
Glenarry	14	8	1	5	25	31	17
Lochaber	14	6	1	7	50	39	13
Kinlochshiel	14	5	3	6	27	33	11
Boleskine	14	5	0	9	29	48	10
Skye	14	4	1	9	38	35	9
Aberdeen Uni	14	3	3	8	29	39	9

Marine Harvest South Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inveraray	14	12	2	0	66	7	26
Tayforth	14	12	1	1	51	10	25
Glasgow MA	12	6	1	5	42	25	13
Bute	13	5	2	6	25	32	11
Col Glen	14	5	2	7	36	36	10
Glenorchy	13	3	1	9	20	39	7
Ballachulish	12	4	0	8	19	41	6
Aberdour	14	1	1	12	14	84	3

Marine Harvest North Division 3							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Caberfeidh	14	10	2	2	52	17	22
Kilmallie	14	6	3	5	51	28	14
Lewis	14	6	2	6	29	30	14
Strathspey	14	6	1	7	28	44	12
Lochbroom	14	4	4	6	19	36	9
Inverness	14	3	2	9	24	48	8

Strathspey docked one point for failing to fulfil a fixture
Kilmallie docked one point for failing to fulfil a fixture

The Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

best for shinty news, views and photographs

Corporate stationery
Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, comp slips

Personal stationery
Matching paper & envelopes, postcards, address labels

krisp print

Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,
Main Street/Longrow South,
Campbeltown PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

Wonder goal secures cup replay for Athletic

Scottish Amateur Cup second round
Oban Athletic 2
Gourock Athletic 2

A SPECTACULAR 25-yard volleyed goal from captain Steven MacLeod on the stroke of full time kept Oban Athletic's cup dream alive at Mossfield stadium.

Athletic were hosts to Central Scottish League outfit Gourock Athletic on Saturday and after a tough but entertaining game MacLeod's net buster on 90 minutes ensured a replay in Gourock.

The visitors started the game at a fast pace, putting the Oban back four of Craig Livingston, Steven MacLeod, Craig Campbell and Stephen Kelly under pressure, without troubling young Craig Maitland in goal.

The first chance of the game fell to Stephen Kelly who ran 30 yards with the ball before shooting from just outside the Gourock box, the keeper turning the shot around the post.

The Oban midfield of Mark Robertson, Stephen Fox and Andy Smith were competing well and trying to support Kris Gilles on his own up front but the Gourock defence coped well.

The first shot Gourock had was on the half hour mark with Stephen Rush shooting wide of goal.

The rest of the game was played out in the midfield with no real chances created.

The second half started the same as the first with Euan Mackie and Steph Campbell

FOOTBALL

coming under pressure on the wings from Gourock's fast wingers.

On 54 minutes Mackie tripped Shaun Finlay out on the right wing and from the resulting free kick the unmarked Stuart Morton had a tap in to open the scoring.

The home team responded well to this setback and started to dominate the midfield with Andy Smith and Mark Robertson getting more of the ball.

On 68 minutes Robertson and Fox played a one-two before the ball landed at the feet of Gilles, who picked his spot with a cool finish under the goalkeeper.

On the 81st minute a cross into the box was misjudged by the defence and deflected off Craig Campbell into the path of Paul Stinson, who had the easy task of side footing the ball passed a bemused Craig Maitland in goal.

Manager Campbell made three substitutions with Struin Doull, Aiden Campbell and Michael McGee coming on to try and make an impact with Oban now pushing for an equaliser.

This left the defence open and Gourock had a couple of chances to score but Craig Maitland pulled off two good saves to keep his team in the tie.

A Robertson corner in the 90th minute was headed clear by Patrick Gatens as far as MacLeod, who volleyed an unstoppable shot into the top right hand corner of the Gourock goal, sending the home team and supporters into a mass celebration.



SCREAMER: Stephen MacLeod volleys home a stunning equaliser. Photo: Kevin McGlynn

Mull rallies behind high-speed event

RALLYING

THE Isle of Mull will be transformed into the centre of high-speed action next week when it hosts the 45th running of the Tunnock's Mull Rally.

More than 140 crews, from as far a field as Canada, will tackle the 150 miles of action on the closed-off public roads.

At the head of the field, there are a number of drivers who will battle for overall victory and podium places.

Seeded one and two, Mull locals and past winners, John MacCrone and Calum Duffy, will both be driving Fords - one a two-wheel drive Fiesta R200, the latter his stunning MKII Escort.

Duffy is aiming to last slightly longer than last year.

'Aye, we didn't last long last year,' said Duffy, whose rally ended when he slid off backwards into a ditch on the fourth test, the 2.62-miler at Ardtun. 'We're definitely aiming to get to the end this year and hopefully win: but it's going to be tough.'

Last year's winner MacCrone meanwhile is being realistic as he prepares to drive his Castrol-liveried Fiesta R200, prepared by Carlise-based CA1.

'We're definitely going to be down a fair bit on power against the rest of the top five seeds,' the 24-year-old admitted, 'but we'll be doing everything we can to maximise the performance of the car.'

Mull resident and Marie Curie Cancer care senior healthcare assistant Louise Thomas will compete in her Mini Cooper - resplendent with the charity's daffodil emblem on it. Partnered by co-driver Melanie Whittaker, she will help raise funds for the Marie Curie nursing service, the official charity of the rally.

One of the highlights of the event is the return of a 'special stage, which begins the final leg which runs through Saturday night into Sunday morning.'

The stage, which meanders through Tobermory, will bring the action-packed event right into the heart of the island.

Oban coach raging over red card

BT West Division 2
Cambuslang 8
Oban Lorne 17



SEEING RED: Corrie Louw

OBAN Lorne coach Corrie Louw should have been a happy man last Saturday as his side took another step towards the league championship with a win at rivals Cambuslang.

But the big South African was left raging after he was dismissed for a clash of heads during a maul.

The dismissal was just one decision that aggravated the visitors, who felt hard done by a match official who sin-binned two Oban props and disallowed a try. The dismissal of Louw and the late sin-binning of Andrew Johnston left Lorne with 13 men against 15 and only a heroic defensive effort kept the home side at bay.

A confident Oban welcomed a new half back partnership for the match with Bulgarian Vasco Borisov starting at scrum half while Colin Thwaites returned at stand off.

Cambuslang made a good start to the game, helped by a

few penalties against the Oban defence and a good handling move on the left hand side was finished off over the line to give the hosts an early 5-0 lead.

Oban were dealt another blow shortly after with fullback Richard MacKay going off with a pulled hamstring, Dave McCabe replacing after 10 minutes.

Craig Wright opened the scoring for Oban Lorne with a well taken penalty attempt after 15

RUGBY

minutes to reduce the scoreline to 3-5.

But Oban's bad luck continued when a try was disallowed for the on 20 minutes and Oban prop Robin MacQueen was sin binned on 25 minutes for an alleged stamp on a Cambuslang player before fellow prop Donald Budge limped off with an injury.

Then, just as MacQueen returned to the field of play Oban Lorne were stunned as the referee blew up at a maul and directed a red card at Oban Lorne number eight and coach Corrie Louw.

Oban managed to hold out until half-time with the score sitting at 5-3 to the hosts but Cambuslang scored first into the second half with a penalty to take a 8-3 lead.

It was then that Oban found the resolve that may take them all the way to the title.

They hit back almost immediately with their first try of the day, some impressive, powerful runs from centre Cammy Smith resulted in his brother Struan

gliding over the line.

Following Johnston's sin-binning, a heroic performance from the pack and some clever play from the Oban backline held the Cambuslang attack for the next 10 minutes, while the injury count mounted - Oban winger Dan Hoey was replaced after a shoulder injury. A relieved Oban

Lorne were back to 14 men for the last 10 minutes and were rewarded for their defensive efforts with a try from outside centre Craig Wright.

Wight gathered a pass from Lorne MacLachlan on the 22 and sliced through the defence to round off the scoring for the day. Cambuslang rallied for a late

onslaught on the Oban line but came away with nothing to show from the game. The hosts had a shot at goal to earn a bonus point but this was missed.

As the final whistle sounded coach Corrie Louw was delighted with the crucial comeback victory but was left fuming after learning his red card would

mean a three-game ban.

The Green Machine are now four points clear of Cambuslang at the top of West Division 2, as their league campaign continues this Saturday when Stratherrick visit Glencruitten.

This week's visitors will provide a good test for Oban Lorne. Kick off 3pm.

Annual martial arts tournament in Oban sees large entry from across the ages compete



Winners of medals and trophies in the Argyll martial arts annual tournament, which had a larger entry than usual. The whole Sunday afternoon was taken up with competitions for age ranges from five to 14. Thanks went to Inveraray Windfarms and Buildbase Oban for sponsoring this event. Also pictured (right) are Andrew Fraser, who received his black belt, and Andrew Lawson who has been promoted to second Dan.

Scottish AFL results and fixtures

FOOTBALL

LAST weekend's results: Scottish Cup, second round - Cambeltown Pupils 13, Tannahill 0; Dunoon Athletic 2, Maryhill Thistle 5; Tarbert 5, Renfrew Town 3; Wallacecoun Sporting Club 1, Oban Saints 2.

This weekend's fixtures: Premier Division - Eaglesham v Oban Saints; Kings Park Rangers v Cambeltown Pupils; Premier Division 2 - Clydebank v Lochgilphead Red Star; Dunoon Athletic v Easthall Star; Division 1B Tarbert v FC Argyll.

Saints youth fixtures and results

YOUTH FOOTBALL

LAST weekend's results: Dumbarton United Blacks 2, Under 13s 3, Saints scorers were Jamie Forgive, Euan Finlay and Cameron Clark. Under 14s 3, Renton Craigandro Blacks 4. Cammy Kerr scored all three goals for Saints. Under 15s no game; Antonine 5, Under 16s 1. Ross McCrone found the net for the Oban side. Westerton 1, Under 19s 2. On target for Saints were Josh Coates and Connor Howe.

This weekend's fixtures: Under 16s v Ardencaple. The other youth teams have no fixture due to the school holidays.

Oban high/Lorne S1/S2 team travels to take on Montrose

OBAN High/Lorne S1/S2 team travelled to Montrose to play a round robin with Lathallan school.

Against Montrose, Oban got stuck in with a great team performance, great rucking, ball handling and retention. Some missed tackles allowed

one strong runner to get several tries; 19-31 to Montrose. After a break Oban faced up to Lathallan, who had several large quick runners. Oban held together strong in the line out and scrum against heavier forwards and narrowly lost 28-30.

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk

WEATHER		TIDAL INFORMATION			
Thursday	Heavy, showery rain but drier later Winds moderate North East Temperatures 12°C to 8°C.	Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday, October 9, 2014 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)			
Friday	Mainly dry, with bright or sunny spells but heavy showery rain overnight Temperatures 12°C to 8°C.	Date	am		
Weekend Outlook	Heavy rain showers with some bright spells Winds moderate South West Temperatures 12°C to 7°C.	Thur	05.48 4.1 12.16 0.4 18.11 4.4		
		Fri	00.32 0.5 06.23 4.1 12.58 0.5 18.47 4.2		
		Sat	01.11 0.6 06.59 4.0 13.39 0.7 19.22 4.0		
		Sun	01.50 0.7 07.34 3.9 14.20 1.0 19.58 3.7		
		Mon	02.30 1.0 08.09 3.7 15.02 1.3 20.35 3.4		
		Tues	03.15 1.3 08.48 3.4 15.48 1.6 21.17 3.1		
		Wed	04.05 1.5 09.35 3.2 16.45 1.9 22.15 2.9		
		Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)			
		Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
		Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
		Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
		Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
		Lochboisdale	+0.30		
		Ferry Crossings/Sea States			
		Oban to Barra/South Uist		Moderate	
		Oban to Col/Tiree		Moderate	
		Kennacraig to Islay		Moderate	

The Oban Times

FORT WILLIAM & LOCHABER EDITION

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8220

Thursday 9 October, 2014

www.obantimes.co.uk

80 pence



COUNTDOWN TO **Royal National Mòd** preview on page 4

October 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18

Fort win for first time in 11 months

FORT William Football Club boss Calum MacLean has promised his team 'won't finish bottom' this season, following the side's first victory in 11 months.

The Fort secured a 4-3 win against Lossiemouth at Claggan Park on Saturday, their first success since beating Inverurie Locos away in November.

It also marked Fort William's first home win since January last year but MacLean said it won't be the last this season.

He added: 'It's definitely a confidence boost but it was coming. We've been saying for weeks we were going to get a win soon but to be honest I wasn't expecting it so quickly.'

'We don't want to get carried away after one win but the team is improving every week. I'd say the squad we have is probably the best we've had in 10 years so there will be more wins to come - we won't finish bottom this season.'

MacLean returned as manager in April this year, taking over the reins again after a previous stint as manager from 2007 to 2011. He believes his mix of new players and old hands will bring the club success.

He said: 'We've had a few new signings and I think they're doing really well. We're bringing in the new boys and now it's important to get them training and playing with the experienced players. It's about getting them to gel.'

For a report on Saturday's game see the back page.

South Uist to get better water

SOUTH Uist is to benefit from a £6.8 million investment to drinking water improvements.

Scottish Water announced the venture as part of a national project worth £3.5 billion, to be rolled out over six years from 2015.

Specifics about the improvements are not available yet but Douglas Millican, chief executive of Scottish Water, said he was 'delighted' about the investment. He added: 'We look forward to working closely with our customers and communities to further improve drinking water quality and the environment the length and breadth of Scotland.'

YOUNG PARKINSON'S SUFFERER SMASHES FUNDRAISING TARGET



Barry beats out the miles in aid of charity cash

EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

“ You get a big boost from the crowds at the side ”

Barry Moran

A LOCHABER man diagnosed with Parkinson's disease at just 39 years of age has run a half marathon, raising £4,000 for charity and crossing the finish line in just under two hours.

Barry Moran, 40, from Glenachulish, was diagnosed six months ago but rather than letting it get him down he began training for the Great Scottish Run to stay active and set an example to other sufferers.

The offshore chef set an initial target of raising £300 for Parkinson's UK, but said he has been 'overwhelmed by generosity' and thinks the total will be more than £4,000 when all donations are in.

And Barry was not alone in his challenge, for his GP doctor Morag Calder, who he said has supported him 'from consultation to diagnosis and treatment', travelled to Glasgow along with eight women from Ballachulish to take part in

the run, to whom he is 'extremely grateful and humbled'.

Barry said: 'I would like to thank my wife and family for all their support since my diagnosis and make special mention of my GP, Dr Morag Calder. The girls from Ballachulish, who took part in the runs on my behalf, also deserve special mention and everyone who came along to support us on the day of the run and to everyone who donated so generously. I am overwhelmed by the response and generosity of people.'

Barry was feeling disheartened after his diagnosis but tried to stay positive and fit.

He said: 'A neurologist told me to keep active so I thought signing up for a run would keep me motivated. I ran for a few years beforehand but when I was diagnosed I stopped, then I thought "this is stupid" and got back into it.'

'I also wanted to send out a message to others who may have recently been diagnosed. It can be a devastating diagnosis but you can continue to lead a normal life and staying mobile and active and keeping up a positive attitude helps both psychologically and physically with the symptoms.'

Barry, who lives with his wife and two sons, said the 13-mile challenge was tough but encouragement from spectators kept him going.

He said: 'You get a big boost from the crowds at the side, they really motivate you and my family and friends were there to cheer me on too.'

Donations can still be made to Barry's cause, at www.justgiving.com/BarryMoran

Car scam warning issued

COMHAIRLE nan Eilean Siar has advised the public to exercise caution when buying vehicles online as it has received a number of complaints from consumers who have lost money.

A spokesman said: 'Very often the vehicles are sold at cheap prices and due to the distances involved the seller may offer to transport the vehicles to Inverness or Ullapool for collection. Payment is usually made by bank

transfer and the seller's contact details may only be a mobile phone number. The result is the buyer does not get the opportunity to examine the vehicle or the paperwork until it's too late and they have little chance of redress if they don't have a name or address for the seller.'

Advice has been issued including meeting the buyer when possible and asking for documents about the vehicle in question.

Teenagers reported

THREE teenagers have been reported in connection with a fire in Stornoway.

The 13-year-olds were reported to the procurator fiscal and children's reporter after a building was set on fire on Cromwell Street in the early hours of Friday morning.

A police spokesman said: 'Two boys and a girl, all aged 13, have been reported in connection with the incident of fire raising.'



TASTY FUNDRAISER: Fort William RC primary school pupils raised £558 for Macmillan cancer support at a coffee morning on Friday. Family and friends attended along with the youngsters of Nevis Bank nursery



R A Clement Associates
Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors



When it comes to protecting your financial future, you need the best advice you can get.
www.raclement.co.uk
Email: mail@raclement.co.uk
3 Cameron Square, Fort William PH33 6AJ
Tel: 01397 700171
5 Argyll Square, Oban PA34 4AZ
Tel: 01631 562643
your initial consultation is free so call us now

Delight as doors open on new Corpach homes

NEW housing in Lochaber was officially opened this week.

Dave Thompson, MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, cut the ribbon of the five homes in Nevis Mews, Corpach, on Monday, along with Mike Martin of Hanover Housing Association, the group behind the £740,000 development.

Mr Thompson said: 'I think this development is fantastic. A lack of decent housing is one of the big issues we have in the Highlands and we need to keep pushing forward with things like this.'

Funding for the scheme came from £230,000 from the Scottish government, £71,980 from a charitable grant and £438,044 of private finance.



NEW HOMES: Mike Martin of Hanover Housing, left, and Dave Thompson MSP officially opened sheltered housing in Corpach on Monday

LOCHABER IDEASWEEK
17-21 NOVEMBER 2014
Powered by twin deer LAW

NOMINATE AND CELEBRATE SUCCESS IN LOCHABER!
Lochaber Ideas Week invites you to nominate individuals and organisations who have significantly contributed to the area and its community. Each week two reward categories will be revealed giving you the chance to tell us who YOU think deserves a reward and why.

Brilliant New Business Reward *Discovered a great new business?*
Open to business beginning to trade on or after April 2013, this Reward celebrates Lochabers' highest performing new company and recognises those that have exceeded initial targets for growth and performance. New businesses will demonstrate an exceptional understanding of key competitors, customers and the markets they operate in, firmly laying foundations for continual commercial success.

Excellent Customer Focus Reward *Who provides all of your needs?*
Tremendous Celebrating organisations who value the link between customer service and profit, this Reward recognises those constantly striving to exceed customer expectations, deliver exceptional standards of service, and strive to offer the best all-round customer experience.

Submit all nominations to will@ideasweek.co.uk, specify the reward category and why the organisation or individual deserves a reward (50-200 words).

Chisholms Garage

Ballachulish LTD
Unit 1, West Quarry, Ballachulish, Argyll, PH494JP
Tel: 01855 811431 (Day or Night)
Fax: 01855811690
e-mail: chisholmsgarage@btconnect.com



SEPTEMBER SPECIAL
MOT's £49.00 with free winter check
Free collection & delivery on advanced bookings in local area
Competitive rates with discounts
MOT's, Servicing, Tyres, Diagnostics
Please contact us for further information, booking & quotations
Courtesy cars available on request
24 Hour call out & recovery

Police probe theft of goods from shipping containers

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a series of thefts over the last two weekends in Lochaber.

Overnight on Sunday September 28 a number of shipping containers were broken into in the Camaghael area of Fort William.

Power tools, scrap metal and metal piping was stolen.

Around 10.30pm on Friday October 3 the window of a white Ford Transit van was smashed while it was parked outside Mossfield apartments in Caol.

Between 7pm on October 1 and 5pm on October 3 a number of fishing lures were stolen from a boat moored on Loch Arkaig.

In the early hours of Saturday October 4 damage was caused to the window of a car parked in Carn Deag Road, Claggan, and to a vehicle parked at Hegarty's repair garage in Ben Nevis industrial estate.

The windows of a number of premises on the Ben Nevis industrial estate and North Road, Fort William, have been damaged.

Anyone with information about these incidents can contact local police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800555111.

Groups celebrate community fund cash awards

BOXERS, bowlers and beekeepers in Lochaber will benefit from grants.

Shinty clubs, sea cadets and shoppers are also among the 38 beneficiaries of Lochaber Housing Association's Community Fund awards.

A total of £7,000 was available for the associations second year of funding and it was shared equally among groups including community councils, residents' associations and sports groups from Arisaig to Kinlochleven.

A spokesman for Lochaber Housing Association said: 'We had an enormous amount of interest from an extremely wide range of community groups last year.'

'This time we had 38 applications and, rather than disappoint, we decided to award £180 to each organisation.'

Witness urged to come forward after car damaged

A VEHICLE parked on Jamieson Drive, Stornoway was damaged between Friday October 3 and Saturday October 4.

Police believe the incident was witnessed and have asked anyone with information to contact local police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800555111.

Ardgour residents voice concern over 'timber tower' application



PLANNING APPLICATION: Ardgour House could soon be joined by a 'timber tower' holiday home on the estate

ARDGOUR residents have objected to a proposal to build a 'timber tower' in the area.

A planning application lodged with Highland Council by Ardgour Trading Company will see the erection of a wooden holiday home near Ardgour House, a Georgian mansion listed for historical interest.

Neighbours and other interested parties have called the design 'wholly inappropriate' and a fire hazard.

West Highland historian Iain Thornber was one of the objectors to the three-storey octagon-shaped building. He said: 'The design is quirky and unusual and while it could sit comfortably in another setting it is completely out of character and wholly inappropriate within the designed landscape surrounding the listed Ardgour House.'

'The proposed material presents a fire hazard and it should be noted that there is no retained firefighting unit in the neighbourhood. In the event of a fire, valuable native woodlands could be destroyed.'

Dolina Richardson, who lives nearby, said: 'The style of the property doesn't fit in with any of the other houses in the area and more so the estate. The fact it is made from wood gives a greater risk of fire, especially during the summer when we experience forest fires and it's risk that is not needed as it would cause so much damage to the woodland and animals in

the area.' Developers defended the proposal, saying the building will add to the character of the area.

A spokesman said: 'As each dwelling aims to provide a bespoke holiday experience, the client proposes that this third building add further diversity by being finished in timber. It is envisaged as a timber tower that will blend into the surrounding trees.'

Concerns have also been raised about the shared driveway on the estate which users have said is in a 'horrendous condition'.

Mrs Richardson added: 'The road has deteriorated due to the large amount of traffic from the holiday homes using it.'

'If permission is granted this will make matters worse, not just with guests but with trucks bringing materials to build the property and the road clearly can't deal with this volume of traffic on a daily or regular basis.'

Another neighbour, Jessica Connolly, echoed Mrs Richardson's road worries.

She said: 'The road is already in a poor state of repair, postal services and rubbish collection has been suspended due to excessive wear and tear as well as damage to vehicles.'

'My concern is the increase in the number of heavy goods vehicles would be significantly detrimental to the already poor road.'

Highland Council's planning committee is expected to make a decision next month.



DELAYS: north bound traffic ground to a halt in Fort William

'No response' to traffic chaos

REPAIRS to a single manhole in Fort William ground traffic on the busy trunk road to a halt when three-way traffic lights were set up with no prior warning.

Northbound traffic on the A82 Glasgow-Inverness road was gridlocked through the town as motorists were held up so the manhole near Nevis Bridge could be repaired.

Town taxi driver Ronnie Wilson said it took him an hour to get from the High Street to Claggan and back, a round trip which would usually take no more than 10 minutes.

He also raised concerns about what would have happened had there been an emergency

on the outskirts of town.

He said: 'It was nose to tail through the whole town. If it took me an hour to take a customer to Claggan and back what chance would a fire engine have had if it had to get to Corpach or Caol?'

'There's no way it would have got through that traffic; we're really lucky nothing bad happened.'

A spokeswoman from BEAR Scotland, the organisation that carries out road repairs on behalf of Transport Scotland, said: 'Once we were made aware of the long delays we contacted Scottish Water to ask it to remove the

works in Fort William. We will be discussing with Scottish Water how disruption can be minimised for future works.'

But that was not enough for Stewart MacLean, of campaign group the A82 Partnership, who was stuck in the congestion on his way to Inverness.

He said: 'Once again the economy and social lives of people in Lochaber were ignored by the national authorities. Following the chaos I have been trying to contact both BEAR and Transport Scotland for an explanation and to ensure it won't happen again but have yet to receive a satisfactory response.'

Vital crash training

EMERGENCY service personnel from across Lochaber and beyond came together for a 'valuable' training exercise in Fort William.

The event involved fire crews from the town and Kinlochleven, members of the Scottish Ambulance Service and doctors and medics from Aviemore and Inverness who shared experience to ensure the groups can work together effectively.

During the session at Fort William fire station last week, staff had to 'rescue' victims of a mock two-car collision.

Pat McElhinney, Lochaber district officer for Scottish Fire and Rescue, said: 'We are so reliant on each other at incidents. We

live in a predominately rural area and we need to use our resources effectively and with speed to ensure we give casualties the very best of care. We also need to understand each other's command systems and priorities at such incidents so we can work together quickly.'

'This exercise provided us with an opportunity to train all our staff, but also gave us a platform to network, share experience and to get to know each other.'

Mr McElhinney thanked organisers local paramedic team leader Andrew MacGillivray and fire service watch manager Christopher Findlay as well as NHS specialists who attended.



TRAINING: emergency services work on a mock car crash scene.

Report fake goods online

A QUICK and easy way to report fake goods in the Highlands has been launched to crack down on counterfeit products.

Customers or businesses can now report copied items to Highland Council's trading standards team online.

Gordon Robb, trading standards manager, said: 'Fake goods cheat consumers, can in some cases put their safety or health at risk, supports the criminal elements of our society and defrauds those who have invested time, money and their intellect in developing

new products and brands. What someone has bought, believing it to be a quality product, can turn out to be a cheap shoddy copy.'

'Worse still, electrical products, personal items like perfumes and cosmetics or consumables such as alcohol and tobacco, can put people at risk. To tackle this problem we need information from the public and our new online form is an easy way for people to report relevant information to us.'

Fake goods can be reported at www.highland.gov.uk/counterfeits.

Fort teacher elected to EIS post

A FORT William teacher has been elected to represent education staff throughout the Highlands as part of Scotland's largest teacher union.

Bob Colman, principal modern studies teacher at Lochaber high school, was named secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS) Highland branch, following the retirement of

Andrew Stewart, who has held the post since 1991.

Mr Colman said he was 'delighted' at being elected.

He added: 'I'm a long-serving member of EIS and look forward to representing teaching staff in the Highlands from school teachers to college and university lecturers.'

renewables energy solutions now

cost efficient renewable heating

BIOMASS
WOOD PELLETS, WOOD CHIP OR LOGS
A natural choice for affordable, sustainable home heat

HUGE CO₂ OUTPUT SAVING

MAKE UP TO 200% PROFIT ON FUEL COSTS

HEAT PUMPS
GROUND SOURCE & AIR SOURCE
Extremely efficient heating and hot water

UP TO 11 TONNES PER YEAR

SAVE UP TO 75% ON RUNNING COSTS

Zero Running Costs?
You could reduce your heating bill to nothing for years to come.

Why low carbon heating?
It benefits you and the environment and contributes to a cleaner greener future for everyone.

CALL US NOW
01631 720587 TO DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN BENEFIT

How much could you save?
You could benefit up to £4905 per year through fuel savings and Renewable Heat Incentive payments.*

*Energy Saving Trust data 2014

DON'T MISS THIS INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY - Since April this year the Governments Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) is paying homeowners to heat their homes with renewable heating appliances. There is also a 75% interest free loan to help with the installation costs. In many cases the income will pay for the running costs and the loan repayments over 7 years.

www.renewablesnow.co.uk

find us on facebook

www.facebook.com/obantimes

Everest
Fit the best
Making more of your environment

TRIPLE GLAZING AVAILABLE ON SOME WINDOWS AND DOORS

Also available Garage Doors, Patio and Bi fold doors, Porches, Flat Roofs, Gutters, Fascias, Soffits, Bargeboards, Driveways

ASK ABOUT SPECIAL DEALS

Contact Consultant Peter Ramsay
Tel 07816 934364

Residential and Commercial enquiries welcome

Couple lived in Oban cave to get house

HOUSING CRISIS FORCES YOUNG FAMILIES TO LIVE ROUGH

LOUISE LEE
lee@obantimes.co.uk

A YOUNG couple who couldn't find a home in Oban lived in a cave in Dunollie until they were eventually offered a house.

And a family with a toddler, who have lived in a tent all summer, have finally found a roof over their heads close to their work.

But the shockwaves from these two pitiful stories have reverberated throughout the area with many people asking how these desperate situations were allowed to happen.

The 'tent' family said they had no alternative while waiting for a private-rented property to become available - there was no other accommodation available to them if they wanted to keep their jobs.

At most, they said, they camped for a few weeks and tried to make it seem like an 'extended holiday' for their child.

To protect the identity of the youngster, *The Oban Times* has been asked not to reveal the name of the family.

Jess MacDonald, who works in Oban's Hope Kitchen and is a campaigner for the homeless and vulnerable in Oban and Lorn, says people living in a tent all year round in Oban is not unusual.

She has given away a number of tents in the eight years she has been involved in helping families find temporary shelter.

Jess, who can name all the people who have live on the streets, said that people often have made a choice to live outdoors rather than live in a homeless hostel.

Jess said: 'Earlier this year a



HELPER: Jess MacDonald

young couple lived in a cave at Dunollie, as they didn't want to go to live in Campbeltown or Dunoon to live when they were thrown out of their accommodation.

'They waited for more permanent accommodation while living in the cave. They have now got a house.'

Benefits cuts and mounting debt were major contributory factors to homelessness, added Jess. She said: 'Sometimes people have money removed from their benefits because they have broken a rule. When you've got no money, people slip more and more into debt.'

'People don't want to say they've got nothing, particularly mums. 'We have started running a group for mums who have young babies and we give them a food parcel as often as we can.'

Rhona Smith, a grandmother from Oban, whose family are living in a house with partly boarded-up windows, says that

“ We need to help these people as much as we can ”

Jessie MacKenzie
Appin parish church

sometimes there is nothing to be done for people who don't want help.

She said: 'My daughter and her boyfriend live with two children in accommodation that is freezing cold. The kids still get up and go to school - and the soup kitchen helps them out a lot.'

'But they have not got any spare money. They are proud and don't want to take handouts. Last week they had no money for heating - and the kids had to sleep under a pile of jackets. It breaks my heart.'

Jessie MacKenzie, from Appin, who raised the matter in the village parish church last Sunday, said: 'It is frightening to think that anyone is forced to sleep outside - especially at this time of the year.'

'I raised the matter because I want to try to get people to see that homelessness is not something that happens a million miles away - but it is right here on our doorstep.'

'We need to help people as much as we can.'

THE RING CYCLE



AN AMATEUR treasure hunter has become an overnight hero after coming to the rescue of a woman who had lost her wedding and engagement rings on Kerrera.

Metal detector Ewan McDougall (above), a shellfish sampling officer for Argyll and Bute council, was the last chance for a distraught Pauline Evans who lost her rings while taking part in

Kerrera's recent Craggy Island Triathlon. A two-week search for the rings involving her family and friends and island residents and visitors had proved fruitless.

After hearing of Ewan through a mutual friend, Pauline called on his 45 years' experience and in just two hours the Taynuilt man had unearthed the priceless possessions.

Pauline, a youth worker at

Stirling council, said: 'Ewan phoned me at work to say he was standing on Kerrera holding two platinum rings and I just started jumping around the office.'

She thanked everyone involved in the search but especially Ewan, who she has never met.

The modest metal detector added: 'I'm no hero; anyone involved in this hobby would have done the same thing.'

New operator for West Highland rail

FIRSTGroup, which operates First ScotRail's West Highland line service, has lost the contract to run the new ScotRail franchise across the country.

It is understood the Transport Scotland contract will go to Dutch railway group Abellio, which was shortlisted alongside FirstGroup and three other firms.

The contract will see Abellio run most of Scotland's trains for 10 years and take responsibility for ScotRail's 5,000 employees.

The Aberdeenshire-based firm said it was proud of its success in operating First ScotRail which was again recognised last week as Rail Operator of the Year.

Mull worries over health raised

ISLANDERS' health concerns will be raised with the Scottish government health minister Alec Neil MSP next week when he meets Mull community council (MCC).

Islanders say there is a 'second class NHS service' on the island.

Mike Shilson, MCC chairman, said: 'We will discuss health provision following the resignation of the Tobermory GPs from out-of-hours cover and the resignation of two GPs.' Sheltered housing and a lack of paramedics will be on the agenda too.

Fuel transport to marina not safe

ONE OF the west coast's busiest marinas has been ordered to stop selling fuel - because of the way it is transported to the island.

Oban Marina on Kerrera had been bringing fuel to the island by containers on a landing craft but the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) has said that it is not safe.

Company owners say they are considering an alternative. In the meantime, fuel can still be purchased at the South Pier and every effort is being made by the marina to find a solution.

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

SCOTLAND'S FAVOURITE KITCHEN RETAILER...

...offers a FREE Design Consultation.



For over a decade, The Kitchen Depot has been manufacturing and installing stylish high-quality kitchens throughout the length and breadth of Scotland. Now, Oban Times' readers can take advantage of a very special offer from Scotland's favourite kitchen retailer - a FREE, no-obligation design consultation in your own home!

TRADITIONAL VALUES AND SERVICE

So what is it about The Kitchen Depot that makes us first choice with so many people? Well, primarily, we are a family-owned, family-run business that remains true to our founding values of honesty, integrity and professionalism. We take tremendous pride in our reputation for service and commitment to our customers.



EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY AND VALUE - AND A 25 YEAR GUARANTEE!

All of our kitchens are manufactured in our own factory and by our own people. Whether your style is traditional or contemporary, we will manufacture your new kitchen to an exceptionally high German specification where we have total control over the product quality and production timescales. With no middlemen - you buy direct and benefit from the cost and time savings. And so confident are we in the quality of our product that we guarantee it for a full 25 years!!!

LOW, LOW PRICES - ALL YEAR ROUND

At The Kitchen Depot, we have no time or place for gimmicky fictitious sales - or so-called "factory clearances"! What you will get from us is good, honest advice, a top-quality product that we manufacture ourselves, responsibly and professionally installed, guaranteed for a full 25 years and at the lowest, most competitive price on a like-for-like quality kitchen that you'll find anywhere.

Is it any wonder that we are recognised as Scotland's favourite kitchen retailer?

Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Hillington Industrial Park, Glasgow G52 4RY T: 0141 891 4884

www.thekitchendepot.co.uk

SPECIAL OFFER TO OBAN TIMES' READERS!

In early November, our kitchen designers will be visiting the Oban area and if you would like a personal, no-obligation design consultation in your own home, why not beat the rush and book your appointment now. Simply call us on 0141 891 4884 or contact us through our website - that affordable, stylish new kitchen of your dreams is only a phone call or email away.



Lifeboat coxswain praises farm boat

A SMALL workboat lost power in the Sound of Kerrera, off Oban, during Monday's stormy weather.

Oban lifeboat was launched by Stornoway Coastguard to assist just before 8am but when it arrived, the workboat had already been helped by a fish farm boat and had managed to pick up a mooring in Ardrinver Bay.

The crewman from the workboat was taken on board the lifeboat and transferred to Kerrera.

Lifeboat coxswain John Hill said: 'The swift action of the local fish farm boat prevented the situation escalating into something more serious.'

Cannabis find

POLICE in Oban recovered a quantity of cannabis and cash from a property in Breadalbane Street, Oban.

As a result of the search on Sunday two men, aged 20 and 34, have been reported to the procurator fiscal.

Speeder stopped

A 39-YEAR-old driver, who was stopped by police for speeding on the A82 at Bridge of Orchy on Saturday, had been disqualified.

Warrants issued to recover members' unpaid tax bills

LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

SHERIFF officers were used to recover unpaid council tax owed by two Argyll and Bute councillors.

The shock revelation came to light after it was confirmed this week that five out of the council's 36 members had failed to pay last year's bills on time and had to be sent reminder notices.

However, the council had to go through court to recover council tax from two elected members.

One of two councillors has yet to bring their account up to date.

One serving councillor, who did not want to be named, said: 'When one person doesn't pay, all of our names are taken into disrepute.'

With almost 15 per cent of elected members getting behind with their council tax payments, Argyll and Bute council has one of the highest percentages in Scotland of elected officials not paying their bills on time.

Councillor Ellen Morton, deputy leader of the council, came to the defence of her colleagues,

saying some understanding and sympathy were needed rather than people rushing to make unfair judgements. She said: 'Councillors and employees are expected to pay council tax just as members of the public are.'

'Having difficulty in paying bills is something that can happen to anyone.'

'If someone has difficulty in paying council tax, we will do what we can to support them.'

'The same process applies for collecting council tax whether from councillors, employees or members of the public.'

An Argyll and Bute council spokeswoman said: 'We can confirm that in 2013/14, five councillors were issued with a reminder notice after failing to pay a council tax instalment by the 14th of the month, in which the payment was due.'

'In three cases, the amount due was subsequently paid. Two were served with a summary warrant and, in one case, the full amount due was paid.'

'In the remaining case, there are



SYMPATHY: Ellen Morton



ANGER: Alastair Redman

still arrears but there are particular circumstances relating to this which are unusual.'

However, the spokeswoman declined to be drawn on the circumstances - or the identity of the

councillor. She continued: 'It is not appropriate to name any individual in this case. The council's procedure for collection of council tax and council tax debts is the same across the board. It is not possible

to confirm how many council employees are subject to any action regarding non-payment of council tax. The council tax system does not have an indicator or a field that shows whether a council tax payer works for the council.'

Islay postmaster and prospective Westminster candidate for the Conservatives for 2015 Alastair Redman said: 'Two of our councillors are subject to summary warrant proceedings where sheriff officers for the court have been instructed to collect the debt.'

'Our councillors are not living in poverty. Not only do they receive a very good salary, but they enjoy extra payment for every additional Argyll and Bute job title they have attached to their name.'

'On top of this, a number of our councillors are enjoying some of the largest expenses claims in Scotland.'

'To make matters worse, our local authority has refused to name and shame these councillors or take any action against them apart from chasing the unpaid debts.'

Teacher banned for 14 months

A CHEMISTRY teacher at Oban high school failed a breathalysers test when stopped by police and has been banned from driving for 14 months.

Boyd Sigerson, aged 38, of Mill Park Place, Oban, admitted the drink-driving offence when he appeared before the town's sheriff court last week.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said police received a telephone call on the evening of September 13 telling them that Sigerson was driving after drinking.

He was stopped by officers on the A85 in Connel.

'He got out of his car and told them "I'm going to fail", before they had the chance to caution him,' the procurator fiscal said.

Sigerson's breath reading was 60mcg and the legal limit is 35mcg per 100ml. He told the police: 'I wasn't aware it was that high. I felt capable of driving and I was able to pull over when the police stopped me.'

Jamie Dunbar, representing Sigerson, said the teacher was signed off from work suffering from stress. He was receiving treatment to help the condition.

'There had been an argument between him and his partner and he was attempting to alleviate the situation by leaving the house and going to get some food,' said Mr Dunbar.

Sigerson, a first-time offender, who had a clean driving licence, was fined £400 and banned from driving for 14 months.

Pedestrianisation plans available

THE CONTRACT to pedestrianise Stafford Street in Oban has finally been published.

And the theme of the area is to be 'remembrance'.

Stafford Street will be converted from an access road, footpaths and planting beds to an open, pedestrian-friendly zone providing an attractive public amenity space for the adjoining businesses.

The stated aim of this project is to create a simple and elegant, high quality public realm.

The tender, which is on Public Contracts Scotland, states: 'The aspiration for Stafford Street is to create a terraced, public open space which is clutter free, provides basic services and allows for flexible use.'

'There will be a dual purpose retaining wall/seating with incorporation of the remembrance theme.'

'Copter pilot lands safely after alert

DISASTER was averted when a helicopter pilot managed to safely land his aircraft at Oban Airport after reporting a hydraulic leak.

Emergency services in Oban were scrambled, along with rescue services at the North Connel airport on Sunday afternoon when the report was received from the Navy's Rescue 177 helicopter.

The services were stood down after the helicopter landed safely.

Child sex abuser jailed for five years

Convicted Highland rapist continues to maintain innocence while sentenced

COURT REPORTER
editor@obantimes.co.uk

A MAN who sexually abused three women over a decade has been jailed for five years.

Colin MacDonald, 45, was just 11 years old when he targeted his first victim, who was 10 years old, at an address in Fort William.

The High Court in Edinburgh heard how he both raped the young girl and sexually abused her between May 1981 and January 1987 in locations in Fort William and Inverness.

He also sexually assaulted a girl between May 1981 and June 1983 at an address in Fort William. She was just nine years old.

Between August 1988 and August 1991, MacDonald repeatedly abused another girl, aged 13, at an address in the Oban area.

MacDonald was finally charged after his victims plucked up enough courage to contact police about their horrific ordeal.

MacDonald, of Potterhill Gardens, Perth, was found guilty by a jury last month of sexual assault charges.

Sentence had been deferred until Monday before judge Lord Jones in order for the court to obtain reports about MacDonald's character.

During the trial, the court heard MacDonald had been a young boy when he started sexually assaulting his first victim at locations in Fort William and Inverness.

MacDonald claimed that he was innocent and that his victims had made up their stories against him.

He told prosecution lawyer John Scullion: 'I'm the victim of a conspiracy.'

However, the jury did not believe his claims and returned guilty verdicts.

Mr Scullion told the court that MacDonald had one previous conviction for assault in 1994.

On Monday, defence advocate Ronnie Renucci told the court that his client still maintained that he was innocent of any wrong doing.

Mr Renucci added: 'He accepts that prison is inevitable. He will lose his employment and he will lose the lifestyle that he has become accustomed to. I would ask your lordship to be as lenient to him as possible.'

Co-op staff redundancy claim not confirmed

STEVEN RAE
srae@obantimes.co.uk

STAFF at the Co-op store in Oban could lose their jobs after food retailer Lidl takes over the Soroba Road store.

Employees have told *The Oban Times* that the 38 full and part-time workers will be made redundant when the store is taken over.

Lidl has said it would not be appropriate to comment because of ongoing consultations with staff.

Lidl has purchased the building with plans to demolish it and build a new store on the site, and has confirmed it will continue to trade at the current site it leases at Lochavullin Drive until opening the Soroba Road store.

A spokesman for Lidl said: 'Building design has developed significantly over recent years and Lidl is proposing to build a new, advanced, energy-efficient store, the latest concept in Lidl design.'

'Lidl is committed to Oban and

as a result has identified a new location for a store from which Lidl can continue to serve the community of Oban.'

There has not been a date confirmed for construction work to commence, but a meeting between Lidl and the planning department of Argyll and Bute council is scheduled for next week.

The Co-op is also understood to be looking at sites in Oban to maintain its presence as a retailer in the town, including premises in George Street.

A Co-op spokesman said: 'The Co-operative Food has a clear vision to be the best local food retailer in the UK, and over the coming years our main focus will be to develop our existing convenience store estate, but we cannot comment on specific sites at this time.'

It is unknown what will happen to the current store leased at Lochavullin Drive once Lidl ceases trading from there.

Quota call for wild fish

A NEW fishing campaign arm of the Scottish Gamekeepers Association (SGA) is calling on the Scottish government to adopt a quota system for 2015 to conserve the country's plummeting wild fish stocks.

Catches of wild salmon and sea trout have dipped alarmingly in the last two years and river ghillies, boatmen, bailiffs and anglers are fearful for an industry worth £113 million.

Analysts expect catch records for 2014, available by the end of the year, to highlight significant problems in Scotland's coastal waters and rivers.

Last week the Marine Conservation Society advised that wild Scottish salmon should no longer be caught for eating because of its conservation status, claiming Scotland had 'no management regime in place to prevent an increase in coastal netting'.



CAPTION CAPTION: caption caption caption caption

Youths rampaged through depot

FOUR teenagers must wait until next month to find out their fate, after admitting causing thousands of pounds of damage by smashing up and flooding a council depot in Oban.

Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentence on Kyle Simpson, aged 19, Jamie Docherty, 17, Joshua Straub, 17 and Steven Graham, 16, for background reports and a full breakdown of the cost of repairs to the messroom, changing room and showers at the council depot at Mill Park.

Three of the teenagers come from Oban: Simpson, Mill Park Terrace, Docherty, Mill Park Place and Graham, Campbell Crescent; Straub lives at Wellington Street, Dunoon. All four admitted the wilful and reckless destruction and damage of property on July 22; Graham also admitted resisting arrest.

Docherty pleaded not guilty to having a knife without reasonable excuse, but Sheriff Small found him guilty, saying: 'I do not find him a credible witness in his own defence.'

The court was told how a neighbour heard sounds of smashing, breaking glass and shouting and called the police.

When officers arrived, the youths were seen leaving the building and arrested. A Stanley knife was found with a closed blade in Docherty's front-left trouser pocket.

All four had been said to be drinking before the incident and after entering the depot building Docherty had returned to his near-by home for his guitar. He claimed he had the knife with him to help change its strings.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty showed the court a series of photographs of the aftermath. He said: 'The building was totally ransacked - it was a scene of devastation.'

A cooker was pulled over and smashed, a microwave broken, the staff's personal lockers damaged and tables and chairs thrown about. The premises were left flooded and unusable.

Sheriff Small deferred sentence until November 13.

OBAN STOVE CENTRE




Sales stock now available

COMPLETE IN HOUSE FITTING SERVICE HETAS

Old Crofters Yard, Soroba Rd, Oban, Argyll, PA344HU
Tel: 01631564790 Fax: 01631562919
info@obanstovecentre.co.uk

FLOORSHOP

EXCEPTIONAL OFFERS ON ALL FLOORING
HUNDREDS OF SAMPLES
CARPETS AND VINYL TO TAKE AWAY
FURNITURE, BEDS AND BLINDS

FOR A PROFESSIONAL AND RELIABLE SERVICE
CALL THE FLOORSHOP TODAY

Telephone: 01631 563316 • Unit 12, Mill Lane, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HA

McEwens

EST 1868
DEPARTMENT STORE

THURSDAY 9TH - SUNDAY 12TH

OCTOBER

VAT FREE SHOPPING

Normal store opening times apply
PLUS open Sunday from 12pm
McEwens still pays the VAT but gives you
the equivalent **20% DISCOUNT!**

George Street, Oban

Full price merchandise only. Selected departments.



LOOK!

your customers do

this advert could be seen by over
35,000 people every week*

*source: JICREG data 01/04/2014

promote your business with

The Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

call our sales team today
01631 568000

Like

like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

Corporate stationery
Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, comp slips

Personal stationery
Matching paper & envelopes,
postcards, address labels

krisp print

Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,
Main Street/Longrow South,
Campbeltown PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

Fort finally get that winning feeling

Comeback victory is first in nearly a year

FOOTBALL
FORT William have pulled themselves from the bottom of the Highland League table with their first win in nearly a year.

The Fort came back from 4-3 to win over Lossiemouth FC on Saturday.

The Claggan Park victory, Fort's first in 11 months, came after a closely-fought battle during which the visiting side were leading more than once.

Lossiemouth opened the scoring in the 24th minute when Willie Mathers fired the ball into the back of the net but it took the Fort only five minutes to draw level with a goal from Gordy McCarrroll.

Then on the stroke of half time Shawn Scott restored the lead back to Lossiemouth.

Not to be disheartened, the home side returned after half time and took just five minutes to equalise when Gordy McCarrroll scored his second goal of the game.

In the 75th minute centre-half Andrew Hardwick's goal brought Fort William back into the lead but the idea of a win was snatched away soon after when Scott Miller made it 3-3 with just four minutes of play left.

But just seconds later Claggan Park erupted when

FOOTBALL

a header from Sean Grant secured the Fort's victory.

After the game, Fort William FC manager Calum MacLean said: 'I was absolutely delighted with the character and resilience my team showed today.'

'To come from behind twice and then fight back from Lossie's late equaliser showed the great team spirit we now have.'

'The only downside was the manner in which we conceded the goals but despite that I'm absolutely delighted both with the performance and the three points.'

After the game Lossiemouth's manager Steven Dunn and his assistant both resigned. He said he felt he had taken his team 'as far as he could'.

To add to the Fort's celebrations, top scorer Nick Stein, 19, signed a two-year contract extension with the club after Saturday's game.

This weekend's away fixture against Forres Mechanics has been postponed due to Forres' cup replay against Elgin City.

Fort's next game is against Rothes at Claggan Park on Saturday, October 25.



James Whyte, Barna Tot and Sean Grant celebrate Fort's first victory in 11 months. 20_f41football01



Sean Grant scored Fort's winning goal with just minutes to spare. 20_f41football02

Scotland's 'masters' to scale the heights at Ice Factor for mountain rescue funds

CLIMBING
UP TO 70 of the country's top climbers are to descend on Kinlochleven's Ice Factor next month for the Scottish Mixed Masters.

November 1 will see competitors as young as 13 years challenged to scale a 12m route of ice and 'rock' using dry tooling equipment.

Organisers will also donate £10 of every £25 entry fee to the Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team to help the volunteers fund a new extension to their station and to replace vital equipment stolen last year. Kevin Shields, one of the organisers, said: 'The Scottish Mixed Masters looks set to once again attract some

of the country's leading climbers. We plan to have a youth, men's and women's category and I'm also hoping we can attract some para-sport climbers [climbers with a disability].' John Grieve, Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team, added: 'We are very pleased to get support from a local company like Ice Factor, a facility that's also used quite a lot by our members. Any money coming in to Glencoe Mountain Rescue from the event is appreciated.'



Pairs winners Kenny and Helen are on a roll

Kenny MacInnes and Helen Ross (left) receive their prize from Gordon Hamilton after winning the Railway Bowls Pairs competition at Inverlochty on last Sunday. Runners up Robert Hunter and Alan MacDonald are pictured right.

Budding paddle players are encouraged to come and try

TABLE TENNIS

THE FORT William Table Tennis Club returned last week, welcoming players of all abilities.

The club meets in the Nevis Centre every Monday between 6.30pm and 9pm and a fully qualified coach will be on hand who can also be booked for individual training sessions.

Jim Hinchley of Fort William Table Tennis Club said: 'Anyone who doesn't want to join the leagues but wants to come along for a knock about and a bit of fun is welcome, just come along and join in. In this year's season we have some great things planned like mixed doubles, the all comers singles, knockout and of course the very popular singles handicap.'

'Whatever your age or experience you are always welcome to come and join us for some good, wholesome and clean fun.'

For further information



Montie Bleasdale and Annette Summers get some practise in with the club's young members John and Maggie Cummings. 20_f41tabletennis01

Lochaber to host solo mountain biking competition

MOUNTAIN BIKING

A WORLDWIDE biking competition will be held in Lochaber on Saturday.

Almost 200 competitors from 22 countries will descend on Nevis Range for the World Solo 24-hour Mountain Bike Championships.

Frazer Coupland, of organisers No Fuss Events, said: 'This is an amazing opportunity, a World Championship on our doorstep, with no admission fee for spectators. We are hoping that locals and mountain bike enthusiasts from across Scotland and the UK will come along and support these riders as they compete for the crown in what can only be described as one of the toughest endurance events in the world.'

The event starts at 12pm on Saturday.

Plockton's double triumph on the green

BOWLS

IT WAS a double triumph for Plockton on Saturday September 27 at the bowling green in the village.

Douglas Hamilton won the open singles summer competition, for the first time, in a close encounter with Kevin Lawley. It is played throughout the summer by bowlers in Skye and Lochalsh.

Following the singles final, teams from Kyle, Kyleakin and Plockton played in the annual Finlayson cup triples.

In the first match Kyle had a narrow victory over Kyleakin. Plockton then beat Kyle by a similar score and in the final match Plockton again had a narrow victory over Kyleakin.

The rain came on steadily at the start of the first match and although it petered out, strong gusts of wind made conditions difficult throughout the afternoon. The Finlayson cup was presented to the Plockton captain Geoff Harrington by Sybil Cameron, daughter of the donor Ian Finlayson.

Lochaber Leisure back with a bang for indoor league

FOOTBALL

LOCHABER Leisure brought the indoor football league back with a bang on Sunday night, beating the Ali Young team 15-0.

Goon Squad achieved a 11-4 victory over MHB in the first round of fixtures in the Ali Young league at the Nevis Centre and Fiorentina Turner were 8-4 winners over Harlem Globe Stoaters.

Barowcy won 7-1 against Nevis Range and in closer-fought games, Portwoy beat Barcelochy 6-4, The Volley were 4-2 up against Outer Milan and HWE beat Inverlochty 4-3.

League standings and fixtures will be available from next week.


find us on
facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk

WEATHER

Thursday Heavy, showery rain but drier later
Winds moderate North East
Temperatures 12°C to 8°C.

Friday Mainly dry, with bright or sunny spells
but heavy showery rain overnight
Temperatures 12°C to 8°C.

Weekend Outlook Heavy rain showers
with some bright spells
Winds moderate South West
Temperatures 12°C to 7°C.

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, October 9, 2014** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right.
All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	05.48	4.1	12.16	0.4	18.11	4.4	***	**
Fri	00.32	0.5	06.23	4.1	12.58	0.5	18.47	4.2
Sat	01.11	0.6	06.59	4.0	13.39	0.7	19.22	4.0
Sun	01.50	0.7	07.34	3.9	14.20	1.0	19.58	3.7
Mon	02.30	1.0	08.09	3.7	15.02	1.3	20.35	3.4
Tues	03.15	1.3	08.48	3.4	15.48	1.6	21.17	3.1
Wed	04.05	1.5	09.35	3.2	16.45	1.9	22.15	2.9

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate