

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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### Halloween Madness



## Parents sorrow at 'waste of life'

LOUISE GLEN  
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THE DEATH of an inspirational island vet has been described as 'a terrible waste of a young life' by her mum, after she was tragically killed in a road traffic incident on the Isle of Mull.

Theresa Wade, 29, from Mull, has been called caring, honest and kind by more than 700 people commenting on her death on social media.

Theresa was killed last Wednesday when her van was involved in an incident with another vehicle on the road between Fishnish and Craignure as she was making her way home after a day of work.

Moments before her death, she had been discussing plans for a Christmas staff dinner, and those who saw her last week said just how happy she looked.

Mum and dad, Mary and Trevor Wade, who for many years ran the Bayview grocery store in the village of Bunnassan and now live in Oban, said they were



TRAGIC: Theresa Wade, left, with her sisters, Louise and Rosie.

devastated by their loss. Mary said: 'When we visited the crash site on Monday, a CD cover from one of Theresa's bands was left behind with the words 'It'll be fine.' A message that Mary believes is for her.

Mary said: 'Theresa was very practical and organised from a young age. At the crash site one of the bouquets of flowers has a message on it; it says 'Don't worry Theresa, we will make

sure everything is fine.' Theresa's parents said that the inspirational young woman was always interested in animals, owning horses, cats as well as a hamster. She learned to ride after one of the islanders took her under her tutelage, eventually, as a teenager, getting her own Highland pony, Skerry.

Mary and Trevor say she was an excellent singer who sang in the school choir, before she

became too shy, and was a fine violinist - a talent she continued into adulthood.

Mary continued: 'She really enjoyed ceilidh music and dancing.' Mary laughed: 'For her small height [just over five feet] she was strong and was able to throw anyone across the floor in a Strip the Willow.'

That strength was also vital to the work that Theresa did with both commercial and domestic animals. Many of the tributes paid to the young woman are about her humane, kind and caring treatment of all animals.

Taking on veterinary work experience from an early age, Theresa worked on farms and crofts, as well as a spell at Oban Wildlife Park where she was able to work with more exotic breeds, such as monkeys and snakes.

From the age of 12, Theresa lived in Oban Glencruitten Hostel before moving into halls at university - but she never missed a trip back home to Mull, which she did every weekend.

Mary said: 'Theresa loved Mull, it was her ambition to become the vet there and we were delighted when last July she took over the veterinary practice on the island.'

Mary continued: 'From going to high school in Oban [where she was the dux], Theresa knew she wanted to be a vet.

'At Glasgow University she studied very hard and excelled at what she did.'

Before relocating her practice to Mull last year, Theresa had a job in Fort William which allowed her to work across the north of Scotland and at the same time return home to her parents in Oban and to Mull most weekends.

Last July she took over the Mull practice and had set about continuing to improve and expand the business. In the last few weeks she had purchased a cow pregnancy scanner.

Trevor said he was taking time to remember all the fun he had with his eldest daughter.

He said: 'Some years ago we went on a hiking holiday together - in spite of having incredibly sore feet and having received medical treatment for them, she was determined to finish the walk.'

'That was my girl - strong and determined. She would be very angry this has happened to her.'

Theresa's partner for more than 10 years, Charles Pease, who lived with Theresa at the Kinloch Hotel in Pennyghael, Mull, said: 'The captain of the ship has gone ashore - but the journey is not over, we will be together again.'

'She was in the wrong place at the wrong time. I have been overwhelmed by the kindness of people who have spoken or written to me.'

The family praised the police and emergency services and the staff at the vets on Mull for their support at such a difficult time.

Theresa is survived by two sisters - Rosie and Louise, who are both nurses, and a niece Sophie.

## Textile festival returns

FASANTA Festival of Textiles and Fashion will return to Oban for the third consecutive year on Friday to celebrate Jewels of History.

As well as a full weekend of workshops, talks, discussion and exhibitions celebrating Scotland's textile heritage, Fasanta will also feature a community programme in the Corran Halls, Oban.

On Friday afternoon primary schools from Argyll, including Park, Achaleven, Taynult and Dalmally will participate in workshops led by textile expert Carol Hamilton to create two fabulous outfits to be modelled at the Community Catwalk Show that evening at 7.30pm.

The Fasanta market place will also be open in the Corran Halls, with a great selection of products by makers from all over Scotland. Stall holders will be providing 'taster sessions' to allow visitors a chance to try out a new skill.

The market place will also be home to Fasanta children's activities.

Award-winning Gaelic singer Rachel Walker will perform a new composition titled Seudan (Jewels) on Saturday November 7 at 8pm.

## Susie Wolff calls it a day on F1

WILLIAMS F1 test driver Susie Wolff, from Oban, is to retire from motorsport.

Susie, 32, was the first woman to take part in a Grand Prix weekend for more than 20 years - but told BBC News on Wednesday morning: 'My goal was to get onto the starting grid and that didn't look achievable. So I had to call it a day. There was very little opportunity to carry on in Formula 1.'



## Islay man six times over limit

AN ISLAY man, who was nearly seven times over the drink-drive limit, has been banned from driving for three years.

Alistair Peter Learmond's car was stopped shortly after he drove off the ferry in Oban on September 2.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said police received an anonymous call that a car was being driven erratically and police officers stopped the car after seeing it cross the white line on several occasions.

Learmond, 34, of 6 Glen Road, Bridgend, admitted drink-driving at Corran Esplanade on September 2; he had a breath-test reading of 142 mcg of alcohol in 100ml of breath. The limit is 22.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC, handed down a community payback order for 100 hours of unpaid work along with the three-year driving ban.

## Children who care about Pudsey Bear ...

PRIMARY six and seven pupils at Rockfield Primary School in Oban showed what big hearts they have this week when they drew pictures for business advertisers in the Oban Times for a Children in Need fundraising feature. The pictures, which can be seen on page eight, show off the youngsters' graphic design talents and offer a different twist on the businesses which have chosen to advertise. Children in Need takes place on BBC 1 on Friday November 13. 17\_145rockfield01



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## Young and old to share a time of remembrance

THE OBAN branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland (RBL) will host a march in memory of all those who have been lost in conflicts throughout the world this Sunday, along Corran Esplanade.

The annual event is a heart-warming display of young and old coming out to share a silence together before wreaths are placed on the war memorial.

For those who are unable to march, a bus will leave the Corran Halls at 10.15am, with the main parade starting at 10.45am.



Sea Cadet Rhys Neil, 8, will march with the Royal British Legion Scotland to the war memorial on Sunday. 17\_145popyy04

## Ahoy! Name the boat for new adventure playground

A COMPETITION for local kids to name the magnificent boat in the newly-built Oban play park and to win an iPad mini will go live today [Thursday] on Facebook.

A shortlist of five names was selected by the Oban Times and Friends of Oban Community Playpark and will appear on the friends' Facebook page.

A short survey will ask people to declare their favourite boat name from The Swashbuckler, HMS Community Spirit, The Jewel of Oban, The Scallywag and The Yo Ho Ho.

Voting will close at midnight



on Tuesday, November 10, with the name announced at the at the play park opening party at noon on Sunday November 29.

An Eden Court, Comar and Ed Littlewood Productions co-production

### HECTOR

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"A poignant and powerful insight into (Hector) MacDonald" - **The Herald on Sunday**

"(Hector) deserves the wider audience it will find" - **The Scotsman**

"A tragic thriller full of contemporary resonances... some bright young button at the BBC should snap up this script." - **The Spectator**

"A cracking yarn!" - **The Mail on Sunday**

"Great storytelling gives clarity to the complex tale of Hector MacDonald, Victorian hero fallen from grace" - **The Stage**

"Dynamic, eventful and utterly enthralling, when you watch it you completely forget that, as a critic, you should be looking for flaws. In fact, there weren't any..." - **TV Bomb**

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## Mull rugby's Reay on film

FANS of Scottish rugby are delighted Mull made it into the final cut of the We Deal in Real Land Rover world cup movie.

The film, which lasts 90 seconds, gives an emotional summing up of 'one of the best' Rugby World Cups in decades. It features characters from all over the world, but focuses on male and female players from Mull.

The penultimate scene on the film is the ever-popular Mull Rugby Club groundsman Reay Whyte from Salen who started a social media frenzy after his 'serious' face on the Land Rover advertising campaign went viral.

## Better sound in Cullipool

CULLIPOOL hall committee Isle of Luing announced this week it had received a £2,288.80 grant from the Big Lottery Awards for All Fund.

This has enabled the committee to have a sound audio system installed by Audio Light Systems in the hall and connected to the hearing loop.

Islander Jean Alexander, hall secretary, said: 'The hall has needed this facility for many years, and our thanks go to Awards for All for providing the grant towards this installation.'

## Police merger plans on hold

POLICE Scotland has put plans to merge the divisions covering Argyll and Bute and West Dunbartonshire with Inverclyde and Renfrewshire on hold for at least a year.

The proposal attracted widespread opposition last year from communities in rural areas fearful that policing issues in smaller areas would be overlooked for urban priorities.

The consultation centred around restructuring local policing in the K and L divisions, K covering Inverclyde and Renfrewshire, and L, which is Argyll and Bute and West Dunbartonshire.

## Council land will be sold

FOLLOWING the demolition of three Argyll and Bute council owned properties on Lochside Street, Oban, vacant plots will be available to purchase, a councillor has said.

In response to a question by The Oban Times, Roddy McCuish said: 'Because they were council buildings, the land had to go on the market.'

The eight Oban and Lorn councillors will have the final say as to what happens with the development.



LIFE-SAVER: Health minister Shona Robison MSP unveils the EC135 helicopter.

# New life-saving helicopter takes to the air in Argyll

ARGYLL and the islands are set to benefit from enhanced air ambulance coverage as the country's only charity-funded service unveils its new life-saving helicopter.

After two years of nationwide operations, Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA) has upgraded to a larger, faster and more powerful EC135 T2i.

Its arrival heralds the retirement of the last Bolkow 105 air ambulance in the UK which originally launched SCAA's service in 2013 and has been deployed to emergencies in

Argyll on many occasions. The new EC135 is expected to be fully operational at SCAA within the next two weeks with crew training now in its final stages.

Scotland's Health Minister, Shona Robison MSP, officially marked this major new phase in the charity's development when she attended a reception at SCAA's Perth Airport base on Friday.

Ms Robison said: 'Within little more than two years Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance has become an integral part of our vital emergency services,

responding to over 850 call outs from the Highlands and Islands to the Borders and providing an invaluable service to the people of Scotland.

'I congratulate SCAA on their outstanding achievements to date and in upgrading their aircraft which will allow them to provide a more enhanced life-saving service to the people of Scotland.

'This new helicopter will mean that the Charity Air Ambulance can now fly further and faster than ever before. This will help the air

ambulance provide an even better service to the people of Scotland who will need it most.'

The newly acquired EC135 - the most widely used helicopter type in air ambulance service worldwide will: increase the speed, range, endurance and payload, allow SCAA to fly at night and in cloud, offer a larger cabin which would allow a family member or a physician to fly with the patient and allow better access to the patient in flight and allow SCAA to carry a maternity seat and an incubator.

## Oban group supports new council proposals for permanent pontoons

A COMMUNITY group which campaigned for a transit marina in Oban Bay has given its backing to plans for a permanent facility brought forward by Argyll and Bute Council.

For eight years Oban Bay Marine (OBM) campaigned for pontoons, raising a significant amount of money through pledges for its scheme.

After many years of discussion, Argyll and Bute Council has now agreed to take forward plans for a permanent solution for

seafarers to the town centre. A spokesman for OBM said: 'The directors are pleased to learn of Argyll and Bute Council's area committee decision to proceed with the option to deliver a permanent berthing facility for Oban by 2017, including cruise ship tender berth and transit marina for visiting vessels.'

'After eight years of developing proposals and campaigning for such a facility, OBM is pleased the council has finally made this decision and wish them every success.

The spokesman continued: 'The council's decision follows the success of its recent pontoon development, and lessons learnt, at Campbeltown, plus their decision to retain the temporary cruise ship tender facility at the Oban Times slip, rather than develop a further interim solution for 2015/16. OBM has provided the council the benefit of their expertise, groundwork and local knowledge, and continue to offer their full support. The directors take this opportunity to thank all those

who have supported them and their proposals over the years, especially the local businesses and individuals who have provided funding or who have provided services at no cost - your support has not been in vain.'

'With the council having committed to moving the development forward, the directors of OBM are now setting about winding up the company and look forward to 2017 and to the benefit that the development will finally bring to Oban.'

## Ambitious land reform proposals are outlined

THE BENEFITS of the Land Reform Bill will be potentially life-changing for individuals and communities across Scotland, Environment Minister Dr Aileen McLeod said on Monday.

The minister said the government was listening and keen to consider further improvements to the land reform proposals, which already include radical plans, including establishing a permanent Scottish Land Commission.

The commission will end the stop-start nature of land reform in Scotland and have the potential to help deliver further reforms.

The Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee, Dr Aileen McLeod said: 'There is no doubt that the land reform bill will be potentially life-changing for individuals and communities across Scotland.'

'Our proposals are about equality and fairness, empowering communities with practical powers and supporting sustainability.'

'This ambitious and radical bill is a vital next step in the land reform journey. The measures in the bill make important changes to specific rights and responsibilities over land, including provisions to increase the transparency of land ownership, which have never before been seen in this country. I have followed the committee's consideration of the bill carefully and I look forward to discussing the provisions of the bill with them later today. I am open to ideas and suggestions relating to Scotland's land reform journey and will continue to work with all those with an interest to ensure that our land benefits the people of Scotland for generations to come.'

## Former MP slams ward boundary proposals

THE FORMER MP for Argyll and Bute has told the boundaries commissioner to 'reverse its decision' and needs to 'tear up its plans' for changes to council wards.

Alan Reid, who is now the Liberal Democrat candidate for Argyll and Bute, slammed the ward boundary proposals for Argyll and Bute Council as 'the most ridiculous he has ever seen' in a submission to the Boundary Commission.

Mr Reid said: 'These ward boundary proposals are the most ridiculous I have ever seen. The Boundary Commission must tear them up and start again from scratch.'

In his submission to the Boundary Commission he said: 'I objected last year to the cut in councillors from 36 to 33.'

'The only solution is to reverse last year's bad decision to reduce ward numbers and start again with 36 councillors.'

## MULL lines

### Mull author hits the high notes with festival award

MULL author and musician Colin MacIntyre has won the 2015 Edinburgh International Book Festival's First Book Award for his debut novel *The Letters of Ivor Punch*.

The First Book Award encourages the book festival audience to discover the wealth of debut fiction featured in the festival programme each year and vote for their favourite.

*The Letters of Ivor Punch* has been described by festival organisers as a 'beguiling tale of secrets and sadness with a keen sense of place, on a remote Hebridean island'. It introduces a pioneering female travel writer, two fatherless boys and a man who, quite literally, fell from the sky. At the centre of it all sits the figure who links the past to the present - the irrepressible, unforgettable Ivor Punch, who will not be taking his secrets to the grave.

Following the announcement last week, Colin MacIntyre said: 'I am absolutely thrilled to be the recipient of the 2015 Edinburgh International Book Festival's First Book Award. I had a wonderful time appearing at the festival this year and would like to thank everyone involved for this very exciting honour - my publishers W&N Books, my agent James Gill, and extra special thanks to everyone who voted for my novel.'

MacIntyre is an award-winning musician who has released six albums to date, including two top-20 albums under the name Mull Historical Society. He has toured worldwide with acts including The Strokes, Elbow and REM.

Nick Barley, director of the Edinburgh International Book Festival, said: 'As a songwriter, Colin seems always to have been a natural storyteller. Perhaps it was only a matter of time before he turned his abilities to the longer form of the novel. It is fitting that the man best known as Mull Historical Society has crafted a story to which he has put his own name, yet it is a novel which owes so much to his roots on the island of Mull. Such powerful storytelling resonated strongly with readers at the book festival, making Colin a runaway winner in voting for the First Book award.'



AWARD: Colin MacIntyre. Photograph courtesy of Dan Massie

## School Ship Tobermory sets sail from Mull

WORLD-FAMOUS writer Alexander McCall Smith relaxed in the embrace of Tobermory as he launched his new book.

His story *School Ship Tobermory* is the first book in a new adventure series for younger readers and was launched on the Mull on October 15.

Alexander McCall Smith, creator of *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* travelled over to the island on his small boat from Morvern.

He was greeted by crowds at a signing at the local bookshop, Tobermory Tackle and Books, followed by a family event at Aros Hall. He finished the day with a literary dinner at Hebridean Lodge where he thanked the people of Mull for his warm welcome and for giving him their blessing on naming his *School Ship Tobermory*.

Alexander and his publisher Hugh Andrew of Birlinn were delighted to bring the book to Tobermory first before it is seen, read and talked about around the globe. Co-publishers are already in place in America and Australia.

Accompanying the author was the book's illustrator, Iain McIntosh. Iain and Alexander have worked together for many years and Iain's work is easily recognised, not only from his illustrations for Alexander's *44 Scotland Street* series, but also for a fine example of his work which appears large on the wall of Tobermory

Distillery beside the harbour and engraved into the glass of their door.

*School Ship Tobermory* tells the story of Ben and Fee MacTavish who are off to a new school.

This is no ordinary school - it's the *School Ship Tobermory*, where young people from all over the world train to be sailors and learn about all things nautical. And what adventures they have.

'When a film crew arrives on another ship, the *Albatross*, Ben is one of the lucky ones to be chosen as a movie extra. But after a day's filming, his suspicions are aroused - are the director and his crew really making a film or are they up to something more sinister.'

Alexander McCall Smith said: 'Launching the *School Ship Tobermory* in Tobermory itself was a wonderful idea of the publishers. I am delighted this new series for younger readers is based here and I look forward to writing future books in the series.'

'The *School Ship Tobermory* will be visiting many different parts of the world but it will always return to its home port - and what a wonderful home port that is.'

Iain said: 'Being involved in the book launch was wonderful.'

'Tobermory Harbour is the perfect setting for the book and a real highlight was meeting harbour master Jim Traynor.'



NEW CHAPTER: Alexander McCall Smith sails into Tobermory to launch his new book.

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# Bravery award for teen who saved grandfather

**LOUISE GLEN**  
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A TEENAGER, who saved his grandfather's life after he fell off a boat, has been awarded the Chief Coastguard's commendation.

Andrew Paton, 13, told HM Coastguard that his grandfather Sandy Malcolm, aged 82, had gone overboard from their boat in Lower Loch Fyne.

The incident happened between Tarbert and Portavadie on September 5 this year.

Andrew reported calmly and concisely to the coastguard that his grandfather – who has a heart condition – had fallen

from the boat but could not get back on board.

The teenager had managed to get a line to Mr Malcolm and was holding onto one end of the rope while making the 999 call from the boat.

A Mayday relay call was made by the coastguard and boats in the area were able to track down Andrew because he had given a clear and concise position.

As he saw the other craft approaching, he sounded a horn to help further identify his location.

Mr Malcolm was rescued from the water and taken by the assisting vessel to Tarbert, from where he was airlifted to hospital by rescue helicopter. He has since

made a full recovery.

At the weekend Andrew was presented with a special certificate of commendation for his actions at a ceremony held at Troon RNLI.

As a surprise for the teenager, the Royal Navy search and rescue helicopter based at HMS Gannet, Prestwick, was able to incorporate a short flypast as part of its duties that day.

In the commendation, Chief Coastguard Keith Oliver said: 'Throughout this incident, Andrew remained on the line to the coastguard and calmly conveyed all details asked of him during this operation, which was made more difficult by the remoteness

of the location.

'Andrew is to be congratulated on his calmness, bravery and effective actions on that day, which undoubtedly saved the life of his grandfather.'

Andrew said: 'I had to get him out. I am very excited about getting this award.'

'My advice to other people going out on similar trips would be to always wear a lifejacket, let someone on the shore know when you are leaving and when you are due to return. And always have a means of contacting someone ashore in case there is a problem.'

His mother, Christine, said: 'I am so proud of the calm and

common sense approach that Andrew took when faced with this life-threatening situation.'

Mr Malcolm said: 'I was under the water and knew I had to get to the surface. When I saw Andrew in the boat coming towards me, I had every confidence that things would turn out all right.'



**HONOURED:** Andrew Paton, 13, who saved his grandfather Sandy Malcolm, 82, left, was presented with a medal by Chief Coastguard Keith Oliver.

# Community council backs parents fighting ASN cuts

**LOUISE GLEN**  
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PUPILS in every single class in Argyll will suffer if 'cruel' cuts are approved to cut additional support needs (ASN) staff, say the parents of seriously incapacitated children in Oban.

Campaign group Argyll and Bute Parents Against Council Cuts (AB-PACC) said the knock-on effect of losing more than 3,000 hours of support for children will see every child's access to education diminished.

This week parents secured the support of Oban Community Council for its campaign. Promises were made on Monday evening to write to the local authority and raise concerns about the funding



Parents staged a protest outside the council meeting

A spokeswoman for AB-PACC said: 'On Monday night a number of the Oban AB-PACC parents attended a special meet-

ing of Oban Community Council. 'We were given the chance to present our case to some of the community councillors and

some of the local Argyll and Bute councillors, and the press were also in attendance. We are happy to report that the Oban community councillors present voted unanimously to support us in our campaign in asking for the ASN cuts to be removed from the public consultation.

'Oban community council is also going to work with us to hold a public meeting centred on the ASN cuts and how their inclusion would affect every child in education in Argyll and Bute, not just children with additional support needs, but every child in mainstream education too.'

'We need every parent in the communities of Argyll and Bute to get involved and we would advise other parents to contact their local community council and ask for support from them with this.'

'We would like to thank the community councillors for their support.'

Jan Roberts, from Oban, said: 'We are parents who do not understand the way the council works. What we do know about is our children and the support they require to access school.'

'The local authority has a statutory obligation to offer our children support – so I think that in the long run there is very little it can do to cut that provision.'

'However, children who have lesser needs may see their provi-

sion cut. Perhaps those children who need support and benefit from one-to-one time.

'Cutting the support staff means everybody in school will be affected, from the teachers to the pupils. The wider implications of how this could affect children's education has not been thought through.'

Julie McKenzie, a community councillor, said: 'I'm really pleased to say that at a special meeting on Friday night my fellow Oban Community Councillors and I all voted unanimously to back AB-PACC with their campaign.'

The council has launched its consultation document on proposed cuts, which can be found on its website until December.

# Man charged with dangerous driving

A MAN has appeared in court accused of causing the death of a woman on the Isle of Mull.

Thomas Wainwright, 26, has been charged with death by dangerous driving after a crash near Craignure last Wednesday night, October 28. He is also accused of failing to provide a sample of breath.

Wainwright, who lives in France, made no plea or declaration during the private hearing at Paisley Sheriff Court last Friday evening.

Wainwright was remanded in custody after the hearing, and his case was continued for further examination.



Minke whales off Scotland's west coast increased in 2015.

# Minke whale baby boom

SIGHTINGS of juvenile minke whales off Scotland's west coast increased to the highest ever recording within a survey season.

Marine research expeditions, carried out by Mull-based Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust, indicated either a significant increase in actual numbers or an influx of minke whales from elsewhere. The charity's 2015 research season also recorded the highest annual number of common dolphin sightings since its expeditions began, with 723 individuals observed over 63 encounters. The trust's encounter rate with the species has more than doubled in 12 years.

# Sci-fi brothers turn their camera on Oban tower

**STEVEN RAE**  
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WHAT would it be like if McCaig's Tower wasn't actually an iconic amphitheatre, but rather a portal to another planet?

It certainly takes a good imagination to make the link, but that's exactly what a pair of brothers have done. They have filmed three episodes of a self-made science fiction show in and around Oban.

Douglas and Andrew Kyle began making Pandora Men last year on Orkney, where Douglas now lives.

They describe the show as 'Doctor Who meets the X-Files meets Sapphire and Steel meets the Twilight Zone'.

Now into season two, Andrew, from Tainuill, suggested shoot-

ing in and around Oban for three episodes, with the famous 19th-century tower being used as a backdrop and plot device in one of the episodes.

Andrew explained: 'The episode set in Oban is called The Folly of McCaig, and a further episode filmed in Airds Wood, near Fearnoch, is called Primitive Eyes.'

'The series has monsters, madmen and mysteries, and enough film and TV references to keep any geek happy.'

'The Folly of McCaig deals with some sci-fi poetic licence, with the story of the tower itself.'

'The whole show is filmed using a £300 camcorder and low-budget effects.'

The brothers hope the episodes will appeal to people with an interest in the local area, as well



Andrew, left and Douglas Kyle, during filming in Oban at the viewpoint at Pulpit Hill

as sci-fi fans worldwide.

For more information, and for links to episodes, visit: www.facebook.com and search for The Pandora Men.

# Music won't stop as Trail West fans donate £11,000

**DAVID MCPHEE**  
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AN 'OVERWHELMING' show of a support for a ceilidh band saw more than £10,000 donated in less than a day to replace equipment stolen in Glasgow.

Trail West has now organised a special 'thank you' ceilidh on January 9 to thank everyone who came to their aid.

When Dr John Holliday on Tiree heard that the island musicians had been the target of thieves, he set up a crowd funding website to help them replace some of the instruments.

Setting the bar at £5,000, Trail West musicians Ian Smith, Andrew Findlater, Alain Campbell and Seonaidh MacIntyre saw that target and more raised in a day.



DELIGHTED: The band plan a special ceilidh for all who supported them.

A statement on the band's Facebook page read: 'Wow!!!! Our crowd funding page has only been up since midday and we've already reached our target! 'Completely overwhelmed

# Nine months for disqualified driver who sparked car chase

A DISQUALIFIED driver who 'panicked' when he was spotted, sparked a high-speed police chase through the streets of Oban, the town's sheriff court heard last week.

Other motorists had to brake sharply as James Hendry sped away through road junctions, mounting the pavement, and weaving in and out of traffic until the risk to the public was so great that the police stopped.

'Police decided it was too dangerous for them to continue, so in police terms, the chase was 'stood down', said procurator Eoin McGinty.

The officers then drove round the town looking for the VW Golf, which belonged to Hendry's partner.

They found Hendry, 34, of 1 Hill Street, Oban, walking through Argyll Square. The car was found in the alleyway by the Royal Hotel; the hotel's CCTV showed Hendry taking off his hat and jacket and dropping them there before walking away.

Hendry admitted three charges: driving while disqualified, driving dangerously at excessive speeds and

without insurance on October 2. Mr McGinty told the court that when police saw Hendry, whom they knew to be disqualified, they signalled for him to stop but he took off along Stevenson Street, failing to give way at the junction and causing another car to brake sharply. He broke the speed limit in Glencruitten Road, turned onto Quarry Road and then Sinclair Drive, where he went through a stop sign and mounted the pavement. By the time he reached Mossfield Avenue he was weaving in and out of slower-moving traffic.

Edward Thornton, Hendry's defence agent, said: 'He simply panicked when he realised he had been seen.'

The car belonged to his partner and had been parked on Star Brae; he went to collect the car to save the driver the walk up the steep hill to collect it.

'He accepts it was gross stupidity on his part,' said Mr Thornton.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC sentenced Hendry to a total of nine months in jail and disqualified him from driving for two years and ruled that he must resist

# Ferry procurement panel gives project green light

THE first report from the Independent Procurement Reference Panel has said that the first stage of the tender process for the contract to operate the Clyde and Hebrides Ferry Services (CHFS) was fair, open and transparent.

The panel was set up to provide assurances that nothing was being done in the procurement that could be perceived as discriminating against either of the bidders, Serco and Caledonian MacBrayne.

The panel consists of representatives from the following organisations: Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar, Argyll and Bute Council, North Ayrshire Council, Highland Council, Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Scottish Tourism Alliance, Ullapool Harbour Trust, Scottish Trades Union



Congress, National Farmers Union Scotland, Mobility Access Committee Scotland, Tiree Community Council, Islay and Jura Ferry Committee, Isle of Mull and Iona Ferry Committee, and Arran Ferry Committee.

CalMac is currently the operator of the UK's largest ferry network and last year the network carried 4.65 million passengers.

# Balvicar motorist fined £500

A BALVICAR man lost his driving licence after he admitted drink-driving on June 6 this year on the B844 south of Kilfinver.

Roderick McDonald, 49, of 2 Clachan Dubh Cottage, was banned at Oban Sheriff Court last week after he was found to be nine microgrammes over the legal drink-drive limit.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said a passing motorist found McDonald's BMW crashed in a ditch and extensively damaged. The driver checked the vehicle, found no one but saw that the airbags had been deployed and called the police. He later passed McDonald

walking home and offered him a lift, but he declined saying a friend was on the way.

The following morning McDonald went to Oban Police Station and reported that he had crashed his car. When breathalysed he gave a reading of 31 mcg alcohol in 100ml breath; the legal limit is 22.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson said: 'He waited, but he didn't wait long enough.'

McDonald's defence agent said: 'He accepts he was drinking the night before.'

McDonald was fined £500 and disqualified from driving for a year.

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### Drivers face A828 delays

TRAFFIC will be held up next week as resurfacing work takes place near Connel Bridge. When the resurfacing works reach the narrowest section on the A828 at Connel Bridge, traffic will be held once for approximately 30 minutes in each direction while the works at this short length are carried out. This is scheduled to take place in the early hours to minimise disruption to motorists. The work, being carried out by BEAR Scotland, starts on Monday November 9, overnight for four nights, between 7pm and 7am on the A828 southern approach to the bridge. No weekend work is planned. Traffic management will be removed outside of working hours, however, care should be taken as vehicles will be running over a temporary surface. The upgrade is part of £85,000 for resurfacing works invested by Transport Scotland. Arrangements will be made for local residents to access Ferryfield Road and Ferryfield Drive while the improvements are carried out next to these junctions, however, it is anticipated this short section will be completed over one night.

### Capital date for painting

A PAINTING owned by Argyll and Bute Council is to go on display at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art as part of an exhibition celebrating the work of Scottish female artists. Hôpital Auxiliaire d'Armée 301, by Norah Neilson Gray, was gifted to the council by the artist's sister in 1984. From November 7, the oil painting will be on loan to the Edinburgh gallery until July 1 2016 and will be on show as part of its Modern Scottish Women exhibition.

Oban Times newsdesk 01631 568000

# Town service marks dedication of Oban's Garden of Remembrance



SMART: Air Training Corps members and Oban Sea Cadets were on parade at the remembrance garden dedication service. 17\_145poppy03

#### STAFF REPORTER

THE OBAN Garden of Remembrance was dedicated on Saturday afternoon, with a short service led by Rev Ian McFarlane of the town's Baptist Church.

Mr McFarlane is also Chaplain to the Oban branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland and a former RAF chaplain. Graham MacQueen, depute Lord Lieutenant, placed a cross during the service.

Vice chairman of the Legion in Oban, Ian Blair Simmonds, also spoke and piper Tamara Campbell played during a minute's tribute.

Branch secretary Marjory Gilmour said: 'This is a very appropriate place for the Garden of Remembrance, on George Street, in the centre of town and we are grateful to Argyll and Bute Council for giving this large flower bed and clearing the perimeter for people to place crosses in memory of their loved ones. The red flowers make a beautiful backdrop to all the poppies. The tall poppies were placed by the Legion; and each one represents a name on the town's war memorial.'

The TS Pharos 635 Oban Sea Cadets and the 2521 Oban High School Air Training Corps were on parade for the service and the youngsters then went on to sell poppies in the town centre.

As well as Remembrance Sunday's formal service at the town's war memorial, there will be a short informal service at 11am on November 11 at the Garden of Remembrance.



DEDICATION: piper Tamara Campbell, Graham MacQueen and Rev Ian McFarlane. 17\_145poppy01



SOLEMN: Graham MacQueen places a cross. 17\_145poppy02



FUNDRAISERS: Air Training Corp were selling poppies: Corporal Martin Hendricksen, Cadet Duncan Turner and Cadet Alexander Hardie. 17\_145poppy05

### Argyll on starting block of space race

THE POSSIBILITY of Argyll having the UK's first spaceport moved a step closer when the government invited potential candidates to submit proposals.

The Department of Transport (DoT) is currently working on the specification of what it wants a spaceport to be, with the aim to launch tourists into space by 2018.

Machrihanish Airbase in Kintyre, Stornoway airport on the Isle of Lewis, Glasgow Prestwick Airport, Newquay Airport and RAF Llanbedr in Wales are the main contenders.

Council leader Dick Walsh said in August that Argyll and Bute would be 'transformed' if the bid by Machrihanish was successful. The council is in a partnership with Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC) for the bidding. The consortium is led by MACC subsidiary company, Discover Space UK.

The spaceport is intended to be used to launch both human-carrying flights and commercial satellite missions.

A spokesman for the DoT said: 'The government is developing a detailed technical specification to increase understanding of what a spaceport is and the detailed technical requirements for spaceplane operations. There is a lot of work to be done - this is very cutting edge. The various locations will be asked to submit proposals in due course.'

A spokesman for Western Isles Council said it had agreed to work with Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) to try and win the contract for Stornoway.

By 2030, experts say the wider UK space industry will be worth an estimated £40 billion and provide 100,000 jobs.

It is hoped spaceports will become hubs for commercial flights into space, as well as super-fast, round-the-world flights, including the UK to Australia in just two hours.

## Providing young people with skills to work towards a bright future

YOUNG people are being given the opportunity to gain valuable work experience, learn new skills and work towards national qualifications, through Argyll and Bute Council's Modern Apprentices scheme.

Eleven local young people have been employed as Modern Apprentices with the council over the past year, with a further six at the recruitment stage and plans in place for up to ten additional posts.

Last year the council committed to providing at least 25 Modern Apprenticeships in Argyll and Bute's major towns covering a broad range of skills and services - an exciting initiative

from a major local employer. At their meeting on Thursday October 29, members of the council's Policy and Resources Committee noted the success of the scheme and endorsed plans for the future, which include funding five driving lessons for eligible Modern Apprentices working towards obtaining a driving license, and to extend the age criteria for Modern Apprentices from 16-19 to 16-24.

The council's Policy Lead for Human Resources, Councillor Dick Walsh, said: 'Young people are the building bricks of Argyll and Bute, and the Modern Apprenticeship scheme gives them the skills, qualifications and confidence

to help build a strong future for our communities.

'I am sure that as well as gaining valuable skills and work experience, our Modern Apprentices will also prove to be a real credit to the council.'

'The council's Single Outcome Agreement is committed to ensuring that young people have the best possible start, and that education, skills and training maximise opportunities for all.'

'It is fantastic that we are able to make this a reality for young people in towns all across Argyll and Bute.'

Modern Apprenticeships give young people the chance to earn while they

learn. They provide the opportunity to gain invaluable work experience and work towards nationally recognised qualifications while earning a basic wage.

The Argyll and Bute Council Modern Apprentices are learning and earning across the spectrum of council services - from business administration to mechanics, from IT to customer services, and other council departments.

Modern Apprentice posts are advertised at Argyll and Bute Council's page on the myjobscotland website which you will find at www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/councils/argyll-bute-council

### Celebrating past heroes

RESIDENTS of Argyll and Bute are being asked to nominate historic Scottish figures they would like to see celebrated with a commemorative plaque by Historic Environment Scotland.

Those chosen will be remembered with a plaque, detailing their accomplishments, on a significant landmark that has a connection to the Scottish figure.

Martin Ross, Policy and Projects Manager for Historic Environment Scotland, said: 'The plaque scheme is a wonderful way to recognise people who have made a difference to the world around us. Plaques have been made to recognise the contribution of famous poets, Arctic explorers, inventors, literary figures, artists, politicians, and drivers of social change.'

The closing date for completed submissions is January 31. An independent panel will consider all the nominations and select the successful applicants, which will be announced in spring 2016. To find out more or to nominate, visit www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/commemorativeplaques.



DRY DOCK: The Isle of Arran will cover for the Isle of Mull ferry in December. 145ferry01

### CalMac finalises ferry winter care plans

CALMAC has finalised its dry dock arrangements for this year, with vessels moved into different routes to cover the repair work. All 31 vessels in the operator's fleet are required under Maritime and Coastguard Agency regulations to undertake a period of maintenance every 12 months.

CalMac's operations director, Drew Collier, said: 'Arranging dry dock for our fleet is a complex logistical exercise that we try and undertake with minimal potential disruption to our normal services. 'We appreciate our passengers' patience and understanding for the short period of time that

they are not served by their normal vessel.' The Isle of Arran replaces the MV Lord of the Isles until November 11, on the Oban to Coll and Tiree route, while on the popular Oban to Craignure route, the Isle of Arran will replace The Isle of Mull ferry from December 2 to 17.

## Vote for your WINNER!

### Name the play park ship!

A fantastic bespoke ship is one of the exciting features of the new play park planned at Atlantis Leisure, Oban later this year. The ship will be unique to Oban as it has been specially designed for the new play park, and will include a 6-metre high climbing tower, fireman's pole, scramble nets and climbing rocks.

The Oban Times recently asked all children up to the age of 15 years old to send us their suggested name for the ship. Scottish Sea Farms has donated £20,000 towards this fantastic facility and has also donated an iPad mini to give to the lucky winner of this competition.

**The top five names are in!**  
**We are now asking readers to vote for their favourite.**

To vote, simply complete the voting coupon below and send to The Oban Times, Ship Name Vote, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. The closing date for votes is midnight, Wednesday November 11, 2015. Photocopied voting coupons will not be accepted.

The top five nominations are:

1. Ship's name: **The Scallywag**
2. Ship's name: **H.M.S. Community Spirit**
3. Ship's name: **The Jewel of Oban**
4. Ship's name: **The Yo Ho Ho**
5. Ship's name: **The Swashbuckler**

\*\*\*VOTING FORM\*\*\*

My favourite name (please state one of the top five only):

.....

Readers may send in multiple voting coupons in one envelope.  
 Please send forms to: The Oban Times, Ship Name Vote, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB

Voting terms and conditions: Photocopied vote coupons will not be accepted. Digital subscribers can vote by printing this page and completing the voting form and posting to us along with a letter explaining you are a digital subscriber (please provide your email address). Closing date for votes is midnight, Wednesday November 11, 2015.

# Making every single penny count a priority for new BID chairman

STORE MANAGER VOWS TO BUILD ON WORK OF PREDECESSORS AS HE TAKES OVER AS CHAIRMAN FOR TWO YEARS

**LOUISE GLEN**  
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

BID4OBAN's newest chairman says he will build on the work of his predecessors to allow the community-business organisation to flourish.

This week, Andrew Spence, Homebase manager, took over the reins of the business improvement district (BID) company from Graeme Bass who has had to stand down from the chairmanship due to ill health. Andrew said: 'While some may not have heard of the company, BID4Oban, they will be aware of many of the things that it has been doing over the last three years.'

He explained: 'BID4Oban is key supporter of the hugely successful Oban concert Skerryvore Decade, street ambassadors, Hogmanay in Oban, shop-front face lifts, floral displays, and our staff and volunteers meet every cruise ship that comes into port.'

Andrew said he was learning from all the good work BID4Oban had achieved so far, and wanted to carry on the legacy of Graeme Bass and first chairman John Fordeith, to ensure the future of the BID company.

Andrew said: 'I want to make every single levy payer pound work for the improvement of the town.'

All businesses in the town, with a rateable value of more than £3,000 pay a levy of between £3 and £97 a week to the



AT THE HELM: Andrew Spence, manager of Homebase, Oban, has taken over as chairman of BID4Oban. 26\_t45andrew1

BID company, based on the rateable value of the business.

This raises cash to spend on its business plan and to meet its aims of improving the business environment in the town.

Andrew, originally from Inverness, has been in Oban with his family since 2006 and for many years championed the hanging baskets throughout the town.

Andrew said: 'I believe that BID4Oban improves the quality and impact of trade to the businesses and business owners in the town. If BID4Oban wasn't there the town would be much poorer without it.'

'I want to make sure in the last two years [of a five-year term] of the BID, the volunteer group of directors build on the experiences that we have gained to make sure we continue to deliver high-quality events, ideas and initiatives. It is also my intention that BID4Oban continues after its current term.'

Giving examples of the way the community company spends the £140,000 raised from a levy on the town's businesses, Andrew said the impact of that cash was all the more valuable because it allowed for other activities and support to be given just as other cash for such activities is drying up.

He said: 'We have an office team who want to support all the exciting ideas the people of the town come up with to make the events and activities

programme in the town second to none.

'Our belief has always been that the levy should be used to support the ideas and initiatives of people of the area. So that might mean that we help financially but it also means the expertise of our staff is there to support the business community.'

'We have a shop on Stevenson Street that we want to encourage people to come into. I want to hear from levy payers as to how we can continue our success and make further business improvements to the business community of Oban.'

'Everything we do has to have a benefit to our levy payers.'

Stepping down, former chairman Graeme Bass said: 'Andrew is the ideal appointment to lead the BID company into the next phase of its development. He brings a wealth of commercial experience to the role, and has been involved with the BID since its inception and he is truly passionate about delivering value-adding benefits to the business community in Oban.'

Andrew, on behalf of the BID4Oban board, said that Graeme would be a hard act to follow, and thanked him for his time as chairman and for 'staying on the board'.

## TIMESLINE

### Smokehouse lands pate deal with Aldi

AN ARGYLL-BASED business has secured a deal to supply Aldi stores in Scotland.

Inverawe Smokehouse, near Taynuilt, will exclusively provide Aldi with a bespoke recipe of a trio of smoked salmon, trout and mackerel pates in a deal worth more than £46,000 to the West Coast business.

Caroline Campbell, at Inverawe Smokehouse, said: 'We're thrilled to be working with Aldi in Scotland and look forward to growing our relationship with them over the coming months.'

### Gala to celebrate Argyll pipe bands

A FANFARE gala to celebrate Argyll and Bute's young pipers and drummers will be held on Monday.

The rich tradition of piping and drumming in schools and communities across Argyll and Bute will be celebrated next week at a special concert in Lochgilphead.

The Fanfare Gala Concert is being hosted by Argyll and Bute Council's Creative Arts in Schools Team (CAST) in partnership with the Argyll Piping Trust, Creative Scotland and the Youth Music Initiative.

The event will take place in Lochgilphead Joint Campus on Monday November 9 at 7.30pm

The event will see pipers and drummers from across the region coming together to showcase their talents.

### Piano sisters take to St John's stage

A LIVELY piano duo will be entertaining members of the Oban Music Society and visitors to St John's Cathedral on Sunday November 8.

The Bibby Piano Duo are sisters Nicola and Alexandra Bibby, who play on one piano. They have travelled widely in Britain and abroad, where they have been acclaimed as 'a fine partnership who produce a canvas of fluid and ravishing sounds'.

Their programme on Sunday will include well-known pieces such as Carnival of the Animals and the less-familiar Suite by York Bowen, an English pianist in the romantic tradition.

The concert starts at 3pm November 8 with tickets on sale at the door.

For more details, visit: www.obanmusicsociety.org.

### Latest Bond movie a big hit in Oban

OBAN Phoenix cinema staff saw more than 1,000 people through its doors last weekend to view the latest in the 007 James Bond franchise.

Staff also said that more people than ever are buying their sweets and drinks on site and every single penny spent in the cinema is important to keeping the community-owned venture open.

## Council budget consultation launched in Argyll and Bute

CONTROVERSIAL budget cuts that have caused huge concern within Argyll's rural communities have now been put out to the public for debate.

The much-heralded budget consultation on £18 million-worth of savings in Argyll and Bute was launched this week by the local authority.

To meet the demands of decreasing local government grant funding, the council faces an estimated shortfall of up to £26 million.

The local authority has set itself a savings target of around £9 million in both 2016/17 and 2017/18 with further savings in future years.

The local authority has already dismissed plans to in-

crease the council tax, and lose out on government funding for doing so.

The consultation, published on Friday, wants views on 140 options for saving cash.

The leader of Argyll and Bute Council, Councillor Dick Walsh said: 'We would like to do all that our communities want their council to do for them, but drastically reduced funding means that this just is not possible.'

'We must make savings. At the same time we must also continue investing in building a prosperous future for Argyll and Bute.'

'We need therefore to make choices about the work we do. We need to identify what is

most important now, and for our future prosperity. We need to decide how we can make best use of the resources we have.'

'The council has an excellent track record in achieving savings.'

'Over the past six years we have delivered £32 million in savings and recently agreed a further £1 million that can be made without impact on policy, number of jobs or communities.'

'In addition we have been taking steps to identify options for growing income or making savings through innovation.'

'We will continue to provide a broad range of services. We will continue to be a major

employer and we will continue to work with our partners in building prosperity.'

'Delivering the level of savings we must now achieve though means change. It means that there are no easy choices to make.'

'We would like to reach decisions and plan our future together with our communities, employees and partners, which is what this consultation is about.'

'We would encourage as many people as possible to respond and tell us what matters most to them.'

The consultation is available on-line at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planningourfuture and will run until the end of December.



ART MAP WINNER: Peter Burrell from Tayvallich chose a print entitled Two Gannets by Appin artist Kate Spang as his prize.

## Prizewinner Peter back in Appin to collect artwork

VISITORS to Artmap's annual Open Studio Trail entered a prize draw to win £200 towards artwork from one of the red dot studios.

This year's winner was Peter Burrell from Tayvallich who chose a print entitled Two Gannets by Appin artist Kate Spang.

Peter said: 'When I was told I had won the prize it was an easy decision to return to Katy's studio. The tech-

niques she uses together with her imagination have produced a beautiful picture. Artmap is a brilliant initiative, not only for the producers, but also for the customers, introducing them to artists they would otherwise not meet.'

Katy said: 'I was so pleased Peter chose this print. The work came from a series of studies I made of gannets following a trip to Bass Rock earlier this year.'

## Royal Mail gears up to lend a hand to special customer

ROYAL Mail is once again lending a helping hand to one of its special customers, Father Christmas.

For more than 50 years Royal Mail has been helping to make Christmas wishes come true by sending letters to the

North Pole. Royal Mail's Alex McConnell has the important task of ensuring children's letters reach Reindeerland. He

said: 'To ensure Santa receives letters, write to him at Father Christmas, Santa's Grotto, Reindeerland, XM4 5HQ.'

## Conference tackles risk of financial

IN 2014 in Argyll and Bute, 49 people were found to be at risk of financial harm.

This means an individual feels under pressure to hand over money or possessions; exploitation of property or welfare benefits, stealing, fraud or being put under pressure to rewrite a will.

Now, Argyll and Bute adult protection committee is holding a conference on the topic of financial harm, including scams, aimed at all those who come across adults who may be vulnerable. These may include bank and building society managers, solicitors, carers and care providers, utility companies, voluntary organisations and trading standards, as well as NHS, Police Scotland and council employees.

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute council said: 'Financial harm could happen anywhere; in the family home, in a hospital ward, care home, day centre or at work.'

The conference will take place on Thursday November 26, in the Three Villages Hall, Arrochar, from 9.30am till 4pm. To book a place or for any queries contact Scott. Macdonald2@argyll-bute.gov.uk or telephone 01546 604167.

## Bute will welcome Syrian families before Christmas

A GROUP of families fleeing war-torn Syria will arrive in Argyll and Bute before Christmas.

This first group will travel to Bute, where accommodation will be provided by Argyll Community Housing Association and Fyne Homes.

Argyll and Bute Council Provost Len Scoullar, who lives on Bute, said: 'People in Argyll and Bute are known for their warmth and friendliness, as has been proved by the huge offers of support already shown in communities across the area for those seeking refuge from Syria.'

'People on Bute have stepped forward to offer skills and services they have to make the families feel welcome and to help them settle in.'

'This will be invaluable for the families who must be feeling incredibly vulnerable and confused.'

'Our families - and I already feel comfortable calling them our families - are all currently in the Lebanon and, together with the agencies working

overseas, we have been very careful to match their experience and skills with those in our own communities.'

Hopefully this should make it easier for them to find employment.

'We are currently putting in place the arrangements for the support on the island for the first few weeks of arrival and this will include interpreters, health, education and housing services, and we will be taking up the many and very generous offers of support from the community.'

'There is a very detailed project plan that covers these arrangements and makes use of the huge range of support offered by communities.'

The Argyll and Bute Refugee Resettlement Group, made up of Council officials and community planning partners working with the Scottish Government, the Home Office and COSLA, is making arrangements for where families will live, and for meeting other basic requirements. The group is

chaired by Cleland Sneddon, Executive Director of Community Services and the work is being coordinated by Morag Brown, business improvement manager.

Since news of the families' arrival was first confirmed, local people and community organisations across Argyll and Bute have been registering the support and skills they can offer in a newly set up 'skills bank' which collects information and contact details.

The skills bank, set up by the Argyll and Bute community planning partnership, will provide a central contact point for anyone wishing to help, and will match the help on offer to the men, women or children who need it.

If you have goods, skills or other practical help you would like to offer families, please visit <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/argyll-and-bute-welcomes-refugees>, email [morag.brown@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:morag.brown@argyll-bute.gov.uk) or call 01546 604199 for more information.

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- \* Have an annual income from all sources, after deduction of tax, housing costs and any care costs, of less than £12,850.
- \* Have savings / capital of £16,000 or less, excluding the value of their home.

Successful applicants receive Annual Grants of £1,200 along with regular visits and advice if appropriate.

For further information and an application form please contact:  
The Chief Executive, The Royal Society for the Support of Women of Scotland  
14 Rutland Square, Edinburgh, EH1 2BD T: 0131 229 2308  
E: [info@igf.org](mailto:info@igf.org) W: [www.igf.org](http://www.igf.org)

**Kilmore and Oban**

KILMORE and Oban Guild kicked off their Autumn season on Wednesday, October 7, when president Margaret MacLean welcomed 4S Stravaig, from North Berwick, as the entertainment for their first meeting.

The name 4S stands for 'Scotland, in Scene, Song and Story' and comprises Alistair and Jane MacNeill, and Martin Wilson.

All have their origins from the west coast, Alistair from Tiree, Jane from Islay and Martin from Oban.

They presented a programme of digital photographic scenes from Argyllshire's mainland and islands, accompanied by songs and music, history and anecdotes, related to the places seen on screen.

Originally using slides, taken by the members of the group themselves, but having now gone digital, they have been doing these shows since 1980, mainly to Church and social club groups locally in East Lothian, but also further afield, in and around the Central Belt and Scottish Borders.

In June this year, however, following a request from a couple of German visitors who had attended one of the shows whilst on holiday in Scotland, they made a six-day visit to Klingenthal in Saxony, Germany, where they did several shows to enthusiastic locals, many of whom intend to make a visit to experience the country at first hand.

The group is completely self-funded, having been knocked back following application for financial assistance from a national body. They present a range of shows from all around Scotland, including the Orkney and Shetland islands.

**Islay**

ISLAY has been crowned the fastest growing Highland and Islands Airport, with more than 1,000 extra passengers using the runway this quarter, according to Highland and Islands Airports Limited (HIAL).

This is a 12.2 per cent increase compared to 2014. In the same quarter, two aircraft were commissioned by HIAL and began operating from Glasgow to Barra, Campbeltown and Tiree.

Tiree and Barra both had a rise in demand, with 294 more passengers using the Tiree route and 36 more flying to Barra. However, Campbeltown had a 458 reduction, with 14.1 per cent fewer people using the airport.

Inglis Lyon, Managing Director of HIAL, said: 'These are strong figures for the quarter and show that demand on most services and at most airports is increasing.'

The success of smaller island airports such as Islay, Benbecula and Tiree illustrates the important role that aviation plays in connecting remote and island communities. The arrival this summer of two new aircraft serving Barra, Campbeltown and Tiree is further good news for those communities.'

**Muckairn**

MUCKAIRN Church Taynuilt Guild members and guests met recently in the church.

Stella Huntingford led the prayers, Marlene Stanners gave the reading and vote of thanks and everyone sang the hymns 'Christ's the world in which we move' and 'Make us a channel of your peace'.

Conor Smart gave a talk about his work with Whizz-Kidz, a national charity founded in 1990 and only just growing in Scotland. It gives young adults and children who are disabled more confidence and independence enabling them to lead more active and interesting lives. It does this by giving them appropriate wheel-chairs and the training to use them and running clubs. Ambassador clubs for disabled people aged between 10 and 25 years old offer fun and friendship through a variety of activities such as sport, music and drama and are parent-free zones. The aim is that the young people can own and take a leading role in running ambassador clubs themselves.

**Fort Augustus**

FOLLOWING a fire on October 25, the Fort Augustus Health Centre has suffered extensive damage and is unable to open.

Phone divers are currently in place and members of the public are advised that, if they need to speak to anyone from the practice, they should dial the usual number and the call will be answered by the appropriate team.

Out of hours arrangements are operating as normal.

Options for alternative arrangements are still being explored and centre staff will give an update once there is more information available.



Members of Taynuilt Sports Council and Frank Beaton of Beaton and McMurphy Architects, with the new tractor and mower.

**Mowing along nicely at Taynuilt**

TAYNUILT Sports Council was delighted to receive a generous grant award from Awards for All Scotland.

Using the award, for £9,995, and with help from local businesses, the sports council has bought

a tractor and mower to maintain and improve the pitch at Taynuilt.

These new additions secure the long-term future of maintaining the field.

Fraser Inglis of Taynuilt Sports Council, said:

'We have been reliant on help from the golf club in maintaining the field over the last number of years and the sports council would like to acknowledge and thank them for their help. The sports facilities at Taynuilt are being well

used and it is vital we have the equipment to ensure they are at a high standard.

'The fact Awards for All Scotland has rewarded the sports council with such substantial support is great motivation for our committee.'



**Mary's Meals soup lunch boost**

Soup's up! Volunteers from Dalmally-based charity Mary's Meals held another of their successful soup lunches in Connel church hall on Saturday, along with a sale table to further boost the funds which feed so many children around the world. The lunch raised £727.15 which will enable Mary's Meals to feed an additional 120 children for a year. From left: Maureen Nicol, Alistair Nicol, Lynn Ashforth, Dorothy Hitchin, Nan Johnston and Richard and Katie Toogood.

**MP welcomes Scottish Labour's Trident U-turn**

ADDRESSING the monthly Constituency Association meeting of Argyll and Bute SNP, MP Brendan O'Hara welcomed Scottish Labour's U-turn on Trident renewal.

Mr O'Hara, who lives in Helensburgh, said he looked forward to working with his Labour counterpart in Helensburgh, Jackie Baillie, in the fight to stop the UK government spending billions on new weapons of mass destruction.

Mr O' Hara said: 'Labour's decision is welcome and despite our long-standing and continuing political differences I look forward to campaigning with Jackie Baillie against this obscene waste of money.'

**Western Isles**

PEOPLE living in the Western Isles are the happiest in the UK, a new survey has found.

The islands' residents from Lewis to Barra are top of a new list of the happiest areas in the UK, followed by Orkney Islanders, who rank second.

The statistics, released by think tank the Legatum Institute, show the Geography of Prosperity Index (GOPI) for different areas, measuring happiness as well as physical wealth.

The happiest people also contain some of the poorest areas, with incomes in the Western Isles are just £15,000 a year - 135th out of the 170 areas.

The island communities were viewed as happier than mainland areas because of their sense of community and security, the survey found.

**Glencruitten**

RESULTS of the whist drive held at Glencruitten Golf Club on Tuesday October 27 were:

Ladies: 1 Marina MacInnes; 2 Frances MacMillan; consolation: Christine Cameron; travelling prize: Isobel Grout. Gents: 1 Jim Grout; 2 Stuart Cameron; consolation: Alan Jamieson, travelling prize: Lewis McPhee.

The next whist drive is on Tuesday November 10.



EXCAVATION: RSPB Scotland regularly undertakes archaeological studies on its Coll reserves.

**Coll**

ARCHAEOLOGISTS have discovered bronze weapons dating back 3,000 years buried on the RSPB Scotland nature reserve on Coll.

Broken swords and spearheads were found at the site during an archaeological investigation by the Treasure Trove Unit, in co-ordination with National Museums Scotland and the wildlife charity.

In total, 12 objects were excavated from at least seven separate weapons. The Treasure Trove Unit contacted local museums who were given the

opportunity to apply to acquire them for their collections. The weapons have since been handed over to Kilmartin Museum in Argyll.

Jill Harden, RSPB Scotland reserves archaeologist, said: 'This is the first discovery of this size from Argyll for many years. The items were recovered from what had once been a freshwater loch. It seems they had been purposely broken and cast into the waters as part of a ceremony, most likely as offerings or gifts to gods or goddesses.'

**Rural MP highlights broadband problem**

CRANLARICH and Tyn-drum MP, Steven Paterson, called on UK Government ministers to reconsider support for the roll-out of super-fast broadband.

In a speech to the House of Commons during a member's business debate on Super-Fast Broadband

on Monday, October 12, Mr. Paterson used the opportunity to highlight the increasing need for a reliable broadband connection - especially for businesses, fighting to compete in a modern trading arena.

Commenting on the debate, Steven Paterson said:

'I saw this as an important opportunity to hold the UK Government to account on their to-date handling of the super-fast broadband roll-out. It is simply not good enough that only 57 per cent of the Stirling constituency enjoys the benefits of up-to-date broadband services.'

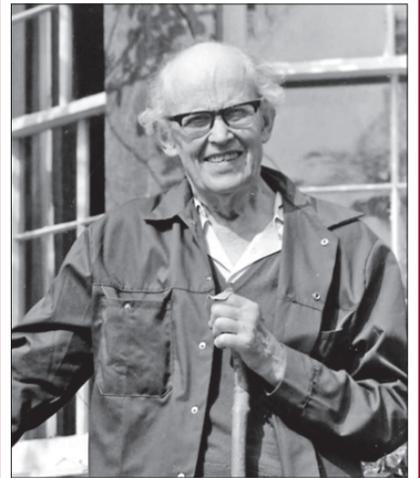
**MORVERN lines**

**Shedding the light on the future for beautiful island of Canna**

WE HAVEN'T heard much about Canna in The Oban Times recently until the week before last when it featured in two places and both on the subject of light.

The first was an intimation that an application had been received by Highland Council to build six large wind turbines on Sanday and the second, an in-house advert, announcing that anyone taking out a subscription to this newspaper would receive, a free, luxurious, hand-crafted and organic candle from the Isle of Canna. If you think I am in danger of becoming flippant read on. This is serious.

Canna is one of the most beautiful of all the Scottish islands and has played a prominent part in the story of the Hebrides for more than 1,000 years. In 1938 it and the nearby islands of Sanday, Heisker and Humla, was bought by the Gaelic-speaking John Lorne Campbell (JLC) a distinguished Celtic scholar and linguist whose writings changed forever our knowledge of the history and culture of these parts.



CELTIC SCHOLAR: John Lorne Campbell of Canna.

JLC was also an environmentalist long before Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) was invented. He combined farming with conservation and showed what could be achieved by an egalitarian laird on an island free from the anglicising influence of what is known as 'the Big House' which usually goes hand in hand with land ownership in Scotland.

In 1981 JLC generously gave Canna and his unique scholarly collections to the National Trust for Scotland (NTS). It was a condition of the gift that the trust maintain a flourishing Hebridean community through a viable and sustainable agricultural regime, preserve the special nature of the property, particularly its archaeology, flora and fauna, butterflies and moths and most importantly, establish a centre for advanced studies for Scottish Gaelic and language based in Canna House.

Thirty four years later it is not unreasonable to ask if any of these conditions have been fulfilled and what benefits, if any, this particular development will bring.

The applicant, Isle of Canna Community Development Trust, has commissioned Wind and Sun Limited, a Herefordshire company specialising in renewable energy solutions, to upgrade the existing electricity system on the island.

The design report, which forms part of the application, based on a two-day visit, ticks most of the right boxes, except for example, the number of nationally important archaeological sites that could be destroyed if it goes ahead. More worryingly, little in it sits comfortably alongside any of JLC's aspirations.

The development trust says it is exploring options to enable the local community to expand and maximise the island's potential as a viable tourist destination and as a location for educational and activity retreats. If that is the case why, in 2010, did its residents reject Marine Harvest Scotland's plans for a large new fish farm off its shores by eight votes to seven?

Had it gone ahead it would have provided long-term, all-year-round employment, kept the school open - which has just closed for the second time in recent years - and allowed the building of several new houses - all of which any other small island in Scotland would have welcomed with open arms.

Where exactly is the National Trust for Scotland in all this? As the owners of Canna, they should be working with JLC's trustees and taking the lead in ensuring that the conditions of their windfall are met or are they back-peddalling in the hope that one day they will be able to abrogate their responsibilities altogether in favour of a community buyout?

What of the centre for Gaelic studies which was to be created around JLC's library and archive of unparalleled richness in the field of Gaelic culture and language?

Fortunately the NTS, with help from the National Sound Archive, has at least seen to it that much of the 18,000 hours' worth of sound recordings and photographs dating from 1935-69, have been scanned and transferred to digital format while the library and manuscript collection is being fully catalogued.

Canna was special while John Lorne Campbell and his wife, the distinguished musician and folklorist Margaret Fay Shaw, lived there and dispensed their legendary brand of hospitality to visitors and friends from around the world.

When they passed away a light went out on the island which can never really be rekindled.

Perhaps the time has come for NTS to transfer the Canna Collections, on loan if need be, to Sabhal Mor Ostaig, the National Centre for Gaelic Language and Culture, on nearby Skye?

Here they would become part of the University of the Highlands and be more easily accessible to a far greater number of students of Celtic history than they will ever be on Canna. I understand only eight people have visited Canna to study JLC's papers since his death in 1996. Does that not tell us something?

If The Highland Council approves the construction of this huge development and its ugly infrastructure, which I note will be determined by an official with delegated powers and not the full planning committee, the sheer beauty of Canna's delicate, cultural landscape as well as its unique atmosphere, which is the envy of the Hebrides, will be seriously compromised. It deserves better.

Iain Thornber  
iain.thornber@btinternet.com

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# Lochaber mourns the death of 'much-loved' Dr Su Sen

**EMMA CRICHTON**  
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

TRIBUTES have been flooding in for a much-loved and respected Lochaber GP and community activist who died earlier this week.

Dr Sukumar 'Su' Sen MBE passed away just months after stepping down from his many charitable roles, having devoted his life to the health and wellbeing of the people of Fort William and beyond.

Hundreds of people took to social media following the death of the 80-year-old to share stories of how their families had been helped by the kind-hearted pensioner, in his role as doctor as well as his involvement with countless local causes.

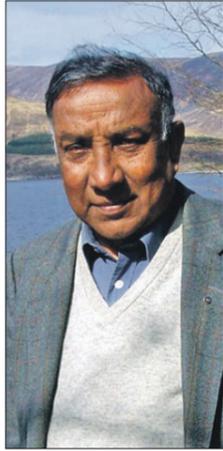
Dr Sen leaves behind his wife, Shirley, a daughter, Sheila, and twin sons, Robin and David.

Dr Sen, who arrived in Fort William from Hartfordshire in

the early 1960s, was awarded an MBE in 1997 for his work in the community, and in July this year the long-serving rotarian was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship by the Rotary Club of Lochaber – one of less than a dozen to receive the accolade in the club's 65 years of existence.

Terry Lee, president of Lochaber Rotary, said: 'Although I only knew Su towards the end of his active years, I was proud to have known him and proud that for 45 years he was a member of our local Rotary club.'

'He was a strong supporter of Rotary and up until last year he was still involved in a huge range of community projects. He did so much for so many people and I was delighted that his community work was recognised by Rotary International in the award of the Paul Harris Fellowship – the highest award that Rotary can bestow.'



RESPECTED: tributes have been paid to former GP Dr Sukumar Sen.

'The Lochaber community has lost a great champion – people and the community were always central features in Su's very active life. My thoughts are with Shirley and the family.'

Former Rotary president Ken Johnston also paid tribute to Dr Sen as the pair worked together on the Lochaber Disability Access Panel: 'I've known Su for almost 40 years. He was a founder member of the [access] panel and a tireless campaigner on disability access issues. The barrier-free Caol shopping centre is entirely due to Su's hard work.'

'He oversaw the original Accessible Lochaber guide and he was central to the creation of the 'Alliance of Highland and Island Access Panels'. His philosophy was that no one knew more about disabled access than disabled people themselves, and he negotiated strong consultation links with

the council planners on all new developments. He was a terrific communicator, a selfless and extremely clever man, and without him the panel would not have the status and influence that it has today.'

Lochaber medical and nurses' societies, Lochaber Council on Alcohol, Citizens' Advice, Caol Regeneration Group, Corpach Marina, Red Cross, St John's Ambulance Service, Lochaber Marathon and many gardening projects were just some of the causes Dr Sen devoted his time to.

But as well as his community presence, Dr Sen was well known and loved throughout his 40 years as a surgeon, GP and Belford Hospital registrar.

He became a partner in the then High Street Medical Practice, now Glenmore, in 1969 and worked with doctors including Cameron Roy Innes, Peter Powell and Chris Robinson.

More than 200 former patients took to Facebook to express their sadness at his passing and told tales of their experiences at the surgery.

Linda Dignan recounted that Dr Sen had delivered her when she was born and said she was 'very sad'.

Margaret O'Rourke commented: 'Dr Sen was an amazing doctor. He had time for everyone. He loved children and spent time explaining their ailment to them.'

When I missed an ante-natal appointment at the surgery he appeared at my door that evening to make sure I was okay.'

Freda Brooks said Dr Sen is the doctor to whom she compares all others and Duncan MacPherson called him 'a true Highland gentleman and a much-loved and respected adopted son of Lochaber'.

## TIMESLINE

### Memorial service for missing walker

THE FAMILY of a walker who has been missing in Lochaber for six weeks are to hold a memorial service as the search continues.

Robin Garton, 69, vanished while on a walking holiday in Glencoe and hasn't been seen since September 25.

The memorial will be held in Mr Garton's home town of Devizes, Wiltshire, on December 11. His son, Will Garton, said: 'The [rescue] team there say they are baffled. Normally they find people much more quickly than this. It's a living nightmare. The not knowing is the worst thing imaginable.'

### Cadets set sights on a trip to NASA

LOCHABER sea cadets are in with a chance of winning a trip to visit NASA in Texas.

The youngsters have entered a competition to design and build a remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV). Staff from Fort William's Underwater Centre are helping with the project but as the cadets receive no funding they are appealing for donations of both money and materials. Contact lscrov@btinternet.com.

### A 'baby boom' in west coast waters

SIGHTINGS of young whales and dolphins off the West Coast are at the highest ever recorded.

Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust said the number of juvenile minke whales spotted this year is larger than ever before, either indicating a baby boom or an influx from elsewhere. Research also showed the number of common dolphin sightings has more than doubled over the last 12 years, but the reasons are 'unclear'.

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## Early panto fun for primary pupils

CHRISTMAS came early at two Lochaber schools when a touring pantomime visited them this week.

With the Halloween decorations barely down, the pupils of Banavie and Caol primaries began the next round of festivities and enjoyed a performance of Jack and the Beanstalk by M and M Productions.



SHOWTIME: Banavie pupils meet the Jack and the Beanstalk cast before the show. 21\_f45banavie01

## BT upgrade sparks major road works

MAJOR road works are soon to begin in Fort William as BT begin improvements in the area.

Old equipment from the communications business will be removed at the A82/A830 junction at Lochybridge from November 16 and is expected to last three weeks.

However, the entire project could take eight months to complete, with traffic management expected to be in place at 'various locations' on the A82.

The route will be down to one lane, but Fraser Rowberry, Scotland general manager for BT's Openreach, said disruption has been minimised: 'Openreach

has arranged the works to ensure that there are two lanes in operation throughout the day with any lane closures at night time. This duct-laying work and the majority of the new cabling and the redundant cable removal will therefore take place at night to reduce traffic congestion through the town.'

'We'll be making every effort to minimise the timescale of the works and any inconvenience to road users.'

'I'd like to ask drivers to bear with us as we carry out this necessary work to keep Fort William and its environs in touch with the rest of the world.'

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# BBC Children in Need - Friday 13th November 2015

## Rockfield primary help Children in Need



BBC Children in Need has raised more than £790 million to help the lives of young people and disabled children around the UK since it started in 1980. And each year The Oban Times asks a local school to nominate a class to draw pictures of local businesses which feature on our Children in Need page, with 20 per cent of the advertising proceeds donated to the charity event.

This year the P6/P7 class at Rockfield Primary School drew the fantastic pictures below and we would like to thank them and the businesses featured for supporting Children in Need.

This year Children in Need is asking people across the UK to dress up as their childhood hero to help make a difference to young lives. The stellar Children in Need's celebrity friends line-up includes model and television producer Tess Daly, singer/songwriter Sophie Ellis-Baxter and radio presenter Dermot O'Leary.

Hopelessly devoted to the Charity, Tess Daly has swapped her Strictly ball gown for a jumpsuit, choosing to emulate her childhood hero Olivia Newton John. Tess called on people across the UK saying: 'While dressing up as your hero is a fun and simple thing to do, it really can help make a big difference. By supporting BBC Children in Need, you'll be helping benefit the lives of some of the

most disadvantaged young people, right here in the UK. So dust off your fancy-dress gear, and let's make this happen!'

Dermot O'Leary's childhood hero was known as one of the principal figures of Antarctic Exploration, and was a real hero of his time, Dermot said of his choice: 'My childhood hero was the explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton. He was an adventurer from the early 1900's, known for trekking places like the Antarctic. As a young lad, who wouldn't want to be an explorer? It's been great fun to do the fancy dress for BBC Children in Need; please do show your support and do the same!'

**Christopher Den Heijer**

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## Inaugural Charles Kennedy lecture

THE INAUGURAL Charles Kennedy memorial lecture will be held later this month, to be given by a leading Liberal Democrat Lord.

Jim Wallace, Baron Wallace of Tankerness, who is party leader in the House of Lords, will speak at the new, annual event on November 20 as part of Lochaber Chamber of Commerce's Ideas Week.

Mr Kennedy, who died in June, served as the MP for Ross, Skye and Lochaber from 1983 to 2015, and led the party from 1999 to 2006.

The title of the first lecture, being held at West Highland College UHI, Fort William, is: 'A Highland Style of Politics: How Charles Kennedy's Highland heritage shaped him, his politics and his life.'

It will debate whether or not, as residents of Lochaber, the people draw on the influence of a Highland culture and what this brings to them, as people, as a workforce and as politicians.

The lecture will be followed by a reception with an informal business and political networking session.

Willie Rennie, MSP, leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats, said: 'It is wonderful Lochaber Chamber has taken the lead by organising this lecture to remember Charles Kennedy. I know Charles greatly valued the good relationship with the Chamber.'

'Jim Wallace, our former deputy First Minister and now Liberal Democrat leader in the House of Lords, will deliver a fascinating lecture.'

Anne Widdop, vice chairwoman of Lochaber Chamber, said: 'We felt it was a fitting and lasting tribute to Charles Kennedy to establish an annual lecture. I would like to think he would have approved and be delighted his legacy is celebrated with a lecture and debate hosted in Lochaber - a place he was passionate about and worked tirelessly for.'



LEGACY: the first Charles Kennedy memorial lecture will be given as part of Lochaber Ideas Week.

## Tasty end to Strontian pupils' class project

### Butter and biscuits on the menu at Torlundy

PUPILS of Strontian Primary School have just come to the end of a project on food, from growing to the table.

Last Thursday the pupils, who are in primary one to four, travelled to the An Clachan Rural Education Centre at Torlundy. During their visit to the centre, which is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year, the children learned to make butter and biscuits.



## LOCHABER SPORTS ASSOCIATION VOWS TO CARRY ON DESPITE COUNCIL FUNDING SHORTFALL

# Indoor sports centre grant leaves group in cash crisis

EMMA CRICHTON  
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk



DETERMINED: councillor Brian Murphy.

A COMMUNITY group has vowed not to give up despite losing out on more than £400,000 for a new indoor sport centre in Fort William. Lochaber Sports Association (LSA), the organisation behind the plans for the £1.47 million training centre and community hub near Lochaber High School, is said to be 'extremely disappointed' to only receive £200,000 from Highland Council, after applying for £845,000 including VAT.

A report by the local authority's director of finance, Derek Yule, recommended the lower amount be awarded, as an expected £400,000 developers' contribution was lost when Tesco shelved plans to build a new supermarket at the Blar Mor.

The blow now leaves LSA with a hole of £700,000 after councillors voted to dish out the reduced grant by 36 to 29, with two abstentions, at the full council meeting last Thursday (October 29).

It is hoped the indoor mul-

ti-use centre, which already has full planning permission, will be used by Lochaber High School and other community groups outside the sporting world.

Jane Blanchard, chairwoman of LSA, said: 'We have no idea how to continue from here but be assured we are not giving up. This project is more vital than ever, shovel-ready and our community has invested heavily in its development. Thanks to all who have supported us

on the journey so far and to our councillors who spoke and voted in favour of the project on Thursday. I have no doubt we will win through in the end.'

During the meeting last week, Lochaber councillors appealed to their colleagues to support the facility.

Allan Henderson proposed the amendment to grant LSA the whole £845,000.

He said: 'If this project goes ahead the schools would benefit from it greatly, particularly the high school there and the community would be able to use it at night and weekends. We need to make sure every penny is in place so this can go ahead.'

Brian Murphy, councillor for Fort William and Ardnurchan, drove home the importance of an indoor facility in the town, which is one of the wettest in Britain: 'Almost everyone has cracked a joke about Lochaber's weather. We always seem to be the butt of jokes about rain and that's okay. We have lousy weather and we know that, but when we come and ask for a bit of help to do something about

Be assured, we are not giving up.

Jane Blanchard  
LSA chairwoman

our poor training facilities all kinds of difficulties seem to be put in our way. The way things are now, it almost feels as if it's Lochaber's fault that Tesco didn't go ahead.

'Over the years I've seen numerous occasions, not just sports but roads and all sorts of things, when there has been European funding, Scottish government funding and Sport Scotland funding available and we have always made a point of making sure that we get that and that's been done many times. I see no reason why we shouldn't do it this time.'

Concerns were also raised about the possibility of LSA losing a further £500,000

pledged in principle by Sport Scotland as this was supposed to be dependent on the Highland Council grant.

But in a faint silver lining for the group, Sport Scotland has agreed to honour their pledge.

Ms Blanchard said: 'Thankfully we haven't lost the Sport Scotland funding but we still have £700,000 to find and no idea where to get it. This is a massive step backwards for us. I feel like we're further away from our goal now, six years down the line, than we were two years ago.'

Council convenor Isobel McCallum called the facility a 'very worthy project', but added: 'Clearly members would like to support enhanced sports facilities in every part of the Highlands. We have, however, a very challenging financial situation with a reducing budget and increasing pressures.'

'We have a limited availability of funds and we must cut our cloth accordingly.'

An LSA meeting was due to be held last night (Wednesday) to discuss how to save the facility.

## TIMESLINE

### Thefts, break-ins and vandalism

POLICE in Lochaber are appealing for information about a number of thefts, break-ins and incidents of vandalism.

At Inverroy, Roy Bridge, between 6.30pm on October 30 and 9.30 the following morning, a silver Peugeot 306 car was stolen and later found burnt out near Carrs Corner, Fort William.

Between 2pm on October 30 and 2am the following morning, a garage on Broom Drive, Caol, was damaged.

Overnight between October 29 and 30, a red Trek men's mountain bike was stolen from a property in Young Place, Fort William.

It is a model 4300 with a padlock still attached.

A Honda vehicle was damaged and two petrol cans stolen at Lab Road, Kinlochleven, overnight between October 28 and 29.

Between 9pm on October 27 and 6.30 the following morning, items were stolen from containers in Onich, Corran and Glencoe.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously via 0800 555111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

### Man denies drug supply charges

A MAN accused of supplying cocaine on Skye denied the charge when he appeared in Portree sheriff court this week.

Andrew Henshelwood pleaded not guilty on Monday after being arrested by police in the centre of Portree at the weekend.

The 31-year-old, thought to be from Glasgow, will appear again for trial, scheduled for January 19.

This comes after a drug search on the island when a 17-year-old male was arrested for being in the possession of cannabis, also in Portree.

A report on this has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Schools welcome new head teachers

SIX HEAD teachers have been appointed to schools in the Highlands, including three in Lochaber and Skye.

Pamela Hill will move from her teaching post at Acharacle primary to the head of Acharacle; Isobel McAlister will take on the reins at Broadford and Jenny Kiss, acting head at Kilmuir and Staffin primaries, has been appointed to this role on a permanent basis.

## Council poses tax rise question as possible alternative to frontline service budget cuts

PEOPLE could be willing to pay more council tax to protect frontline services according to a poll on Highland Council's Facebook page.

Last Tuesday, the local authority held the first of a series of Facebook chats on budget issues. Margaret Davidson, council leader; Bill Fernie, chairman of the council's resource committee and Derek Yule, director of finance, all took part in the event which focused on council tax.

A poll was included on the page which asked the

question: 'The council has to save around six per cent across all services next year. Would you be willing to pay a bit more council tax to protect some services against cuts, such as education, care, roads, voluntary groups etc?'

There were 137 people who responded to the question to date. Sixty one people (44.5 per cent) said they would be willing to pay more council tax. Fifty three (38.6 per cent) said they wouldn't and 23 (16.7 per cent) said they didn't know and would need more information.

Many of the questions asked during the session related to where the council could make savings and many people expressed a concern for frontline services such as winter maintenance. There were also suggestions on other ways in which the council could raise additional funds.

Councillor Davidson commented on the chat: 'Social media is a valuable tool for reaching out and engaging directly with people in our communities. We know that the vast majority of our 10,000 Facebook followers

are based in the Highlands and this is an easy and convenient way for a great many people to take part in discussions about services.'

'We have committed to making budget decisions in an open, transparent and fair manner. It was very valuable to hear a varied range of opinions and ideas and what people really think and I really enjoyed chatting to people in this way.'

A council tax rise of five per cent would equate to just under £5 per month for properties on Band D. The

council will be carrying out consultation on a range of budget proposals, including council tax, with the Citizens' Panel in November and December.

If Highland Council broke the eight-year tax freeze, without a change in national policy, it would become the first local authority in Scotland to do so. Councillors in the Independent party, currently in a minority administration, previously called for a rise in council tax during last year's budget cuts, when they were in opposition.

## Community project sparks life into disused Strontian dam

A COMMUNITY hydro scheme on the Ardnurchan peninsula is now generating electricity after five months of construction.

The £850,000 project at a previously disused dam in Strontian was funded through grants and community shares and will generate future income for the area.

Richard Laybourne, chairman of Sunart Community Renewables, the group behind the project, said: 'This is an exciting day for the community.'

'The hydro will generate income to spend on projects in our local community for years to come. We want to thank all our investors who bought community shares and the many supporters who have made the vision of five years ago into a reality.'



TRANSFORMATION: a disused dam in Strontian has been turned into a hydro scheme to generate income for the Sunart community.

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# Viewpoint

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

## The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8216

The council's proposal for budget cuts have now gone out to public consultation, with the local authority planning to make savings of £18 million over the next two years, with further savings in future years to make up an estimated £26 million shortfall.

It is an unenviable task that Argyll and Bute Council is faced with, thanks to drastically reduced government

funding and the fact that were they to increase council tax, they would lose out on what little government funding is available.

There are no winners in this situation, but it is important that everyone engage in this crucial debate about services and how they will affect people - our elderly, our children, and the vulnerable members of our communities. So speak up and make your voice heard.



## Days gone by- Oban Camanachd shinty team July, 1973

After a crucial 2-1 win over Kingussie at the weekend, which saw Oban Camanachd secure its place in shinty's premier division next season, we step back in time in the club's history with this week's flashback photograph. It was submitted by Donald Clark of Oban and features an Oban Camanachd line-up from July 1973. Digital versions of flashback photos for the Oban Times can be sent to 'editor@obantimes.co.uk' or prints sent to the editor, the Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB. Anyone who wishes a print returned should include a stamped-addressed envelope.

### Help and support for a happy Hallowe'en

Sir,  
May I, through your columns, convey thanks to everyone at the Oban Times, Atlantis Leisure, JM Breckenridge Limited, Steve-Dot-O, Markie Dan's, my colleagues at Bid4 Oban and our other assistants for all the help and support for our 'Love Oban' children's Hallowe'en party last Saturday in Atlantis.

More than 150 happy youngsters attended this community event with some fantastic and inspirational costumes. A special thanks to the parents and grandparents who brought them along.

Neil Mackay, Bid4 Oban.

### Improvements vital at entrance to town

Sir,  
The recent international appraisal from the Lonely Planet Guide regarding our beautiful, rugged West Highland Line, reminds us of the need for all community groups, local government and Holyrood ministers to take action to improve the arrival experience to our town.

Fort William, the capital town of Lochaber, attracts up to 500,000 visitors to an area rich in history, ancient and modern. It also requires much-needed infrastructure improvements to its coastal area, such as a cruise ship landing stage and improved shoreline amenities close

to the West Highland Station, in the heart of the world famous Great Glen.

This investment would benefit the large area north to Loch Ness, west to the Road to the Isles and south-west to Glencoe and Oban, with an economic ripple effect to all tourist operators.

The tourism business is reported to be the largest industry in Scotland and growing annually, so it would seem the business case is undeniable.

N MacLean, Fort William.

### Work together to avoid budget cuts

Sir,  
Argyll and Bute, like all Scottish councils, is faced with savage budget cuts from the SNP government.

Freezing the Council Tax is obviously popular, but the downside is these budget cuts.

Our SNP MP and MSPs are trying to pin all the blame on Lib Dem, Tory and Independent councillors. They seem to forget the SNP councillors also recognise that, without more money from the SNP government, cuts will have to be made.

Don't forget that the SNP actually won the last council election and formed an administration. They made cuts in their first budget, but when the public protests started they threw in the towel and left it to the other parties to pick up the pieces.

Instead of showering personal abuse on councillors who took up the challenge that SNP councillors ran

away from, our SNP MP and MSPs should be working with the council to make the case to the SNP government for more money for Argyll and Bute. That's the only way these cuts can be avoided.

Alan Reid, Dunoon, Liberal Democrat candidate for Argyll and Bute

### Tackling the housing crisis in Scotland

Sir,  
Alastair Redman is calling for more social housing for smaller Islay villages - informing us it's been 40 years since houses have been built here.

Mr Redman and his Tory party was billing me £50 a month 'bedroom tax' and trying to force me out of my house until the SNP stepped in and stopped me paying this tax out my sickness benefit.

The SNP should take action on the tens of thousands of spare houses in Scotland - encouraged and subsidised by the Tories - to ease the housing crisis.

Mr Redman was also calling for the bonkers 'right to buy' scheme to be reintroduced recently.

My opinion is there should be no 'right to buy'.

For every eight houses sold under 'right to buy', only one was built to replace it, which is a Tory disgrace.

No wonder Scots hardly vote Tory and they shouldn't have the power they have in Scotland.

The United Kingdom isn't democratic.

Colin M Campbell, Islay.

### Glasgow Letter

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

### A fascinating evening of piobaireachd

I REALLY enjoyed myself at Seinn air a' Phìob, a night of ceòl mòr staged by An Lochran and The Big Music Society.

This enjoyment was shared by a big audience in the beautiful surroundings of St Andrews in the Square.

Not being a piper, I cannot claim to have much in-depth knowledge of piobaireachd. My only concern, therefore, as I headed for this concert, was that a whole evening dedicated solely to ceòl mòr would go over my head.

But this wasn't the case. The music was brought to the audience with charismatic clarity and the players and singers performed and spoke about piobaireachd in an inspiring and witty way.

The melodies of those incredible pieces of music seemed at times overwhelming as they soared in the beautiful acoustic of the venue - whether from the vocal strength of Kenna Campbell, Rona Lightfoot and Allan MacDonald, or from the piping of John Mulhearn, Calum MacCrimmon and Ewen Henderson.

The first half of the evening was dedicated to how particular piobaireachd have developed in the oral tradition of Gaelic song, while the second half was more focused on how the tunes developed in the piping tradition.

Those two traditions, developing separately over hundreds of years without tunes having been written down, led to each piobaireachd expanding often in completely different ways. This musical diversity was the subject matter of a fascinating evening.

### Variety of music at Stirling ceilidh

THE STIRLING branch of An Comunn held its monthly ceilidh on

Saturday October 31 when a small but appreciative audience enjoyed a great variety of music from Mary C MacLean, Margaret Callan, with daughter Mairi and son Cahal, Graham Neilson, and Eleanor Jennings on Clarsach, with Seumas Campbell in the chair.

### Annual gathering concert and dance

THE 128TH Lewis/Harris annual gathering concert and dance will take place this Friday, November 6, in the Glasgow University Union.

This year, Ainsley Hamill, Linda MacLeod, Iain MacKay and Alasdair Whyte will all take the stage for the concert which starts at 7.30pm and will be chaired by Calum J Mackay MA. The dance starts around 10.30pm and will feature Heron Valley. Tickets are £10 and can be purchased at the door or at the Park Bar. Children can attend the concert for free.

### Quality line up for annual Tiree event

I AM THOROUGHLY looking forward to singing at the Tiree Association's annual gathering concert on Thursday November 19 in Partick Burgh Hall alongside high quality artists.

James Graham and Robyn Stapleton - both former Young Traditional Musicians of the Year - are the other singers on the bill. The young Rowan Brothers will be playing and the night will be chaired by Iain Mackinnon.

I sang at this concert two years ago and it always has a really lovely laid back atmosphere.

Tickets are £10 and are available on the door. Everything kicks off at 7.30pm.

The following night, Friday November 20, Gunna Sound are playing for the gathering dance in the Glasgow

University Union, starting at 9pm. It is also always an absolute cracker!

### Glasgow Skye post mòd children's ceilidh

THE GLASGOW Skye children's ceilidh will be held on Saturday November 7.

The event is open to all children who took part in the recent national Mòd to perform their pieces in a non-competitive setting whether they won prizes or not. Everyone welcome.

### What's on

**Thursday November 5:** Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association, complementary dinner to gathering chairman, Glasgow Pond Hotel.

**Friday November 6:** Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association (Comunn Leòdhais agus Na Hearnadh Ghlaschu) annual gathering concert, followed by dance, in Glasgow University Union.

**Saturday November 7:** Glasgow Skye Association post-mòd children's ceilidh, Crawford Hall.

**Friday November 13:** Clydebank Highlanders ceilidh, Napier Hall, Old Kilpatrick, 7.30pm.

**Thursday November 19:** An Comunn Tirisdeach (The Tiree Association) annual gathering concert, Partick Burgh Hall, 7.30pm.

**Friday November 20:** An Comunn Tirisdeach (Tiree Association) annual gathering dance, Glasgow University Union.

### Pub scene

**Park Bar:** Friday November 6: Robert Robertson. Saturday November 7: Ho Ro. Sunday November 8: Morino Day.

**Islay Inn:** Friday November 6: Crooked Reel. Saturday November 7: The Raggals. Wednesday November 11: quiz.

### Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL  
ailean@obantimes.co.uk

CHA DO MHILL foighidinn mhath duine riamh! Faodaidh gum bheil seo ceart ach feumaidh mi aideachadh nach eil mi fhìn idir air mo mheas mar chuideigin foighidneach.

Gu dearbh thuir caraid a bha ag obair cuide rium bhliadhnaichean rium turas, 'nuair a nochdas am facal 'foighidinn' gu cinnteach chan e d' ainm-sa a' chuid fhear a thig gum inntinn!

Gun teagamh 's e comas àraid a th' ann am foighidinn agus ged a tha mi usal às an fheadhainn aig am bheil sin, saoilidh mi cuideachd gum bheil siostaman riaghlaidh agus seirbheis na dùthcha glè thrìc a' gabhail brath air a leithid.

An iad seirbheisich chatharra agus dreachadairean pàrlamaid, air neo buill thaghte an Rìghaltais, a th' air gliocas an t-seanfhaicil seo a ghabhail tuca fhèin is rudan a shaoileas duine ciallach sam bith a bu chòir a bhith fo smachd an lagha fhathast gun riaghladh!

Dh'fhaodamaid iomadach cuspair a thaghadh tha mi cinnteach agus tha mi cuideachd cinnteach gun cluinne argamaidean tomadach mar leiseul, neo mar adhbhar, airson nach deach reachdas fhathast a chuir an gnìomh. Ach leis an t-Samhain oirnn a-rithist tha e doirbh darribh a thuigsinn carson nach eil an Rìghaltas air dìon a thoirt dha clann bhon t-seòrsa èideadh Samhna a tha dearbhta mar chunnart lasanta.

Tha mòran chloinne air fìor dhroch losgaidhean fhulang thar nam bliadhnaichean ri linn 's cho buailteach 's a tha cuid den stuth a thathas a' cleachdadh a' dèanamh aodach pàrtaidh, a dhòl na theine.

A dh'aindeoin sin, agus riaghailtean mionaideach na Roinn Eòrpa is na dùthcha seo fhèin, tha e fhathast ceadaichte dha ceannaichean stuth cunnartach mar seo a thoirt a-staigh dhan Rìghachd agus a reic. Cò mhead tubaist a dh'fheumar chun an tèid stad air a' chleachdadh?

Anns a' Mhàrt am-bliadhna gheall Riaghaltas na Co-bhanntachd a bh' againn aig an àm gun dèante co-chomhairleachadh air cosgaisean cumhachd feadh chinn

a tuath Alba, le amas suas ri trithead not sa bhliadhna a chaoimhnadh dha gach dachaigh.

Bho chionn seachdain neo dhà bha Danaidh Alexander a' fàgail air an riaghaltas ùr gun robh e air an gealladh seo dhan Ghàidhealtachd a thrèigsinn, ach a-nise tha Roinn Cumhachd agus Atharrachadh Aimsir air a ràdh gum bheil an co-chomhairleachadh seo am meas inleachdan eile air am bi iad a' beachdachadh ann an sgrùdadh riaghailteach a bhios a' toiseachadh dìreach na bliadhna! 'S iongantach gum bheil na caomhnaidhean dad nas fhaighe ma-tha? Tha seanfhaicil eile ag ràdh gun claoidh foighidinn mhath na clachan, ach tha an t-somaltachd seo aig an riaghaltas ag àicheadh taic dha muinntir a' chinn a tuath!

WHY DOES it take so long for government to provide essential protection?

Despite clear evidence of the danger posed by highly inflammable imported children's party costumes, these products are still imported and offered for sale in the UK.

A Gaelic proverb says that patience will wear out stone, but lack of urgency in matters such as regulating the sale of dangerous products could cost lives.

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

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We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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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

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contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

# SCOTS

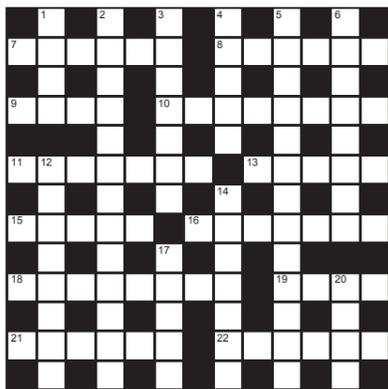
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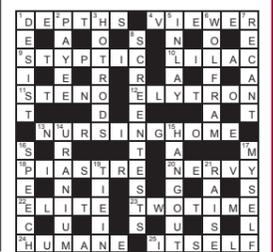
#### Across

- 7 Lash out at (6)
- 8 Author (6)
- 9 Be hopping mad (4)
- 10 Sealed (8)
- 11 Make better (5,2)
- 13 Bird baby carrier? (5)
- 15 Drawing up (5)
- 16 Cheers (7)
- 18 Possessing moral excellence (8)
- 19 Top actor of a film (4)
- 21 Elephant keeper (6)
- 22 Number of players on the field (6)

#### Down

- 1 Restricting order (4)
- 2 Not all it appears to be (13)
- 3 Resolve (5,2)
- 4 Multitude (5)
- 5 Unconcerned (13)
- 6 Feeling of no energy (8)
- 12 Irregular (8)
- 14 File (7)
- 17 Small stall (5)
- 20 Interrupting cough (4)

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

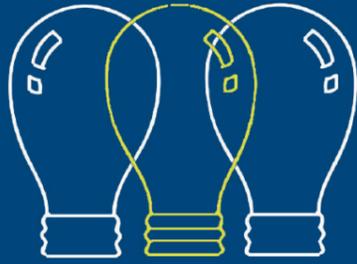


# Lochaber Ideas Week

Invigorating business in the Highlands

## 16-20 NOVEMBER 2015

Ideas + action = SUCCESS



AWARDS • WORKSHOPS • BUSINESS • SPEAKERS • DINNER

Entrepreneurs will gather in Lochaber from November 16-20 for the third annual Ideas Week. The event spans a number of locations, and includes competitions, talks, workshops and networking events. Lesley Benfield, Chief Executive Officer for the Lochaber Chamber of Commerce said: 'We've learnt from past Ideas Weeks that when people share ideas and work together, amazing things start to happen. Ideas Week is for everyone - businesses from one man bands, electricians, web designers working from home and inventors, to retailers, visitor attractions, accommodation providers, food and drink producers or larger businesses with many employees. There's also lots going on for young people and communities.'

The week kicks off on Monday, November 16, with 'Creating New International Markets for Textiles, Craft and Fashion,' at Ben Nevis Hotel starting at 10am. At 3pm at the Moorings Hotel 'Around Lochaber in 80 Tables' will feature 15-minute power meetings. Motivational speaker, quadruple amputee, mountaineer, marathon runner and author Jamie Andrew will present 'Nothing is Impossible' at the Moorings at 7pm.

On Tuesday, the focus is maximising income in a world of fast changing technology in a session from 1.30 to 3.30pm at the Moorings entitled 'Booking Success in a Changing World,' run by Fort William Accommodation Marketing Groups in association with FreeToBook. Also on Tuesday, doll designer Corrine

O'Hagan of Croft Bears will present '21st Century Crafts.'

On Wednesday at 9.30am, The Alexandra Hotel will host 'The Science of Communication: The Psychology Behind Influencing Change.' Another interactive workshop will be held at The Alexandra at 1pm, entitled 'Leading Change: Using Positive Psychology to Create An Engaged, Creative Workforce.'

Thursday continues with more exciting workshops, beginning at 10am with 'Community Currencies' at Ben Nevis Distillery. Meanwhile, at 10am at the Moorings Hotel, the short, interactive workshop 'How Volunteering can benefit you and your business' will look at the third sector. Also at the Moorings, at 1pm, Colin Kelly presents 'Hot 100 Digital Marketing Tips,' in a fast-paced session about online business.

Thursday afternoon sees the much-anticipated Dragon's Glen competition. Inspired by the popular television show, the competition is open to budding entrepreneurs over the age of 16 with an aspiration to start a business venture in Lochaber.

Beginning at 2pm at West Highland College UHI, four finalists will pitch their ideas for a chance to win the

£7,500 Foundation Scotland prize, plus £600 worth of free recruitment and business support from Hijobs.

On Friday, November 20, at West Highland College, the Rt Hon. Lord Wallace of Tankerness QC will present the Inaugural Charles Kennedy Memorial Lecture, following a reception at 5pm. All are welcome. The week will culminate in the formal Ideas Week Dinner and Awards evening at the Alexandra Hotel at 8pm, featuring a three-course meal with locally sourced produce. The guest speaker is Christian Macleod, 23-year-old 'Accessory Designer of the Year' and professional golfer. Awards will be presented in

the categories of Local Hero, Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Most Promising New Business and Producer of the Year. To book for this and all other events, visit www.Eventbrite.com and search 'Ideas Week.'

'Ideas Week aims to be Lochaber's annual platform for sharing ideas and building long-lasting business and community relationships' Lesley said. 'We are staging some terrific events, as well as building long-lasting business and community relationships. Come along and enjoy friendly, relaxed sessions and learn some top tips along the way.'

Lochaber Ideas Week runs in parallel with Global Entrepreneurship Week and Scotland's Towns Week. Many of the sessions are free. Visit the Lochaber Ideas Week Facebook page for information and updates.



LOCHABER IDEAS WEEK 2015 PROGRAMME				
Monday 16th November	Creating New International Markets for Textiles, Craft and Fashion HIE & Emergents Two Day Workshop Ben Nevis Hotel 10am-4pm	Official Opening & Exhibition in partnership with Room 13 The Ben Nevis Distillery 11am-12pm	Around Lochaber in 80 Tables B2B Networking, Pitching and Marketing The Moorings Hotel 3pm-6pm	Nothing is Impossible Jamie Andrew Inspirational Speaker The Moorings Hotel 7pm-9pm
Tuesday 17th November		21st Century Craft Corrine O'Hagan Croft Bears 2pm-4pm	Booking Success in a Changing World Iain Stewart, Director of FreeToBook The Moorings 1.30pm - 3.30pm	A hot-bed of creative activity. XpoNorth are bringing something very exciting to town. Lochaber High School - Time TBA
Wednesday 18th November	The Science of Communication: The Psychology Behind Influencing Change Alice Beveridge Tree of Knowledge The Alexandra Hotel, 9.30am-12pm	Leading Change: Using Positive Psychology to Create an Engaged, Creative Workforce Alice Beveridge, Tree of Knowledge The Alexandra Hotel, 1pm-4pm	From Land and Sea to Plate Community Food Fund Ben Nevis Distillery 2pm-4pm	Cafe of Ideas: Unlocking Local Growth in Mallaig Mallaig Community Centre 10am-1pm
Thursday 19th November	How volunteering can benefit you and your business Lochaber Hope & VAL The Moorings Hotel 10am-12pm	Community Currencies Lochaber Common Weal Ben Nevis Distillery 10am-11.30am	HOT 100: Digital Marketing Tips NS Design The Moorings Hotel 1pm-2pm	Dragon's Glen Competition West Highland College UHI 2pm-4pm
Friday 20th November	Food For Thought Workshop 1 Postponed	Food For Thought Workshop 2 Postponed	Inaugural Charles Kennedy Memorial Lecture Baron Wallace of Tankerness West Highland College UHI, 5pm-7pm	Dinner and Awards Ceremony Guest Speaker Christian Macleod The Alexandra Hotel, 8pm-12pm

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# Arena

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

## Delegates descend on Oban for Taste For Tourism conference

*Taste for Tourism*  
Has Scotland got what it takes to be a global food tourism destination?

Event will explore ways of making Scotland A world-beating food tourism destination

INTERNATIONAL experts and hospitality industry leaders from around Scotland will gather in Oban for Taste for Tourism. The conference is aiming to make Scotland one of the world's top food tourism destinations. The summit, which aims to catapult Scotland to the top of the wishlist for tourists who see high-quality food and drink as the main reason to

travel, has a line-up of prestigious speakers, including international experts responsible for setting up highly successful food destinations overseas. Taking place throughout the week in various locations in Oban and Argyll, the event is hosted by Argyll and the Isles Tourism and Food from Argyll. A truly national event, it is the product of a partnership with HIE, Scotland

Food and Drink, Visit Scotland, the Scottish Tourism Alliance, CalMac and Argyll and Bute Council. Virginia Sumsion, spokesperson for Taste for Tourism said: 'Scotland's food and drink industry is already its best performing sector and a strong draw for visitors looking for top-quality produce. 'But it could be even better if we all worked together to promote

Scotland as a food and drink destination. 'This national event is packed with exciting talks from top global experts on food tourism. 'We will fill delegates full of new ideas, knowledge and inspiration to build on experiences gained during the year of Food and Drink. 'We are now looking to the future.' The event also features the chance

to sample delicious Scottish produce, including a gala dinner devised by Mike Knowles, head chef at the Loch Melfort Hotel. The dinner will be followed by music from well-known band, Skippin'ish, as well as a number of tours to inspirational food and tourism business in Argyll and other parts of the Highlands and Islands.

## Beard today, gone tomorrow!



BEFORE: Jack and Jamie at Spruce. 17\_145jack01



NEARLY GONE: Carron removes the beard with a cut-throat razor. 17\_145jack04



AFTER: Jamie's not too sure about his dad's new bare-faced look, courtesy of Carron. 17\_145jack02

IN ALL of his nine years, Jamie Anderson had never seen his dad Jack without a beard - until Saturday. 'Eeeewwww, Dad, you're gonnae grow it back!' was the verdict. Jack, from Oban, was in the barber's chair at Spruce on George Street, in the capable hands of Carron MacPhee for the charity shave; half the money is going to Movember, which supports men's health charities and the other half is staying nearer to home, with the HCPT Group 43, the local branch of the Hospice House Children's Pilgrimage Trust, which helps to send children with special needs to Lourdes.

Jack, aged 33, works for BT as a fibre-optic engineer in the town. 'I've had a beard for ever, ever since I could grow one and I've been letting this grow bushy for the last two-and-a-half months,' said Jack. He couldn't go completely bare-faced. He kept his moustache. Carron, who trained at the Scottish School of Barbering in Glasgow, first trimmed down Jack's beard and then gave a traditional

shave with hot towels, oil massage and a cut-throat razor, a popular treatment at Spruce; owner Elaine Smith and her team will celebrate the business's second anniversary next month. Originally opened as a barber's shop, they now have a large number of female clients as well. Jack's brother-in-law Brian Collins came along to give his support and ended up in the barber's chair as well. Brian is the group leader for HCPT 43. Jack said: 'We are looking for more volunteers to help on our visits, and to hear from families with children with special needs who would like to go to Lourdes. 'We are also hosting a fashion show at M and Co in the town on November 13 and the shop is offering a special discount for the night.' Elaine and her team also have a charity event coming soon - a Ladies Day at The Bay Great Western Hotel, Oban, on Sunday November 22, as part of the Oban Winter Festival Event, offering hair, beauty and fashion; the day will raise money for Lupus UK.

## Highland holiday - an Oban appreciation

AFTER a few busy months at work and cool temperatures during most of the summer and autumn, a short break was in order, writes reader Alastair MacDonald. Alastair, from Ullapool, took a short break to the town with his choir and wrote to The Oban Times to share his experience. Mr MacDonald said: 'This short break from Wednesday till Saturday was an eye opener. 'Oban was the birthplace of the Mod and this was my first

experience of both Mod and Oban as a holiday destination. 'During our journey by car we were frantically polishing our choir parts, but also absorbing the sheer beauty of hills and lochs. As the road wound through the little villages and sheltered bays, we could appreciate how specially privileged we are. 'Oban reminded me of Funchal, only much nicer and more accessible, while the unseasonably good weather caused people to have appreciative smiles as

they strolled around in summer dresses and sleeveless shirts in mid-October. Our accommodation was five star and the town offered a wide variety of food at affordable prices. Entertainment was in abundance, with the very best of Scottish talent from street performers to hotels and pubs hosting Fergie Macdonald, Skipinnish, Skerryvore, Face the West, The Vatersay Boys and a host of others, mostly for free. 'I was delighted to find that the Mod is

many faceted; the competitions, the nightlife, the town, the food, the friendships made and renewed ensured it was a busy few days. I was also impressed that the Mod was inclusive; people were friendly and welcoming, appreciative, supportive and encouraging. In an age when community is fragmenting, people becoming affluent and independent, it was heart warming to be part of an extended family, the Mod family.

'We competed in the choir competitions and saw performances which were both inspirational and educational, yet without ego, each wishing the other competitors well and willing them on to best performance. 'The North West of Scotland choir, Ullapool was placed the highest ever in its history. It was also the smallest choir, but was adjudicated to have good potential. 'I hope this wee report helps to whet your appetite for the Mod in Stornoway 2016.'

## Hallowe'en Madness



Atlantis Leisure was the spookiest place to be in Oban on Saturday night, as Bid4Oban held a Hallowe'en Party for pre- and primary school kids. They could hop to the music, bounce in the inflatable castle or bob for apples, and all the boys and girls, and mums and dads, looked fantastic in their fancy dress. Rowan Firth came to the party as an Egyptian princess. 17\_145hallo07



Morpheus Yozwiak, Mila Mackiewicz and Julia Wroblewska-Wrona were some of the tiniest tots in fancy dress - and check out that 'Dracula' dummy! 17\_145hallo08

## Spooky goings on at Oban Primary



OBAN primary campus kids showed a scary set of faces for

## Eastern Travel from town library



The trio are seen here with Susanne Nicholson, library supervisor, and they were invited to perform in Dunoon and Oban as part of the Scotland-wide Stories without Borders festival. If you couldn't make it on Friday, you can hear the Babylon Arabic Band performing on YouTube. 17\_145lib02



Rick Potter, composer, performer and instrument repair specialist who lives in Ardfern, was shown the oud used by Mohammed Nafea during his performance. 17\_145lib01

**Oban Memorial service for victims of road accidents**  
A MEMORIAL service for the world day of remembrance for victims of road traffic accidents is being held in St Columba's Cathedral in Oban on Sunday November 15 at 10.30am. Organisers have asked that anyone wishing to add a name to the prayer list should ring 01838 200994, text 07796 327837 or email road.families@gmail.com

### COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

**Friends of Oban Hospice Ladies Fashion Show & Shopping Event**  
Saturday 14th November 2015, 7pm  
Corran Halls, Esplanade, Oban, Argyll  
PA34 4AB Tickets: £5  
Charity raffle. Prizes include a £50 clothing voucher to spend on the night  
For tickets and more information please contact:  
Corran Halls booking office - 01631 567333  
Joyce 01631 568111 Margaret 01631 563523

**Table Top Sale**  
Oban Guide Hall  
11-3, Sunday  
November 15 2015  
To Hire a Table £7.50 or Bring Your own table £5  
In aid of hall funds  
To book a space call Stella 01631 566793/ 07762879379

**OBAN GAELIC CHOIR**  
Choir practice restart  
Mon 16th Nov 7.30pm  
Pipe Band Hall, Shore St, Oban  
All new members welcome

To celebrate winning the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield  
**OBAN GAELIC CHOIR**  
Invite you to join them for a Ceilidh/Dance in The Royal Hotel  
Sat 14th Nov, 7.30pm  
Entry by Donation  
Singing, dancing, raffle, buffet supper...and a good time to be had by all

A fundraising  
**Soup Lunch**  
In aid of  
**Oban Pipe Band**  
will be held in  
**Oban Pipe Band Hall**  
Shore Street  
on Sat 7th Nov 2015  
From 12 noon - 2.00pm  
Admission £3.00

**Pack Up Your Troubles**  
Local stories and songs of WW1 (Part 2)  
St Conan's Kirk  
Lochawe  
Wed 11th Nov 2015 at 7pm  
Refreshments £6 (Friends £5)

Riding Lights Theatre Company present  
**Baked Alaska**  
Craigish Village Hall, Ardfern  
Tuesday 17th November 7.30pm  
Tickets: £12/£9 + group rate  
**01852 500746**  
ridinglights.org/baked-alaska

**Inveraray & District Accordion & Fiddle Club**  
Argyll Hotel, Inveraray  
Wednesday 11th November at 8.00pm  
Guest Artist From Edinburgh  
Accordian Ace - David Vernon  
Supporting players most welcome

**The Great Western Crafters and Producers Market**  
Saturday 7th November 10.30am - 4pm  
Collection for Oban Playpark

To advertise in our community noticeboard call 01631 568000



Abi and Aimee Greenlaw, Mia Asher and Liam McHugh. 17-t45hallo01

## Hallowe'en theme for fish bomb party

MORE than 70 fish were decorated by people ranging in age from two to 72, with the theme of Day of The Dead influencing many of the fish's decoration.

The fish are now in the under-fives playpark, as an awareness raiser for the ongoing fundraising for the last phase of the playpark project.

The fundraising target is about £160,000, with

about £25,000 having already been raised. The playpark design will reflect the older kid's playpark, with age-appropriate equipment and will also include an outdoor classroom.

The community is being encouraged to text the message '£3 OBAN15' to 70070 to donate using Just Giving on their mobile phone or to undertake their own

fundraising effort on a larger scale. The older kids' playpark will be officially opened on Sunday November 29 with a free party in Atlantis Community Leisure from 11am to 3.30pm to tie in with the last day of the Oban Winter Festival. More information will be provided on www.facebook.com/oban-communityplaypark.



Three-year-old Charles MacKinnon was a brave pirate. 17-t45hallo06



Wee Zoe Jewel, only 10-months-old slept through all the noise! 17-t45hallo05



Thirteen-month-old Annan Anderson had his dad Drew to give him good view of the fun and games. 17-t45hallo02



FISH BOMBERS: left to right, Alfie Byers, Alex Elliott, Liam Byers, Edie Elliott, Rowan Drummond.

There was a great turn-out for the party and everyone entered into the spooky spirit of event and made some great costumes. 17-t45hallo04



by Campus Hallowe'en.



## Argyll poem could be £1,000 prize winner

A POEM about Oban or another town in your circulation area could win £1,000 in a free poetry competition.

Entry is completely free and anyone, young or old, can have a go - beginners too. All you have to do is send a poem about Oban or another town in the area to Local Poem by email info@unitedpress.co.uk or post to United Press Ltd, Admail 3735, London, EC1B 1JB.

The best poem will win £1,000 cash and you can send up to three entries,

which must be no more than 25 lines (each blank line counts as one line) and 160 words each.

'It can even be about something or someone from the poet's home area,' explained a United Press spokesman.

'We find that poems written from personal observation and experience are the most heartfelt and expressive, so we're expecting some great entries from your readers.'

'The contest is designed to encourage ordinary people to write

poetry - to both express themselves and be more creative.'

'Last year's winner was Poppy Turner from Hebben Bridge in Yorkshire who read her poem out on an episode of the BBC's Countryfile, and previous winners came from Leicester, Surrey, South Yorkshire, Bristol, Oxford, Stafford, Rotherham and Greater Manchester.

Winning poems have been about a river, a tower, a local character, village life and local history.

## Entertainment Guide

### Cinema

Oban Phoenix Cinema, community-owned and run  
Tel: 01631 562905 www.obanphoenix.com

06 NOVEMBER 2015 - 12 NOVEMBER 2015

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Sat: 10:00

CRIMSON PEAK (15)

Fri, Mon, Tue, Wed: 21:30; Sat: 20:15; Sun: 18:15; Thu: 21:15

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2 (PG)

Daily Except Sat, Sun: 16:30; Sat: 13:20, 14:45; Sun: 11:00, 13:45

INSIDE OUT (U)

Sat: 11:15

PAN (PG)

Fri: 16:15; Sat: 12:15, 15:30; Sun: 11:15, 13:00; Mon, Tue, Wed: 16:15, 19:00; Thu: 16:15, 18:40

SPECTRE (12A)

Daily Except Sat, Sun: 18:45, 22:00; Sat: 17:00, 20:15; Sun: 15:30, 18:45

SUFFRAGETTE (12A)

Fri: 19:00; Sat: 18:00; Sun: 15:50

COMING SOON

NT LIVE: OF MICE AND MEN (12A) 19/11/2015

The hit Broadway production Of Mice and Men, filmed on stage in New York by National Theatre Live, comes to UK cinemas. Golden Globe® winner and Academy Award® nominee James Franco (127 Hours, Milk) and Tony Award® nominee Chris O'Dowd (Bridesmaids, G...)

THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY - PART 2

19/11/2015 After being symbolized as the "Mockingjay", Katniss Everdeen and District 13 engage in an all-out revolution against the autocratic Capitol.

THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY - PART 2

19/11/2015 After being symbolized as the "Mockingjay", Katniss Everdeen and District 13 engage in an all-out revolution against the autocratic Capitol.

THE LADY IN THE VAN (12A) 13/11/2015

A man forms an unexpected bond with a transient woman living in her car that's parked in his driveway.

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

115mins. Classic. A young boy wins a tour through the most magnificent chocolate factory in the world, led by the world's most unusual candy maker.

CRIMSON PEAK - 139MINS

In the aftermath of a family tragedy, an aspiring author is torn between love for her childhood friend and the temptation of a mysterious outsider. Trying to escape the ghosts of her past, she is swept away to a house that breathes, bleeds...and remembers.

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2 - 109MINS

The Drac pack is back for an all-new monster comedy adventure in Sony Pictures Animation's Hotel Transylvania 2! Everything seems to be changing for the better at Hotel Transylvania... Dracula's rigid monster-only hotel policy has finally relaxed, opening up its doors to human guests. But behind closed coffins, Drac is worried that his adorable half-human, half-vampire grandson, Dennis, isn't showing signs of being a vampire. So while Mavis is busy visiting her human in-laws with Johnny - and in for a major cultural shock of her own - "Vamps" Drac enlists his friends Frank, Murray, Wayne and Griffin to put Dennis through a "monster-in-training" boot camp. But little do they know that Drac's grumpy and very old, old, old school dad Vlad is about to pay a family visit to the hotel. And when Vlad finds out that his great-grandson is not a pure blood - and humans are now welcome at Hotel Transylvania - things are going to get batty!

INSIDE OUT - 118MINS

After a girl moves to a new home, her emotions are plunged into chaos as they compete for control of her mind.

PAN - 131 MINS

The story of an orphan who is spirited away to the magical Neverland. There, he finds both fun and dangers, and ultimately discovers his destiny -- to become the hero who will be forever known as Peter Pan.

SPECTRE - 170MINS

A cryptic message from Bond's past sends him on a trail to uncover a sinister organization. While M battles political forces to keep the secret service alive, Bond peels back the layers of deceit to reveal the terrible truth behind SPECTRE.

SUFFRAGETTE - 126MINS

A drama that tracks the story of the foot soldiers of the early feminist movement, women who were forced underground to pursue a dangerous game of cat and mouse with an increasingly brutal State. These women were not primarily from the genteel educated classes, they were working women who had seen peaceful protest achieve nothing. Radicalized and turning to violence as the only route to change, they were willing to lose everything in their fight for equality - their jobs, their homes, their children and their lives. Maud was one such foot soldier. The story of her fight for dignity is as gripping and visceral as any thriller, it is also heart-breaking and inspirational.

## Radio

Oban FM

Community Radio - your local radio station  
Tune in to 103.3 or listen live at www.obanfm.com

For requests, competitions or questions please email: studio@obanfm.org.uk or call us on 01631 570057

### THIS WEEK'S LISTINGS

MONDAY:

0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Monday Morning With Andy and Stephen, 1100 Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Jim Edge, 1700 Drivetime With Danni Hay, 1900 Rosie's Highland Fling, 2000 John McLuckie's Show, 2100 David Cullen

TUESDAY:

0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 1000 Ken Hunter, 1200 Memories are Made of This with Ken Hunter, 1330 The Quiz with Danni Hay, 1500 Lesley Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 1900 Sounds Scottish with Archie Cameron, 2000 Highest Praise with Stuart, 2100 Elaine Lamb, 2300 Northern Soul with Gordon Covey

WEDNESDAY:

0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Sound Scottish (repeat), 1000 Comfort Zone with Doug Carmichael, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Elaine Lamb, 1700 Drivetime with Campbell and Coll, 1900 Country Meets Country with Len & Ken, 2100 Gordon's Grooves

THURSDAY:

0800 Morning show, 1100 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Gordon Covey, 1700 Drivetime with DJ Taz, 1900 Christine's Collection, 2100 Ann's Cellidh, 2200 Margo Till Midnight

FRIDAY:

0800 Jean Ainsley Breakfast Show, 1000 Teeny and Tiny Show, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Weekend Warmup with Ian Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 1845 Sports View, 1900 Country Meets Country with Jackie Craig, 2000 Friday Night with Innes, 2100 TFI Friday with Jim Lawn

SATURDAY:

0900 Swingin' Sixties, 1000 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Crowscher, 1330 CLYDE 2, 1800 Sports View with the Dream Team, 1900 Marcus, 2000 Dave Lewis

SUNDAY:

0900 Sunday Morning with Breege, 1100 - 1400 Allan, 1630 Archie Darling, 1800 Ken's Friends with Ken Hunter, 1900 New Country Show with David Entwistle, 2100 Drum & Bass with Graham Scott

## Devil's Larder sets table in Oban

Scotland's most prestigious site specialist theatre company Grid Iron is remounting its huge Edinburgh Fringe hit of 2005, The Devil's Larder. Adapted from Jim Crace's novella, with beautiful and haunting live music and storytelling, this promenade piece takes audiences through the culinary underworld, this time set in Oban's Rockfield Centre.

One of the company's best-loved shows, it received many awards, including a Scotsman Fringe First and a Herald Archangel when it played at Edinburgh's Debenhams store during Fringe 2005.

Jim Crace's novella is teasingly dark and saucy, and forms the basis for an unnerving journey into a Devil's larder; an uncanny examination of the envy, love, revenge, hypocrisy, loss and lust that seethes beneath the false calm of a menu, a shopping list and an innocent recipe. It is a performance to tickle everyone's taste buds - deliciously wicked, melancholic and erotic.

The four-strong cast of Johnny Austin, Charlene Boyd, Ashley Smith and



Antony Strachan play an array of characters, from bored friends at a dinner party in desperate need of excitement, a devilish couple lost at sea, and a man with an artichoke growing inside him, to an elderly woman seasoning food with her late husband's ashes.

David Paul Jones' music - performed and sung live - with The Poozies' star Mary Macmaster on harp creates an unforgettable, atmospheric experience and a beautiful background for this mischievously delightful show.

Friday November 6 at 7.30pm, Saturday 7 at 2pm & 6pm, Sunday 8 at 2pm. Tickets £10. Box office: 07762 756 072; www.ticketsource.co.uk/therockfieldcentre



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## Former monitor farmers open gates once more

A SERIES of five one-day events to revisit former monitor farms will be hosted by Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) in November.

The monitor farms programme has been in existence since 2003, and to date has involved almost 50 farms funded mainly through the Scottish Government's Skills Development Scheme, and supported by QMS, DairyCo, NFUS, HGCA and SOPA.

The former monitor farms selected to be part of the QMS legacy initiative include Plan Farm on the Isle of Bute.

The monitor farm project involves the selection of a farm, typical of the area, as the monitor farm with a community group, comprised of local farmers

and other related businesses, getting involved in management decisions to improve the efficiency of the farm.

The aim of the legacy meetings is to give the community group and host farmer the opportunity to review on-going projects beyond the normal life of the monitor farm and also to assess and learn from changes to the businesses.

The Isle of Bute legacy meeting, which is open to all and free of charge, will take place at Plan Farm, courtesy of Brian and Janet Hill, on Thursday November 26.

For further information about these events and to register your place visit [www.qmscotland.co.uk/events](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/events).

## Farming roadshow launched in Oban



David Bolt, NFUS Argyll; Joanne Conington, SRUC; Graeme Pirie, SGRPID and Charlie Adam, who chairs the NFUS livestock committee, at Friday night's launch of the NFUS livestock roadshows. 17\_145nfus01

NFU SCOTLAND launched a series of 11 livestock road shows in Oban at the Corran Halls last Friday night.

Between now and the end of November livestock research, cross compliance and animal disease are the topics up for discussion across the country.

Oban's evening was chaired

by David Bolt, of Campbelltown branch, who farms suckler cows at Kilkenny.

He said: 'NFUS is just helping people to be up to speed and efficient farming.'

'There are things within the Scottish Government which are changing all the time and we have to try and help all our members know what's

happening.'

The guest-speakers were Joanne Conington, livestock geneticist from Scottish Rural College and Graeme Pirie, SGRPID, Scottish Government Rural Payment and Inspections Division, based in Oban.

Ms Conington said: 'The idea is to give an over-view

of sheep and beef research that's going on at SRUC. We have 500 animal scientists in one building which is very exciting; to help improve animal performance and farm efficiency.'

And Mr Pirie added: 'It is about trying to help members become more efficient and more productive in the

face of adversity.'

Charlie Adams, livestock chairman NFUS, who farms suckler cows at Alford, Aberdeenshire was also at the launch, which was attended by farmers from across Argyll and the islands, including Colonsay, Mull and Lismore.

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### MARKET REPORTS

#### Firm trade at Oban sheep sale

A GOOD show of store lambs and feeding ewes at Oban Livestock Centre on October 27 was met with a firm trade. Caledonian Marts Ltd sold 1,946 lambs and ewes, with lambs keenly bid for and trade up on the previous sale. All classes of ewe saw firm prices and more, say the auctioneers, could have been sold to seller advantage. Top price of the day went to A MacColl, Fanmore, for a cracking Texel ewe at £100. In the lamb section top price went to two regular consigners to the market, Donny McCor-

mick, Isle of Lismore and Ian Malcolm, Pottaloch, for pens of Texels and Beltex crosses respectively, both selling at £51.50.

#### Leading Prices

Lambs  
Tex: Tyree £50, Ardlarach £50, Baligarve £49, Suff: Pottaloch £49.50, Kilbride £49. Chev: Ardentraibe £49, Mule: Bailuacraich £46, Carnasserie £46, Kilbride £45, BF: Lee Croft £44, Pottaloch £44, Turnault £44, Tiraghail £43, Saorphin £43, Tyree £42  
Ewes  
Tex: Drumvore £71, Fanmore £69  
Cross: Laggan £60, Baligarve £59, Ardentraibe £52, Mule:

Baligarve £51, Laggan £49, Balimackillichan £48, Baligarve £48, Chev: Barderavine £45, Callaich £45  
BF: Slaterich £37, Laggan £37, ScriobRuadh £35, Drumvore £33, Crosslee £32

#### Additional sale date added to Dalmally calendar

AN EXTRA sale to the normal United Auctions calendar last Friday at Dalmally saw an entry of over 1,800 head of sheep and lambs. All classes sold to a good ring-side of buyers with all types

selling at prices comparable to recent sales.

#### Principal lots and prices

Top prices per head  
Lambs  
SUFFX: £55.50 - Glenshellach  
TEXX: £52.50 - Glenshellach: £52.00 - Lephinkill  
CHEVX: £44.00 - Maam Farm.  
CROSS: £49.00 - Stronmagachan  
MULE: £50.50 - Glenshellach  
BF: £50.00 - Glenshellach : £47.50 - Duallin: £46.50 - Garrogie Estate and Duncroisk  
Ewes  
CHEVX: £39.00 - Maam  
CROSS: £45.00 - Birchfield: £38.00 - Garrogie Estate  
BF: £55.00 - Auchroch: £48.00 - Pitcastle Estate: £44.00 - Eden

Taggart: £39.00 - Birchfield: £38.00 - Garraron & Melfort Farms  
Gimmers  
BF: £60.00 - Dall  
Ewe lambs  
BF: £56.00 - Raera  
Rams  
TEX: £180 - Barguilean  
CHEV: £160 - Barguilean  
Top prices per kilo  
Lambs  
SUFFX: 165p - Glenshellach  
TEXX: 152p - Glenshellach  
CHEVX: 151p - Maam Farm  
MULE: 133p - Glenshellach  
BF: 146p - Garrogie Estate : 138p - Tullochcan : 135p - Duncroisk and Auchroch : 134p - Duncroisk

# West Coast PROPERTY GUIDE

LETTINGS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SALE PROPERTY REVIEWS PROPERTY NEWS LOCAL ESTATE AGENTS

ADVERTORIAL

## Massive reform for Private Rented Sector as Tenancies Bill is published

The Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Bill 2015 proposes a complete reform of the current tenancy regime, making it one of the biggest changes to tenancy legislation in over 25 years.

For many landlords the key areas of concern are the proposals to remove the right of a landlord to end a lease naturally using the so called "no fault ground", proposals to allow rent controls in designated areas, the impact of the proposals on the operation of the specialist student let market and the impact of the proposals on the ability of a landlord to tackle anti-social behaviour and recover possession promptly when the tenant falls into rent arrears.

#### The main proposals are:

- replacing assured and short assured tenancies with a Scottish Private Residential Tenancy (SPRT), with landlords required to use a model tenancy agreement (to which they can add their

own clauses to supplement the prescribed ones);

- tenancies will have a fixed term of any duration and will continue indefinitely;
- landlords will only be able to end a tenancy if one of 16 grounds for possession apply - including where the landlord wants to use it for his own family, sell the property, complete major refurbishments, tenant abandonment or major breach such as tenant committing anti-social behaviour or accruing rent arrears.

- To end the lease landlords will be required to give 4 or 12 weeks' notice using one of the grounds and tenants will be required to give between 4 - 8 weeks. Notice periods for both landlords and tenants will be relative to the tenancy duration.

the grounds will all be mandatory, although the breach grounds will only be so for very serious breaches;

Landlords should note that the new regime will only apply to new tenancies after legislation comes into force, which is predicted to be in 2018.

The main driver for change has been the desire to increase security of tenure for tenants and increase the predictability of rent levels. Having read the legislation, my concerns would be the removal of the "no fault" ground and possible imposed rent controls. Both these factors could discourage investment in the sector, resulting in lower rental stock available for an ever-increasing demand for rental property in Scotland - something the Government was wanting to avoid.

The bill will be analysed and debated in Parliament over the coming months. Once the bill is approved and enacted, there will



be a need for secondary legislation before the proposals can be implemented. This secondary legislation will be finalised during 2016-2017 and it is expected that the new tenancy regime will take effect from 2018. Both Scottish Association of Landlords (SAL) and the Council of Letting Agents (CLA) are lobbying on behalf of landlords and letting agents throughout the parliamentary debates and I will be watching to see how the final legislation develops over the coming months.

Want expert advice on your rental property? Call 01631 569 466 for a FREE, NO OBLIGATION property inspection TODAY!



**36 x 20 feet 3 bedroom twin unit chalet manufactured by Pinelog in 1996.**

The chalet sleeps six in two double bedrooms and one twin room, one bathroom, open plan fitted kitchen, dining room and living room. Fitted kitchen includes washing machine and electric oven with hob. The chalet is all double glazed with new upvc doors and some windows. Chalet is all electric.

The price includes Verandah, skirting and steps.

The chalet is located in Dalmally and would need to be removed from site at the buyers expense.

Price is £25000.00 o.n.o.  
Tel 07899 010846 or email [magsmac331@gmail.com](mailto:magsmac331@gmail.com)

**TO LET**

Recently refurbished 2 bed flat close to Ft William town centre near schools and local shop rent £550 per month plus deposit and refs.

Apply to Box No 14 The Oban Times, Lochavullin Estate, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

Three bedroom apartment available to rent in Oban, close to town centre, furnished, lovely views, £650.

Contact 07771908071

**WANTED**

Professional male requires property to let in Oban or surrounding areas. References available.

Contact 01631 568049 (office hours)

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# West Coast **MOTURING** TIMES

✔ DRIVETIMES ✔ SAILING TIMES ✔ GARAGES ✔ CAR DEALERSHIPS ✔ MOTORING NEWS

## DRIVETIMES

### Mazda 6 diesel estate



2009, 92000 miles, service history, 152, 2.2i 163hp model, 6 speed manual, Black interior/exterior, Good condition, Long MOT, Good tyres, Recently serviced, Any inspection welcome.

£5250 o.n.o.

Tel: 07812 010906

### RENAULT CLIO (60)



DYNAMIQUE TOM TOM 16v (75bhp) 1149 cc Petrol 5 door Mileage 43,250 F.S.H. Sat nav and air con Metallic blue Alloy wheels MOT Till June 2016.

£4450 o.n.o.

01880 820 365

### Polaris Sportsman Ace ATV



Bought as ex-demonstrator, only used a handful of times. Excellent condition with extras including winch, roof etc. Road legal. Ideal Christmas present!

£4800+VAT o.n.o.

Tel: 07743 864270

## SAILING TIMES

### BOAT MOULDS FOR SALE



Boat moulds for sale to make two boats, 16ft sea angling boat also 18ft deep keel sea boat. Castlebay, Isle of Barra.

Tel: 01389 762393/  
07519 020358

## NEW CAR INDEX



### ISUZU

S & S Services  
Old Bridge Road,  
Heathfield, Ayr  
Tel. 01292 880080  
01292 880440

### VAUXHALL

Autovision  
40 Harbour Road  
Inverness  
Tel. 01463 251500  
www.scottishvauxhall.co.uk



### Great Wall

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Heathfield, Ayr  
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01292 880440



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gordonmotors



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01292 880440



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www.wdsemple.com  
Inveraray  
Shore Street  
Tel. 01499 302150  
Lochgilhead  
Highbank Park  
Tel. 01546 606767  
01546 606272

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DEALERSHIP  
PLEASE  
CALL: 01631  
568000**



### EMERGENCY KIT

Gather together the following items and pack them in your vehicle at the start of the winter season. You never know when you might need them!



- Ice scraper and de-icer
- Warm clothes and blankets for you and all passengers
- Torch and spare batteries or a wind-up torch
- Boots
- First aid kit
- Jump leads
- A shovel
- Road atlas
- Sunglasses (the glare off winter sun can be dazzling)

In addition, when setting out on journeys during the winter season remember to take with you:

- Food and a flask with a hot drink
- Any medication you, or other people travelling with you, need to take regularly



### IS YOUR CAR WELL PREPARED?

Check that your vehicle is ready for winter using the POWDERY checklist as a good reminder:

PETROL OIL WATER DAMAGE ELECTRICS RUBBER TYRES YOU

#### YOU

Are you fit to drive? Have you slept well? Are you taking any medication that could make it unsafe for you to drive?

#### OIL

Check levels once a month

#### ELECTRICS

Check battery, lights, indicators and controls are working properly

#### PETROL (OR DIESEL)

Have you got enough? Do you know where to fill up?

#### WATER

Check radiator, anti-freeze, and screenwash regularly

#### RUBBER TYRES

Are they well inflated, legal, with good tread and free from damage?

#### DAMAGE

Check wipers, lights etc for signs of wear and tear or damage, and make sure windcreens, windows and lights are clear of ice and snow.

### PETS

If you are planning to travel with pets, ensure that animals are safe and secure, and will not be a distraction to the driver or people travelling in your vehicle – seek appropriate advice before you travel.



Source: <http://adr.motorcodes.co.uk/motoringadvice/seasonal-advice/>

## Winter weather drives traffic to Helensburgh Subaru

THE nation may be starting to shiver, but there is one area of decidedly hot activity – Subaru's newest Scottish dealer Helensburgh Subaru.

The start of the cold spell brings increasingly more traffic through its new showroom.

As Scotland braces itself for the return of winter, Helensburgh Subaru Director Ernie Cowan, commented: "Growing numbers of people looking to find out more about the Subaru Range understand that in slippery and icy situations there is simply no substitute for our Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive system."

Subaru's quick-thinking, full-time Subaru Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive transmission splits power 50:50 front to rear; enhancing straight-line traction and providing sure-footed grip and traction through corners, whatever the weather; allowing the driver to make safe, swift progress, day in, day out. On a typically slippery British winter road, grip is at a premium. But Subaru's "Subaglu" permanent All-Wheel Drive – with state-of-the-art Vehicle Dynamics Control, intelligent Subaru Symmetrical

All-Wheel Drive differentials and super-grippy chassis and set-up – will find you traction, where a 2WD car would be slipping and sliding, leaving the driver in a panic, or worse. As a Subaru driver, even in hard rain, snow or icy conditions, all you will be aware of while you make



steady progress, is less understeer or oversteer, as the tried-and-tested, highly evolved Subaru Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive does its job reassuringly. With Subaru's full-time Subaru Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive, you can relax and drive with assurance, and grip – even during these coming winter days. To find out more about the Subaru Range contact our Sales Team at Helensburgh Subaru. Telephone: 01436 672779.

THE ALL-NEW SUBARU LEVORG.

**TOTAL CONTROL**  
FOR ALL YOU DO.

WITH SUBARU ALL-WHEEL DRIVE  
5 YEAR WARRANTY\*

£27,495 OTR  
For the Levorg 1.6 GT

CONTACT US TO FIND OUT MORE.  
**Helensburgh Subaru**  
101-103 East Clyde Street, Helensburgh, G84 7PJ  
Telephone: 01436 584326  
www.Helensburgh-Subaru.co.uk

facebook.com/HelensburghSubaru  
twitter.com/HburghSubaru

Helensburgh Motor Sales Limited, trading as Helensburgh Subaru is a credit broker and not a lender.

MPG figure are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Official fuel consumption figures for the All-New Subaru Levorg (l/100km): Urban from 33.2 (8.5) - 40.9 (6.9); Extra Urban from 44.8 (6.3).  
\*Every vehicle marketed by Subaru (UK) Ltd, excluding WRX STI is covered by a 5 Year/100,000 mile (whichever comes sooner) Limited Warranty which comprises of standard 3 Year/60,000 mile (whichever is sooner) Manufacturer's Warranty (bumper to bumper, excluding clutch driven plate) and an Extended Warranty (applies to powertrain only) provided by the importer. OTR price includes VAT, delivery, number plates, 12 months road fund licence and first registration fee. OTR price with special paint finish £27,995.00 \*without special paint finish £27,495.00. OTR price correct at time of print.

SUBARU  
Confidence in Motion

## WANTED

### WANTED

4x4s, Land Rover, double or single cab pickups, or any type of 4x4, any year or condition, will collect.

Tel 07767 302294 or  
01339 802522

### 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

Cars/ Motorbikes & Quads  
Any condition/ mileage considered from 2000-2014

Tel: 07900 668642 Andrew

### WANTED

All types of 4 x 4 vehicles, Landrovers, Toyotas, Nissan, any 4x4 considered non-runners, failures, single or double cab and accident damaged, MOT failure, genuine people to deal with.

Telephone: 01250 884306  
or mobile 07885 203020

### WANTED

All types of motor homes & caravanettes. Any age or condition. We also buy water damaged or in need of repair. Also all types of touring caravans from 95 onwards.

Telephone: 01250 884306  
or mobile 07885 203020

### WANTED

4x4's, all makes and models, also light commercials, vans, pick-ups bought, high miles no problems, MOT or not, instant decision, same day payment.

Telephone: William 07730 130284 or  
email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

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# West coast recruitment



## RECRUITING NOW

ARGYLL and Lochaber offer a wide range of career paths, from manual to professional, and everything in between. Our recruitment guide is a great way to find vacancies as well as get ideas for jobs that might suit you. For those looking to get into the world of work for the first time, we also feature opportunities for trainees and apprentices. The first step in applying for that dream job or apprenticeship is preparing a resume, or CV. Whether updating a current CV or starting from scratch, My World of Work suggests using the following checklist to make sure everything is covered.

**1. Contact details**  
It's important to provide a range of up-to-date contact options including your home address, your main phone number and your email address to make it easy for employers to get in touch with you.

**2. Employment history**  
Make sure to include the jobs that are relevant to the position you are applying for. If you haven't had much relevant experience, you may want to include your entire work history.

**3. Education and qualifications**  
Your education and qualifications may not be directly related to the job you are applying for, but they're still important achievements that any employer will want to see.

**4. Skills and strengths**  
Emphasising your skills and strengths is vital when writing a CV. A strength is something you're naturally good at. A skill is something you acquire with education and experience. Make sure to demonstrate how your skills and strengths will help you to do well in the job.

**5. Your personality**  
Your CV should follow a fairly standard format and the interview is where your personality is really important, but you can still stand out from the crowd with the language you use.

**6. A prioritised layout**  
The way you lay out your CV will depend on your age and work experience level. If you have don't have much work experience or you're looking for a career change, you should place your skills and strengths section before employment and education.

**7. A good simple format**  
Unless you're going for a highly creative job, getting too fancy with fonts and borders will only take the focus from the important information in your CV.

**8. Good spelling and punctuation**

There's no room for poor spelling and punctuation in either your cover letter or your CV. Spell check should be the very last thing you do before sending it off.

**9. References available on request**  
You don't have to include references in your CV, but make sure to state at the end of your CV that they are available 'on request'.

**10. A cover letter**  
Most employers will expect a cover letter with your CV. It gives you a chance to get across your personality, ambition and to explain any gaps in your CV.



A rare opportunity to fulfil a key role in one of the Highlands great weekly newspapers

## EDITOR

The Oban Times  
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Based in Oban, the new editor will have the drive and passion to deliver the best weekly newspaper possible through an acute awareness and understanding of the readership, imagination, motivation and efficient use of the resources available to them. The editor will play a major role in the implementation of new developments both traditional and digital, as the newspaper faces exciting challenges ahead.

£ Excellent + Car + BUPA + Enhanced Pension

Full driving licence is essential.

Apply with CV and present salary to Ali Arden, ali@obantimes.co.uk

### University of the Highlands and Islands Argyll College

Argyll College has a childcare nursery, Little Learners' Nursery, adjacent to the SAMS buildings at Dunstaffnage. Little Learners' is open 5 days a week from 8am to 5pm, 50 weeks of the year, only closing for 2 weeks over Christmas and New Year. It provides childcare and pre-school education for children aged 0 to 5 years and now requires a:

#### Part-time Cook

To provide meals in line with healthy eating guidelines. Hours are 25 per week, from 9am to 2pm which includes time for shopping for fresh ingredients, since the nursery does not use frozen goods in the preparation of meals. It would be preferred if applicants held a current Food Hygiene certificate and had experience in dealing with differing dietary requirements for children. The successful applicant will be expected to follow Health & Safety guidelines and adhere to a fixed budget. The salary for the post is £10,823.28

Applications in the form of a CV (max 2 pages A4) and a one page covering letter should be sent by Friday 20th November to Lorna McDonald, Argyll College, Glershellach Business Park, Oban, Argyll PA34 4RY. Tel 01631 559520 E-mail: lorna.mcdonald@uhi.ac.uk

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**HOME BASE VACANCIES**  
Permanent Positions  
Shopfloor Team Leader 39 Hours  
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CV's via email to cstl.oban@homebase.co.uk  
Closing Date for applications 15th November 2015

**Salon Manager/ Hair Stylist**  
Fully qualified hairdresser to run busy salon, hardworking and reliable, negotiable rate of pay depending on experience.  
Telephone 07907732150 for further information.

**RECEPTIONIST**  
Required for busy Holiday Park  
Good computer and people skills essential. Driving license and 2nd language preferred. £8 per hour, Part time and full time available.  
CV's and covering letters please to relax@linnhe-lochside-holidays.co.uk

51% of people turn to their local newspaper first when looking for a new job.  
The regional press is the best medium to use when looking for local people for local jobs.

### The Scottish Salmon Company

Companaidh Bhradan na h-Alba

Scotland's Business of The Year is looking for...

**A SENIOR MARINE OPERATIVE**  
Toward, Dunoon  
Competitive salary dependent on experience  
...to join our team of passionate aquaculture professionals.

We are currently recruiting for a Senior Marine operative based at our site on Strone.

Under the direction of the site manager, you will lead a small team in all the day to day operations of the site and will assume responsibility for staff, vessels and equipment.

Applicants must have proven leadership, fish husbandry and organisational abilities with good numerical and IT skills. The successful applicant must also be committed to high standards of health & safety of staff and understand the importance of environmental issues. A current clean driving license is essential.

The Scottish Salmon Company is 100% focused on Scotland. We produce our salmon with a pride recognised at home and around the World. We require passionate individuals committed to the very highest standards in all aspects of our business from animal husbandry and sustainability planning to customer service.

In return The Scottish Salmon Company offers a competitive salary package within a successful and innovative company. To request an application form and/or a detailed job specification please see contact details below.

Angela Gibson, HR Officer,  
The Scottish Salmon Company,  
Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH  
Tel: 01499 600 430 angela.gibson@scottishsalmon.com  
Closing date for applications: Monday 16th November 2015  
Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com



Scotland's Finest



### AMBITIOUS FOR SCOTLAND

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Lochgilthead, £40,747 - £48,631  
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The Argyll and the Islands team is currently recruiting for a senior role and is seeking a dynamic and motivated individual to develop and deliver a range of ambitious projects.

This project role is an exciting opportunity to deliver our vision for the area.

You will be working with the Area Manager and wider HIE team, leading on HIE's engagement with partners in developing and implementing specific projects to drive change.

You will bring strong influencing and negotiating skills, project management experience and the determination to deliver short term change whilst laying plans for the future.

TO APPLY ONLINE VISIT: www.hie.co.uk/vacancies  
JOB REFERENCE: 494  
CLOSING DATE: 22 November 2015  
INTERVIEW DATE: 2 December 2015 (Glasgow)



**Scottish Canals** are hiring a **Business Support Advisor** to be based in Ardrishaig!  
Applications close 11 November 2015, visit scottishcanals.co.uk/corporate/join-our-team/ to find out more!

**Floorshop Oban Ltd are urgently seeking a qualified carpet fitter with driving licence preferred.**  
Immediate start.  
Great rates of pay.  
Send CV to floorshopargyll@gmail.com

**Caring for Carers NORTH ARGYLL**  
**Care Attendant Co-ordinator**  
28 hours per week  
£22,000 Pro Rata (£17,600) Per Annum  
The Care Attendant Co-ordinator will work with the Carers Centre Manager to coordinate the work of its small dedicated team of Care attendants in line with the ethos and aims of the organisation (see www.crossroadsnorthargyll.co.uk)  
The post of Care Attendant Co-ordinator is a permanent position  
Jobshare applicants will be considered  
CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Thursday 20 November  
To request a recruitment pack and application form please contact: northargyllcrossroads@hotmail.com  
Tel: 01631 562277  
Or write to The Manager, Crossroads North Argyll, North Argyll Carers Centre, Albany Street, Oban, PA34

**Enable Scotland**  
Full & Part time support worker positions available  
Salary £7.80 per hour  
For further information  
Please contact Nancy on 01631 565062 between 10am - 2pm  
email kirsty.mackenzie@enable.org.uk  
Application forms can be found on Enable Scotland's website or collected from our local office at Unit 3, Macleod Buildings, Lochavullin Road, Oban.

public notices

**TSI**  
Supporting people and communities to thrive  
**Argyll & Bute Third Sector Interface**  
(Charity no. 29947 Co. 277345)  
Is holding its AGM on Wednesday 2nd December 2015 The George Hotel, Inveraray  
AGM 11.00am - 12.30pm  
Limited spaces so they will be allocated on a first come basis.  
Therefore please book in advance.  
RSVP by 26th November 2015 to 01631 564839  
Or email kathleen@argylltsi.org.uk

**First Registration of a Croft**  
Mr Vincent Bohn has registered their croft 10 Blaich (Apportionment and Share), 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 29 July, 2016.  
Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C1438.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**First Registration of a Croft**  
Mr Lachlan MacKinnon and Mr Iain A MacKinnon have registered the croft 37 Balephetrish, Tiree 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 20/07/2016.  
Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home  
The Croft registration number is C1817

**CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROITING APPLICATION**  
Mrs C Turner  
84 & 85 Lochyside, Kilmallie  
0.023 ha - Amenity ground  
4.86.59420  
Comments can be made to the Crofting Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land, within 28 days of the date of this newspaper. Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

**First Registration of a Croft**  
Mrs Sandra Ann Cameron Teo has registered their Croft: 132 Kilmorey, Ardnamurchan & 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 21 July, 2016.  
Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is AO252

**First Registration of a Croft**  
Mr Andrew William MacDonald has registered their Croft: 5 Stronaba, Kilmonivaig, 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 12 July, 2016.  
Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C1689.

**CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD FIRST REGISTRATION OF COMMON GRAZINGS**  
The Crofting Commission have registered the following Common Grazings on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.  
Balevullin Common Grazings, Tiree Registration Number: CG193  
Crossapol Common Grazings, Tiree Registration Number: CG190

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may appeal to the Scottish Land Court. The appeal must be brought within 9 months from the date of this advert and should be made directly to the Land Court.  
Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home

**First Registration of a Croft**  
Mrs Kareen Barker has registered the croft 11 Tighphuirist, 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 15 July, 2016.  
Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C1802.

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
15/03507/FUL	Druim Cottage 18 North Ballachulish Onich, Fort William	Erection of house
15/03747/FUL	The Gathering, Inverie Knoydart, Mallaig	Proposed new lounge extension
15/03923/FUL	Drimnatorran Farm House Strontian, Acharacle	Remove derelict storage sheds from site and erect timber frame storage shed
15/04025/PIP	50M North East of Willow Cottage, Auchindarroch Duror	Erection of dwelling and formation of access

Time period for comments is 14 days  
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX  
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

**Oban Times Oban Times Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES**

**The Scottish Government**  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
**TRANSPORT SCOTLAND**  
**THE A85 TRUNK ROAD (LOCHEARNHEAD TO LIX TOLL) (50MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2015**  
THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS hereby give notice that they have made the above Order under section 84(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.  
The effect of the Order is as described in the Oban Times dated 27 November 2014, and the Edinburgh Gazette Issue Number 27490 dated 28 November 2014. The Order comes into force Monday 9 November 2015.  
A copy of the Order as made and the relevant plan may be inspected free of charge until 18 December 2015 during normal business hours at the offices of Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF; and The Village Shop, Strathyre, Callander, Perthshire, FK18 8NA.  
A copy of the Order and this Notice will be available on the Transport Scotland website at http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/node/666  
**S LEES**  
A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers  
Transport Scotland  
Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk  
Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid  
**Argyll Bute COUNCIL**

**PLANNING**  
These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, Monday to Friday 9am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5pm. On Wednesdays, the Customer Service Points will 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.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
15/02824/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	Plot 4 Gallanachbeg Glenshellach Road Oban Argyll and Bute	Oban Area Office
15/02856/PP	Erection of 6 dwellinghouses	Phase 9 Glenshellach Glenshellach Road Oban Argyll and Bute	Oban Area Office
15/02886/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and detached garage, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	(Plot 3) Land North West of Knockalla Craignure Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Craignure
15/02892/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land East of Church Cottage Portsonachan Dalmaily Argyll and Bute PA33 1BJ	Sub Post Office Dalmaily
15/02942/PP	Erection of wind turbine (26.6 metres to blade tip)	Land East of 3 Baugh Baugh Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute PA77 6UN	Tiree Area Office
15/02943/PP	Erection of wind turbine (26.6 metres to blade tip)	Land South East of Laingis Ruaig Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute PA77 6TR	Tiree Area Office

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Lochgilphead Brae PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
15/02920/PP	Change of use of land to form garden ground and erection of shed (retrospective)	Taobh An Abhainn Bruichladdich Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA49 7UN	Sub Post Office Port Charlotte

Argyll and Bute Council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk  
The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Central Validation Team, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD.  
A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.  
Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website.  
Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

**COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY**  
Councillor Roddy McCuish (E.W. 4 Oban South and the Isles)  
Councillor McCuish will be holding a surgery on Friday 6th November 2015 in the Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban from 3.00pm - 5.00pm.  
He can be contacted by email - Roderick.McCuish@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01631 567854.

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**PERSONAL NOTICES**

**Happy 60th Birthday Margaret**

**Love Duncan, Emma, Mhairi and families xx**

**Look Who's 18**

**On 5th November Colin Sinclair Love Mum and Dad xx**

**Thank you**

We would like to thank everybody who gave so generously at the recent concert "Echoes of War". A massive total of £810 was raised and donated to Help Our Wounded. Special thanks go to Erik Spence and Kathleen Hunter.

- Dorothy, David and Jean MacPherson

**FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO PLACE YOUR PERSONAL XMAS GREETINGS SEE OUR ADVERTISEMENT ON PAGE 6.**

**BIRTHS**

**BARNES** - Mr and Mrs Barnes are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Olivia on October 21. Great-great-granddaughter of Jean and the late Hay Nisbet.

**DEATHS**

**CAMERON** - Peacefully passed into the presence of the Lord at the Belford Hospital, on Saturday, 31st October 2015, Mary Cameron. A much loved aunt and great aunt. Funeral Service will be held on Friday, 6th November 2015 at 1pm in Kilmallie Free Church of Scotland; thereafter to Kilmallie Cemetery to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Sadly missed. Family flowers only please. Arrangements by John McLellan Funeral Directors.

**COYLE** - Peacefully on Wednesday October 28, 2015 at home with her family by her side, Elizabeth (nee May). Beloved wife of John, a loving mother, nana and great-grandmother. Sorely missed.

**MACCONNACHIE** - Peacefully on Thursday, October 29, 2015, at Strathcaron Hospice, Margaret Ormiston (nee Black), in her 88th year. Wife of the late John MacConnachie. Funeral service will be held at Bridge of Allan Parish Church, Bridge of Allan, Stirling, on Monday, November 9 at 1.30pm, thereafter to Falkirk Crematorium for 2.30pm, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Donations in lieu of flowers, in aid of Strathcaron Hospice by request.

**MACDONALD** - Suddenly at Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban on October 31, 2015, aged 80 years, George MacDonald of Dunbeg and Edinburgh, dearly loved dad to Kerry and Josephine and loving and much loved papa to Seoras. Greatly missed by all who knew him.

**MACDONALD** - Rev Ian U. Peacefully at home on Saturday, October 31, 2015, Ian, aged 83 years. Beloved husband of the late Ella, loving father of Neil and David, father-in-law of Anne and Susan and much loved papa of Catriona, Caitlin, Cameron and Angus. Funeral service at Castlehill Parish Church, Ayr on Wednesday, November 11 at 12 noon, thereafter to Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr at 1.15pm. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Ian will be held at 12 noon on Friday, November 13, at Ardnamurchan Parish Church, Killohan and thereafter to the Old Graveyard. Family flowers only please.

**MACDONALD** - Peacefully at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on October 20, 2015, Margaret MacDonald (Maggie May), loving partner of Allan Kirkpatrick, much loved sister and auntie. Deeply missed by all the family. Thanks to Dr Jespersen and all the staff at the Lorn and Islands Hospital.

**McLEOD** - Peacefully at Inverclyde Royal Hospital on Friday, October 30, 2015, Neil, beloved son of the late Kenneth and Mary McLeod of Kilmartin and Strachur, Argyll, loving brother, uncle and great uncle of the family. The funeral service will take place at Strachur Parish

Church on Friday, November 6, at 11.00am, thereafter to Kilmartin Cemetery arriving at approximately 2.00pm to which all are respectfully invited. Donations if desired to Cowal Hospice Trust.

**WADE** - Tragically on October 28, 2015 in a road collision on the Isle of Mull, Theresa (the Mull vet), beloved daughter of Mary and Trevor, sister of Rosie and Louise and partner of Charles. Funeral to be held at Bunessan, Mull at a date to be arranged.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**CAMERON** - Duncan "Dochie" Malloch of Duror. Jenny and family convey their heartfelt thanks for all for the kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, gifts, cards and donations at this sad time. Duncan sadly left this world on October 29, with his family by his side. We would like to thank everyone who attended his funeral service on November 4. He now rests in peace in Duror Cemetery.

**CAMPBELL** - Fiona and Keilidh wish to sincerely thank all relatives and friends for their kind words, cards, letters, flowers and phone calls following the sudden loss of Chris, a much loved partner and Dad. They would also like to thank Ian of D&A Munn for guidance and support and Mr Donald MacKinnon for a comforting service and his kindness throughout. Special thanks to all the people who attended the church and graveside. Thank you also to the staff of The Glen for their excellent catering. A substantial amount of money was raised from donations to MacMillan Nurses through a retail collection in Chris's name.

**EWEN** - The family of the late Catherine (Ena) Ewen would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the many kind expressions of sympathy in their sad loss. Special thanks to Dr Philips, district nurses, all staff at Ardfenaig and Glassary ward for all care and attention received. Special thanks to Dr Roddy MacLeod for a lovely comforting service, to Stan Lupton Funeral directors for professional services and to Piper Charles Ferguson, The Larder, Tarbert for the flowers and to the Coach House Inn, Cardross for catering. To all who paid respects at Glassary Church and the Crematorium. The collection for Alzheimer's Scotland raised £285.

**MACMILLAN** - Ian, Marion, Hector, Joan and families wish to thank all friends and relatives for their kind support and sympathy shown to them following Christine's passing. Many thanks to Rev Ann Winning for her comforting service, Barbara Summers for the lovely music, Scott, Joanne and their colleagues at John McLellan's for their professional funeral arrangements and kindness to the family - also McDonald Bros for the beautiful flowers. Our deep gratitude to the wonderful staff at Abbeyfield Ballachulish for making mum's last days so comfortable,

and the care they showed to all the family, also Dr Wilmington and Dr Calder and the staff at Ballachulish Medical Centre for their care. We would also like to express our sincere thanks to Michelle McPhee, Frances Griffen and Isobel Robertson who helped mum so much. Finally, thank you to all who attended at the church and graveside and who generously donated £548.40 towards Abbeyfield Ballachulish.

**STEWART** - Sandra, Peter and Charlie and their families would like to thank most sincerely all those who have expressed sympathy on our recent very sad loss of our dear brother Hamish. These have been by letter, condolence cards, phone calls, visits, flowers and chats on the street, all expressing such kind words concerning Hamish and have been a great source of strength to us. Also many thanks to Fr Roddy MacAulay for his visit and comforting words. Finally, thanks to all who paid their last respects at the church. Hamish is now at peace.

**MEMORIAMS**

**CAMERON** - In loving memory of my dear mother Marjory, (Acharacle) who died on November 8, 1995. Always in my thoughts and sadly missed. -William, Glasgow.

**CLARK** - In loving memory of a very special mum, Maureen who passed away on November 8, 2014. Always in our thoughts - Susan, Stephen and Michael.

**CLARK** - Remembering Maureen, the very best of sisters and aunt, Om Mari Peme Hung - Frances, Mark and Jenny, Matthew, Heather, Sarah and Isabella.

**CLARK** - In loving memory of our dear sister and aunt Maureen who passed away November 8, 2014. Always in our thoughts Forever in our hearts - Argyll, Jenny, James, Laura, Kirstin and Jamie

**CRAIK** - In loving memory of our dearest parents, brothers Robert and Sandy and sister Nancy. Always remembered - Chrissie and Charlotte.

**MACDONALD** - In memory of my dear mum Nell MacDonald who would have been 90 today, November 5.

With an ache in my heart  
I whisper low  
Happy birthday mum  
I miss you so. Love you mum.  
- Donna xxx

**MACDOWALL** - In loving memory of Rena, a beloved wife and mother who passed away on November 9, 2010. Missed and remembered always - Andrew and family, Oban

**PROSSER** - In loving Memory of James. A dear Brother, Uncle and Great Uncle who died November 1, 2007 Loved and missed, always remembered times shared. -Betty and all the family

**WILL** - Precious memories of Jason, died November 7, 1998. Sadly missed. - Love from all the family.

**Tribute - Angus John MacDonald**

As members of the Gaelic Society of Glasgow convened for their first meeting of the session last month, they greatly missed one of their popular members, Angus John Macdonald.

Angus John had been diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease a year ago but had managed to stay at home until August, when he had to go into hospital, and it was there that he passed away, aged 82.

Angus John Archy Macdonald was born in Knockline, Paible, North Uist, in 1933 and brought up there, but had the misfortune to lose his mother, and then his father, when he was still at an early age.

A promising pupil, he nevertheless left school shortly after that, and in due course the family of four sons and two daughters was broken up, and for a while some of them had no fixed home.

Later the young Angus John made his way south, spending some time in the Lothians but eventually settling in Glasgow, where he had an aunt. Among his jobs at this time was that of a railway porter in the Scot-south area.

Angus John spent two years on National Service in the early 50s, and while it was no picnic, it may be that his ability to cope with both the physical and mental demands of the Army boosted his confidence.

He often spoke of these years, and of the relics of the Second World War that he saw in Libya - broken tanks and other kinds of detritus left over from the fighting in the desert. Among the other places to which he was posted were Malta and the south of England.

He went back to the railway after this, being based at Gilmour Street station in Paisley, and then working as a signaller for several years on the main line to Glasgow.

By then he had married Retta Potter of Port Glasgow, and while the marriage did not last, it yielded a son, Angus James, who was with him at the end, as was his daughter-in-law, Janet.

But by far the greater proportion of Angus John's working life was given over to the Post Office (as it later became), first as a postman and later as a driver, making local deliveries to begin with and later doing a nightly run between Glasgow and Perth.

By then, having lived at Auchenbothie and Kilmacolm, he had been settled in Glasgow for some years. He retired in 1998.

Angus John Macdonald had a wide range of interests. His last home was in Partick, and he was a regular attendee at the Crow Road Free Church around the corner from his own street.

He was also known as an indefatigable and highly knowledgeable collector of Gaelic books and books on Highland history and culture, building up a collection that would be the envy of many an educational institution.

Especially in his youth, he could compose Gaelic poetry at the drop of a hat, as well as a translation in the same metre!

When he was younger he also played the chanter, while his ability to solve the most abstruse crossword puzzles was legendary among his friends.

But perhaps the memory of him that his friends will cherish most is that of his extraordinarily hospitable and sociable nature, as he held court in his flat at No. 10 and generously produced sandwiches, tea, biscuits and as much whisky as people were prepared to take.

In recent years he would regularly invite friends in after the monthly Gaelic Society meetings, and the talk - almost always in Gaelic - would flow until late, with much discussion, reminiscence and general fun.

Angus John's mother Christina was from Grimsay, and he stayed in Grimsay on his most recent trip to Uist, which was in 2012.

He had also more than once visited Canada, where there are relatives, as well as South Africa, where descendants of his father's brother John still live. And he himself was visited by both relatives and friends from those countries as well.

He was a healthy man who often walked into town instead of taking a bus and whose appearance belied his actual age. It was therefore a severe blow when he had his diagnosis last October. Carers attended him, and, although saddened by his gradually waning powers, his friends did not neglect him. But the disease was inexorable.

His daughter-in-law Janet



ANGUS JOHN MACDONALD: Angus John in No. 10 with his grandson Cameron

paid a graceful tribute at a well-attended funeral service held in his own church on September 1, with some having come a considerable distance, and that was followed by interment in the New Lambhill Cemetery in Glasgow.

Our sympathy goes most particularly to Angus, Janet and their son Cameron, and to Angus John's surviving siblings, his older sister Katie Mary in New Zealand and

his younger brother Neil in Falkirk, and to their families. But many others will also miss Angus John Macdonald, and it is hard to believe that one will not encounter him again, perhaps on one of his many walks along Dumbarton Road, or see that shy, friendly smile of welcome as he opens his door.

Bidh sinn ga ionndrainn iomadach latha.

IMD

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**LIFE lines**  
**The Fate of Flight KGL9268**  
AIR disasters used to be relatively rare, but large-scale tragedies like this seem to occur with increasing and alarming frequency.  
Air travel has changed the world, and the majority of us take it quite for granted. I know the principles of physics and aerodynamics make it technically possible for heavier-than-air machines to take off and stay airborne for many hours, but manned flight still mystifies, fascinates and scares me in equal measure. Most of us are quite used to flying across oceans and between continents, and we tend not to think about the consequences of things going wrong.  
It's only natural - very few people ever survive plane crashes.  
We might never know exactly what happened to the plane on Saturday, but the tragedy of 224 preventable deaths in horrifying circumstances is further darkened by the long list of possible causes.  
Experts have ruled out a surface-to-air missile strike by militants in the region, but not the possibility of a bomb on board the aircraft. What if it was a mistake? The region is so heavily militarised that any one of many armed forces could have shot it down by accident. It has happened before.  
What if it was a deliberate military strike, intended to further destabilise the region and lead to recriminations and war?  
The consequences of any of these causes are too terrifying to contemplate - meanwhile the families and friends of the victims suffer heartache and loss. There is no happy ending, but if Flight KGL9268 did suffer a catastrophic technical failure, no more unnecessary deaths need follow.  
Johnston Adams

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**GRADUATIONS**  
Kayleigh Anne Menassa  
Graduated University Of Highlands & Islands with a HNC in computing. Kayleigh is daughter of Joe & Margaret Mendassa

# Mark just fails to reach the last eight



**ACTION MAN:** Mark Welsh in action against Holland's Kelvin Teinstra.

## Kyokushinkai Karate

The British Open/Cup of Europe championships had some fantastic fights; unfortunately Mark Welsh's bid to get into the last eight came to an end against Kelvin Teinstra, a tall, strong fighter from Holland.

Teinstra caught Mark with a knee to the head early on in the fight, this didn't faze Mark who fought on strongly against his awkward opponent for the remainder of the fight. But with just a few seconds left, Teinstra once again threw the knee, which Mark (thinking it was coming to his head) went to block, Teinstra seeing the block switched at the last second to send the knee into Mark's solar plexus, causing Mark to momentarily turn away hurt as the final buzzer went.

That unfortunately was enough for the judges to award the fight to Teinstra.

Mark and I would like to thank everyone that supported us in the build-up to, and at the tournament itself.

Mark's training resumes this week with the build-up to the Scottish Open in Glasgow on February 27.

November 1 saw junior competitors from several clubs battle it out in Lochgilhead in the yearly tournament run by Caledonia Kyokushin, along with adults competing in a kata (set patterns)



section, a full report on this will be in the next column.

A 'squad training' session has also been organised for Saturday November 7 in Oban. This is

to aid anyone wishing to train towards 'knockdown' fighting.

Martial Artists from any group are welcome to attend. The class will be taught by myself, Iain

Rodger 5<sup>th</sup> dan Kyokushinkai Karate.

For any information about Caledonia Kyokushin contact: iain@ikku.co.uk or 07584 166542.

## BJJ

Oban BJJ will begin its children's class on Friday November 6 at 6pm to 7pm and is for five-year-olds and above. This first class is free.

The class will consist of a mix of basic BJJ movement drills and fun games that incorporate fun-

damentals of BJJ. Adult classes continue as normal.

## Shukokai Karate

Training continues as normal with some members competing in the junior tournament in Lochgilhead on November 1, report to follow. Argyll Martial Arts are holding a course and grading on Sunday November 8 at Dalmailly Community Centre.

For club info contact Kenny on kenni.gray@btinternet.com



**FUNDRAISER:** Youngsters from the Sensi Do Kickboxing Club held a fancy dress training session recently where £332 was raised for Dojo funds.

## Kickboxing

On Wednesday the 28th Sensi Do Kickboxing held their annual sponsored Hallowe'en training session, where the juniors got dressed up and took part in a pad work session along with some games, this raised £332 to go towards the Dojo fund and some new strike shields.

Shihan Wullie Rodger would like to thank everyone who sponsored the kids, donated sweets and prizes, and a special thank you to Sempai Sharon Dickson for her organisation of the event.

Junior members were competing at the tournament in Lochgilhead on November 1, report to follow. Adult training continues towards the Scottish Open in February and other full contact tournaments.

For club info, contact; Wullie on shihanwill@gmail.com

## Camanachd Association appoint new north shinty development officer

THE Camanachd Association is delighted to confirm the appointment of Katie Drain as Regional Shinty Development Officer for the North.

Katie will take up the Inverness-based post on Monday November 23 and replaces the previous RDO, Russell Jones.

Katie is already well known

within shinty circles as a player for both Glasgow Mid Argyll and the Scotland Women's teams, and also as a coach and administrator.

Since 2008 Katie has worked for the Scottish Sports Futures (SSF) charity in Glasgow, delivering Education Through Sport programmes across Scotland.

In 2013 she became Programme Manager of SSF's highly successful 'Jump2it' initiative, a primary school Health and Citizenship programme delivered across Scotland to 'at risk' youths, using pro athletes to deliver interactive workshops.

Katie has also previously worked as a Sports Coach for East Dun-

bartonshire Council and is qualified to coach a range of sports, including: shinty, basketball, football and hockey. She has an Honours Degree in Sports Management from Glasgow Caledonian University.

Torquill Macleod, Camanachd Association Chief Operating Officer, said: 'I am delighted that Katie will

## Shinty

be joining the CAs Development Team. She brings a huge amount of enthusiasm, energy and experience and I am sure she will play an important role in the ongoing promotion and development of shinty in the North.'



Katie Drain.

## International call up for Donnie Campbell



**INTERNATIONAL CALL UP:** Oban Saints midfielder Donnie Campbell has been included in the Scotland amateur international squad for a training session at Colville Park, Motherwell, on Sunday. If all goes well, Donnie will be included in the Scotland squad who take on Airdrieonians in a friendly match at the Excelsior Stadium, Airdrie, on Wednesday November 11.

## Oban Saints striker heads for football adventure down under

SATURDAY'S cancelled Scottish Amateur Cup match against Condorrat Club was to have been Lewis Cameron's farewell appearance for Oban Saints before his departure for a land down under. Lewis will be accompanied on his antipodean adventure by his girlfriend Rebecca MacDougall and everybody at Oban Saints wishes them well.

Lewis will continue to play football while in Australia and already has a trial arranged with semi-professional club Rochedale Rovers of the Brisbane Premier League.

Rochedale's Technical Director is Scott MacNicol who can count Dunfermline Athletic and Brechin City among his former clubs, as well as a fleeting pre-season friendly appearance for Oban Saints. Scott is the son of former Dunbeg favourite Brian MacNicol and the nephew of Saints legend Dougie Campbell, who has recommended Lewis to the Brisbane Club.

As well as playing for Saints Lewis, was a regular in the Scottish Amateur League Select team and made his full international debut for Scotland at Tullamore against Ireland last April.

With the match finishing 1-1 the game went into the dreaded penalty shoot-out but Lewis calmly stepped up and drilled the fifth, and last, penalty into the back of the net to retain the Graham Harkness Trophy for his country.

While the loss of the Scottish Amateur international is undoubtedly a blow to Saints it does release a starting position in attack, which is an area where Saints are relatively well off for players. Manager Alex Craik has plenty of options to consider ahead of Saints next game on November 7 against Campbelltown Pupils.

## Football



**OFF TO PASTURES NEW:** Lewis Cameron in action for Oban Saints.

## A tribute to the late Hugh MacArthur

HUGH MacArthur was a founder member of Mid Argyll Athletic Club in August 1984 and his contribution in the early years was immense, particularly as a coach and also as a very active fundraiser and administrator.

He attended many coaching courses in the early years of the club and gained the senior coach qualification in middle distance events.

Hugh's knowledge and coaching skills helped several young athletes to win awards at district and national competitions.

Hugh was also active as an athlete, covering many miles on the

roads, canal banks and forestry tracks in Mid Argyll and completed two marathons and many half marathons and shorter road races, reaching a very respectable standard. Before Hugh entered the athletics world as a coach and athlete, he represented Scotland in international competition in clay pigeon shooting.

When Hugh finally retired from coaching, he concentrated his efforts in trying to establish a sports complex locally, which included a 400m all-weather track.

As chairman of the local sports trust, he was the driving force behind the project, but unfortunately

this did not materialise as the new joint campus school was built on the preferred, and only, site in 2007. The local sports trust committee continued to meet but eventually the meetings were very infrequent, until efforts were made in 2013 to reform this voluntary group.

Hugh agreed to be chairman, once again, of the reformed Mid Argyll Sports Council and thanks to Hugh and the new committee it was agreed to grant Mid Argyll Athletic Club a generous financial contribution towards the club's project to create an all-weather jumps facility on spare ground at

the joint campus. Without Hugh's persuasive influence this would not have happened. This facility, which is now programmed to be completed in the early summer of 2016, will be of great benefit to the athletic club and also the two schools at the joint campus.

Finally the coaches, committee and junior members of Mid Argyll Athletic Club wish to thank Hugh's wife Katrina, his sons James and David and daughter Karen for their generous donation. More than £1,100 was collected at Hugh's funeral service and thanks also go to the local community for their generosity.

## Athletic lose Argyll and Bute derby at Helensburgh

### Football

OBAN Athletic travelled to take on Helensburgh in a West of Scotland Premier Division league match last Saturday but returned home on the wrong end of a 2-0 scoreline.

This weekend the Oban side are on their travels again, this time to take on Carradale in another Argyll and Bute derby match.

The game at Carradale will be refereed by Archie Mitchell and kicks off at 2pm.

# SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

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Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.

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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.

competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

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Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB



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# Two late goals see Camanachd retain their premiership place



Kingussie now play off against Kilmallie at the Bught Park, Inverness, on November 28

Oban Camanachd	2
Kingussie	1
Marine Harvest Premiership	

OBAN Camanachd secured their place in the Marine Harvest Premiership coming from behind to defeat Kingussie 2-1 at Mossfield last Saturday.

The win means the red and blacks jump a point clear of Kingussie who were playing their last league game of the season. The defeat leaves the Badenoch side to take on Kilmallie in a play-off to see who will be in shinty's top flight next season.

Camanachd, still without the injured Keith MacMillan and top scorer Andrew 'Papa' MacCuish made light of this and recorded a fine win although not playing as well as they have done in recent weeks.

Mossfield Stadium passed an early morning pitch inspection after the heavy overnight rain and, with the overhead conditions fair, the stage was set for this important fixture.

In front of a large crowd Camanachd were slow to start and Kingussie controlled much of the first half.

The home team persisted in playing through the middle which was easily dealt with by Kingussie's experienced defenders James Hutchison and Lee Bain and with John Gibson controlling the vital midfield area it was no surprise when Ryan Borthwick opened the scoring for the visitors.

The Oban side were lacking fluency in their play and Kingussie fully merited their half time lead.

The start of the second half was more of the same with Camanachd insisting in playing the ball through the middle which was having no effect as Kingussie continued to dominate the key areas and looked comfortable although the lead was only 1-0.

However, with 15 minutes to go, the game turned on its head when Camanachd manager Ian Hay moved Daniel Cameron up to first forward with Scott Mackillop taking up Daniel's defensive duties. This move seemed to unsettle the Kingussie defence and when Daniel was brought down in the box in the 84th minute a penalty was awarded by referee Robert Baxter after consultation with his goal judge.

However, Lorne Dickie's effort was well saved by Kingussie keeper Andrew Dawson, but Malcom Clark, who had come on as a substitute reacted quickly and netted the rebound to make the score 1-1 - game on.

With the Kingussie defence tiring and the home side now using the width of the park their expansive game was starting to pay dividends and the red and blacks looked the more likely team to score - and this they did with only three minutes of the match remaining when an Aidan MacIntyre shot found the back of the net.

A shell-shocked Kingussie pushed forward to try and get back in the game but the Camanachd defence held firm with Gary McKerracher and Garry Lord outstanding.

When referee Robert Baxter blew for full time it was the jubilant Oban Camanachd players and their supporters who celebrated the realisation that premiership shinty will be played in Oban next season.

It was a dejected Kingussie team that trudged off Mossfield at the end of the 90 minutes, but at least they still have their future in their own hands with the play-off game against Kilmallie which will be held on November 28 at the Bught Park, Inverness.

It has been a remarkable turnaround for Camanachd who, for long periods of the season, looked certain to be relegated. The Oban side only had three points from their first eight games.

However, a run of only one defeat in eight games and with two games left, away to Kyles and a final home game against champions Newtonmore, the red and blacks will be looking for a good finish to a remarkable season.

The Oban club can now look forward to their AGM in December in the knowledge that they will be playing premiership shinty next season.

## Premiership

Champions **NEWTONMORE** took on second placed **KYLES ATHLETIC** at the Eilan last Saturday and emerged 4-1 winners.

More took a 2-0 half-time lead thanks to goals from Norman Campbell and Connor Jones. The Badenoch side increased



WINNER: A season-defining moment as Oban Camanachd's Aidan MacIntyre shoots and scores the winning goal to keep his team in the Marine Harvest Premiership. Photo: Neil Paterson

their lead in the second half with further strikes from Fraser MacKintosh and Paul MacArthur.

Robbie MacLeod netted a consolation goal with four minutes remaining in the match.

Both teams have one game left. Kyles play host to Oban Camanachd on Saturday and Newtonmore travel to play the Oban side on Saturday November 14.

## South Division One

**BUTE** took over top spot in South Division One on goal difference from Lochside Rovers with a 6-2

home win over **STRACHUR**.

The islanders took the lead through Robert Walker but Brian Dickie levelled on 40 minutes to make the half time score 1-1.

However, two goals in two minutes from Robert Walker gave Bute a 3-1 lead.

Brian Dickie netted his second goal of the afternoon to reduce the leeway, but further goals from Gordon MacMillan and two from Duncan Davidson gave Bute a comfortable 6-2 win. Bute play their final league game away to Oban Celtic on Saturday.

**OBAN CELTIC** travelled to Tighnabruich to take on **KYLES ATHLETIC** last Saturday but returned home on the wrong end of a 3-1 scoreline.

Dunkie Kerr opened the scoring for the home side but Lee Askew levelled on 50 minutes.

Two further Rupert Williamson goals in the 62nd and 67th minutes gave Kyles a 3-1 win. Celtic play their last league game on Saturday against Bute. The match will be played at Mossfield with a 1.30pm throw-up.

**LOCHSIDE ROVERS'** game

against Glenorchy was postponed last Saturday due to the Mart Park being unplayable as was the second option Ganavan. The game is scheduled to take place at Dalnally this weekend.

With Bute beating Strachur 6-2 the islanders now top South Division One on goal difference from Lochside.

Lochside manager Gareth Evans said: 'All we can do is win our game against Glenorchy. Bute remain favourites by virtue of having a better goal difference. Having said that they will not relish coming to play Celtic.'



SPLASH: Oban Camanachd's Connor Howe splashes through the water to beat Kingussie's James Hutchison to the ball. Photo: Neil Paterson



EQUALISER: Malcom Clark nets the rebound after Kingussie keeper Andrew Dawson had saved Lorne Dickie's penalty. 15\_145shinty02



NO WAY THROUGH: Camanachd defender Gary McKerracher fends off Kingussie's Louis Munro. Photo: Neil Paterson

Marine Harvest Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	17	16	0	1	61	13	32
Kyles Athletic	17	11	2	4	55	26	24
Glenurquhart	18	9	4	5	39	34	22
Lochaber	18	7	3	8	34	44	17
Lovat	18	6	4	8	38	38	16
Kinlochshiel	18	6	4	8	30	44	16
Fort William	18	6	3	9	27	41	15
Oban Camanachd	16	5	4	7	22	27	14
Kingussie	18	5	3	10	25	35	13
Inveraray	18	2	3	13	20	49	7

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fort William	16	13	1	2	59	27	27
Newtonmore	16	10	5	1	73	22	25
Kingussie	16	8	4	4	55	29	20
Glenurquhart	16	8	2	6	27	34	18
Strathglass	16	7	4	5	42	38	15
Beaulieu	16	6	2	8	27	34	14
Kinlochshiel	16	4	4	8	25	54	12
Lovat	16	3	1	12	22	55	7
Lochcarron	16	1	1	14	24	61	3

Marine Harvest North Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Skye	18	15	2	1	73	19	32
Glengarry	18	10	2	6	60	35	22
Lochaber	18	11	0	7	66	22	21*
Aberdeen Uni	18	9	3	6	62	39	21
Caberfeidh	18	9	2	7	57	42	19*
Kilmallie	18	10	0	8	40	41	17*
Boleskine	18	8	1	9	53	61	16*
Lewis	18	7	0	11	35	69	14
Inverness	18	3	2	13	20	81	8
Strathspey	18	2	0	16	18	65	3*

Marine Harvest National Division							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Skye	12	11	1	0	58	10	23
Kilmallie	12	9	1	2	51	16	19
Glasgow MA	12	6	1	5	25	23	13
Caberfeidh	12	4	3	5	29	22	11
Beaulieu	12	5	1	6	29	31	11
Inverness	12	2	2	8	17	32	6
Ballachulish	12	0	1	11	4	79	1

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bute	17	14	2	1	72	10	30
Lochside Rovers	17	15	0	2	68	21	30
Oban Celtic	17	11	1	5	53	28	23
Inveraray	18	10	2	6	40	33	22
Kyles Athletic	18	8	1	9	37	52	17
Aberdour	18	7	1	10	27	38	15
Taynuilt	18	6	2	10	31	49	14
Glenorchy	17	4	3	10	21	56	9*
Stachur	18	3	3	12	26	43	5*
Kilmory	18	1	3	14	17	51	3*

Marine Harvest South Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Col Glen	14	10	2	2	52	19	22
Tayforth	14	10	1	3	58	30	20*
Glasgow MA	14	7	2	5	52	26	15*
Bute	14	7	0	7	35	45	12*
Oban Lorn	14	6	0	8	29	36	11*
Glenorchy	14	4	2	8	21	38	9*
Ballachulish	13	4	2	7	16	39	5*
Aberdour	13	2	1	10	20	50	3

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## Oban Lorne edge Argyll derby match against Helensburgh

Oban Lorne	8
Helensburgh	3
<b>BT West Division One</b>	

OBAN Lorne welcomed Argyll rivals Helensburgh RFC to Glencruitten on Saturday. The teams had an early kick off to accommodate the visitors request to get back and allow them to watch the World Cup final at their home clubhouse.

Helensburgh were sitting above Oban going into the game but had two games in hand over the Green Machine who were hoping to close the gap on the teams above them.

On a greasy pitch following the heavy overnight rain it was the visitors who made the brighter start. Helensburgh pinned the Green Machine back into their own half for extended periods of time.

On the rare occasion that Oban managed to get out of their own half they were undone with some poor decision making and some dubious refereeing decisions much to the home crowd's frustration.

Around halfway through the first half, Oban were awarded a penalty just outside the Helensburgh 22 - duly converted by Craig Wright for a 3-0 lead.

Helensburgh were fairly one di-

mensional in their approach to the game kicking for the touch lines and trying to set up driving mauls which were easily repelled by the Oban forward pack.

The Oban back line were looking to play a more expansive game using the speed outside and were unlucky not to unlock the visitors' defence a couple of times with the last pass just not going to hand. These attacks were being launched from too far out to be effective but showed a willingness to play the game with width and speed.

**Pressurising**  
The second half started with Oban playing the territory game better getting the ball down field and pressurising the visitors' back three. This territorial advantage allowed Oban to finally break into the Helensburgh 22 with some really dynamic and direct play.

Following a series of quick rucks Tommy Sutherland was on hand to crash over the line to score the only try of the day - 8-0.

Oban dropped off the pace and let Helensburgh back into the game due to a high penalty count from the referee.

Helensburgh converted one of these penalties to make the score

### Rugby

8-3 going into the closing stages. The visitors picked up the space for the last ten minutes and the Oban defence managed to hold out a continued spell of pressure with some heroic tackling to close out the game.

Despite the narrow score line there were some great performances from the team including twins Cammy and Struan Smith in the back row and Dan Fox at inside Centre.

Oban now face a tough trip to rivals Carrick RFC next weekend. The Ayrshire men lost their first league game of the season at Newton Stewart last weekend.

Oban will be looking for another win against a side they have enjoyed playing over the past few seasons. Kick off is 2pm in Maybole.

Oban Lorne: C. Louw, R. MacQueen, T. Sutherland, J. Baxter, A. MacDougall, C. Smith, S. Smith, L. MacLachlan, D. Ma, D. McCabe, C. MacLachlan, D. Fox, C. Wright, S. Khumalo, R. Stones, R. El Sanchez, V. Borisov, J. MacMillan,

## Game held up for 20 minutes after serious knee injury to Argyll and Bute player

Police Scotland	45
Argyll and Bute	8
<b>BT National League Div 4</b>	

ARGYLL and Bute RFC played their second league game of the season on Saturday away to West Division 4 leaders Police Scotland RFC.

Argyll boasted a squad of 21 players including mostly Oban Lorne second XV players, four players from Mid Argyll and a player from Kintyre.

The hosts made a good start to the game on the artificial surface at Lochinch Park and found themselves 14-0 up early on with some very poor defence from a young Argyll team.

Argyll did not let this knock their confidence as they hit back with a try of their own. Alex Lawson's inside ball found scrum half Allan Wright who broke free from the 22 to score beneath the posts.

Niall MacFarlane's conversions narrowed the score to 14-7. With Argyll starting to come into

the game the hosts were looking nervous in possession and were starting to make some unforced errors. Just as it looked like Argyll would be in for another try the team were dealt a huge blow when Centre Colin MacKenzie was taken down injured after a good break down the left touchline. Due to the seriousness of MacKenzie's knee injury, play was stopped for 20 minutes for the emergency services to arrive. Argyll and Bute RFC wish Colin well in his recovery from knee surgery that took place over the weekend.

James Beckett of Mid Argyll replaced the injured player at Outside Centre. Argyll struggled to get out of their own half for the rest of the half and were undone with a poor lineout and a frustrating amount of penalties given away.

Argyll did well to defend in their own 22 for over 15 minutes before Police Scotland managed to score their third try of the day on half-time. Score 19-7.

Argyll were happy with their efforts at half time despite losing

and were hoping to score first into the second half to narrow the game. Argyll's hopes were short-lived as the hosts ran in for an early second half try to put the game beyond doubt. As Argyll tired the hosts ran in three further tries to give a score of 45-7.

Argyll and Bute did have the best of the last 10 minutes and went close to scoring through replacement Rory Tait and Number 8 Neil Rimmer.

Aside from losing the game Argyll were happy with the overall performance against a side who have scored at least 50 points in each game this season.

Argyll and Bute are away to Cowal RFC this weekend in an Argyll derby. Kick off is 2pm in Dunoon.

Argyll Team: D. Broderick, D. Miller, C. Ferris, K. Graham, M. Charlton, V. Mihov, C. McGuire, N. Rimmer, A. Wright, A. Lawson, R. Morrison, D. McLaughlin, C. MacKenzie, C. Smith, N. MacFarlane, H. Duncan, R. Tait, J. Beckett, S. Lyth, K. Martin



MAKING A SPLASH: Oban Lorne's Rufus Stones makes a dash and a splash to secure the ball. 15\_145rugby02



TRY TIME: Tommy Sutherland, No 3, powers his way over the line to secure the first and only try of the game. 15\_145rugby04



ON THE RUN: Craig Wright puts in the legwork and fights off the opposition in a run which led to the try. 15\_145rugby03

## Argyll derby match for Saints seniors on Saturday

### Football

OBAN SAINTS' senior team get back to action on Saturday when they take on Argyll rivals Campbeltown Pupils in a premier division league match.

The game will be played at Glencruitten with a 2pm kick-off. Last Saturday the D & K Lafferty-sponsored Oban outfit were due to take on Central Scottish League team Condorrat Club in the third round of the Scottish Amateur Cup but unfortunately the Cumbernauld side has folded because of a lack of players so Saints progressed to the fourth round without kicking a ball.

Saints tried to re-arrange a league game against Finnart last Saturday but this fixture fell through.

## Scottish AFL results and fixtures

### Football

LAST Saturday's results: Scottish Amateur Cup, third round - Campbeltown Pupils 6, Balgonie Scotia 1; Oban Saints, no game; Premier Division One - Lochgilphead Red Star 1, Neilston 3; Premier Division Two - Tarbert, no game; Division One - Paisley 4, Dunoon Athletic 1.

This Saturday's fixtures: Premier Division - Oban Saints v Campbeltown Pupils; Premier Division One - Kings Park Rangers v Lochgilphead Red Star; Premier Division Two - Bridgewater v Tarbert; Division One - Dunoon Athletic v FC Argyll. Centenary Cup - Dunoon v Ferguson Star.

## Saints youths' results and fixtures

### Youth football

LAST weekend's results: Under 13s v Kilpatrick Reds, postponed; Inverkeithing Hillfield Swifts 1, Under 14s 3. Scoring for Saints were Craig Millar (2) and Aaron McKay. Ardencaple 3, Under 15s 2. Saints scorers were Rory Dowd and Scott Mossman. Under 16s 11, Busby 1. On target for Saints were Stewart McAllister (4), Ruairidh Horne (3), Lewis Buchanan (3) and Daniel McCuish. Leith Athletic 4, Under 19s 2. Saints goalscorer was Liam Higgins (2).

This weekend's fixtures: Ardencaple v Under 13s; Stirling Albion JC v Under 14s; Under 15s v Whitecraigs; Under 16s v Mossend; Milngavie v Under 19s.



UNDEFEATED: Oban Lorne under 16s won the Lochaber 10-a-side festival without losing a game.

## Green Machine under 16s win Lochaber festival

### Under 16s win Lochaber Festival

OBAN Lorne Under 16s travelled to Fort William on Saturday for Lochaber RFC's 10-a-side festival. Oban came up against Nairn A, Nairn B, Lochaber and Lochgilphead.

The Oban side were undefeated on the day winning all four matches without conceding a single try!

The festival in Lochaber was welcome for the Oban side whose league game against Stewartry was called off with the opposition unwilling to travel.

The team have a game scheduled with Newton Stewart this Sunday.

### Mini rugby

Oban Lorne RFC hosted the latest Mini Rugby Dalriada Festival at Glencruitten on Sunday.

Teams attended from Mid Argyll RFC and Etive Vikings RFC at P4/5 and P6/7. Unfortunately Mull RFC and Lochaber RFC were unable to make the festival.

Encouraging numbers, however, from the three teams in attendance provided an afternoon of fantastic rugby.

Teams rotated around three coaching stations followed by matches. Etive Vikings dominated against an improving Oban and Mid Argyll teams.

The final Dalriada of 2015 is this Sunday (November 8) hosted by Mid Argyll RFC in Lochgil-

### Youth rugby

not go Oban's way with the S1s narrowly beaten 24-21 and the S2/3s going down 54-0 against an impressive away side.

Oban High have further fixtures in the school conference against Hyndland (November 11) and Shawlands Academy.

### Youth rugby

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Oban High have further fixtures in the school conference against Hyndland (November 11) and Shawlands Academy.

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**WEATHER**

<b>Thursday</b>	Light rain Winds moderate south easterly Temperatures 12°C to 13°C.
<b>Friday</b>	Heavy rain Winds moderate southerly Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.
<b>Weekend Outlook</b>	Heavy rain showers on Saturday Heavy rain showers on Sunday Winds moderate southerly Temperatures 8°C to 12°C.



**Stop Press:** New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

**TIDAL INFORMATION**  
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday November 5, 2015** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST

Date	am	pm	Ardrihaig	Mallaig
Thur	01.26 2.8 06.30 1.7 13.46 3.1 20.23 1.9	-5.35	+0.25	
Fri	02.28 3.0 07.48 1.7 14.39 3.2 21.18 1.8	-5.30	+0.55	
Sat	03.08 3.2 08.53 1.6 15.13 3.4 21.57 1.6	-0.47	+0.16	
Sun	03.40 3.4 09.42 1.4 15.45 3.6 22.29 1.4	2.00	+5.30	
Mon	04.12 3.6 10.21 1.3 16.19 3.8 22.58 1.3			
Tues	04.46 3.8 10.55 1.2 16.54 3.9 23.26 1.2			
Wed	05.19 3.9 11.29 1.1 17.28 4.0 23.56 1.1			

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate



**Tasty end to Strontian pupils' class project** Full story on page 3

**Lochaber Ideas Week**  
*Invigorating business in the Highlands*  
**YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS INSIDE**

# Lochaber mourns the death of 'much-loved' Dr Su Sen

**EMMA CRICHTON**  
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

TRIBUTES have been flooding in for a much-loved and respected Lochaber GP and community activist who died earlier this week.

Dr Sukumar 'Su' Sen MBE passed away just months after stepping down from his many charitable roles, having devoted his life to the health and wellbeing of the people of Fort William and beyond.

Hundreds of people took to social media following the death of the 80-year-old to share stories of how their families had been helped by the kind-hearted pensioner, in his role as doctor as well as his involvement with countless local causes.

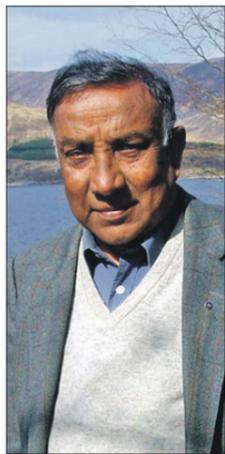
Dr Sen leaves behind his wife, Shirley, a daughter, Sheila, and twin sons, Robin and David.

Dr Sen, who arrived in Fort William from Hartfordshire in

the early 1960s, was awarded an MBE in 1997 for his work in the community, and in July this year the long-serving rotarian was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship by the Rotary Club of Lochaber – one of less than a dozen to receive the accolade in the club's 65 years of existence.

Terry Lee, president of Lochaber Rotary, said: 'Although I only knew Su towards the end of his active years, I was proud to have known him and proud that for 45 years he was a member of our local Rotary club.'

'He was a strong supporter of Rotary and up until last year he was still involved in a huge range of community projects. He did so much for so many people and I was delighted that his community work was recognised by Rotary International in the award of the Paul Harris Fellowship – the highest award that Rotary can bestow.'



**RESPECTED: tributes have been paid to former GP Dr Sukumar Sen.**

'The Lochaber community has lost a great champion – people and the community were always central features in Su's very active life. My thoughts are with Shirley and the family.'

Former Rotary president Ken Johnston also paid tribute to Dr Sen as the pair worked together on the Lochaber Disability Access Panel: 'I've known Su for almost 40 years. He was a founder member of the [access] panel and a tireless campaigner on disability access issues. The barrier-free Caol shopping centre is entirely due to Su's hard work.'

'He oversaw the original Accessible Lochaber guide and he was central to the creation of the 'Alliance of Highland and Island Access Panels'. His philosophy was that no one knew more about disabled access than disabled people themselves, and he negotiated strong consultation links with

the council planners on all new developments. He was a terrific communicator, a selfless and extremely clever man, and without him the panel would not have the status and influence that it has today.'

Lochaber medical and nurses' societies, Lochaber Council on Alcohol, Citizens' Advice, Caol Regeneration Group, Corpach Marina, Red Cross, St John's Ambulance Service, Lochaber Marathon and many gardening projects were just some of the causes Dr Sen devoted his time to.

But as well as his community presence, Dr Sen was well known and loved throughout his 40 years as a surgeon, GP and Belford Hospital registrar.

He became a partner in the then High Street Medical Practice, now Glenmore, in 1969 and worked with doctors including Cameron Roy Innes, Peter Powell and Chris Robinson.

More than 200 former patients took to Facebook to express their sadness at his passing and told tales of their experiences at the surgery.

Linda Dignan recounted that Dr Sen had delivered her when she was born and said she was 'very sad'.

Margaret O'Rourke commented: 'Dr Sen was an amazing doctor. He had time for everyone. He loved children and spent time explaining their ailment to them.'

When I missed an ante-natal appointment at the surgery he appeared at my door that evening to make sure I was okay.'

Freda Brooks said Dr Sen is the doctor to whom she compares all others and Duncan MacPherson called him 'a true Highland gentleman and a much-loved and respected adopted son of Lochaber'.

### TIMESLINE

#### Memorial service for missing walker

THE FAMILY of a walker who has been missing in Lochaber for six weeks are to hold a memorial service as the search continues.

Robin Garton, 69, vanished while on a walking holiday in Glencoe and hasn't been seen since September 25.

The memorial will be held in Mr Garton's home town of Devizes, Wiltshire, on December 11. His son, Will Garton, said: 'The [rescue] team there say they are baffled. Normally they find people much more quickly than this. It's a living nightmare. The not knowing is the worst thing imaginable.'

#### Cadets set sights on a trip to NASA

LOCHABER sea cadets are in with a chance of winning a trip to visit NASA in Texas.

The youngsters have entered a competition to design and build a remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV). Staff from Fort William's Underwater Centre are helping with the project but as the cadets receive no funding they are appealing for donations of both money and materials. Contact lscrov@btinternet.com.

#### A 'baby boom' in west coast waters

SIGHTINGS of young whales and dolphins off the West Coast are at the highest ever recorded.

Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust said the number of juvenile minke whales spotted this year is larger than ever before, either indicating a baby boom or an influx from elsewhere. Research also showed the number of common dolphin sightings has more than doubled over the last 12 years, but the reasons are 'unclear'.

### Early panto fun for primary pupils

CHRISTMAS came early at two Lochaber schools when a touring pantomime visited them this week.

With the Hallowe'en decorations barely down, the pupils of Banavie and Caol primaries began the next round of festivities and enjoyed a performance of Jack and the Beanstalk by M and M Productions.



SHOWTIME: Banavie pupils meet the Jack and the Beanstalk cast before the show. 21\_f45banavie01

### BT upgrade sparks major road works

MAJOR road works are soon to begin in Fort William as BT begin improvements in the area.

Old equipment from the communications business will be removed at the A82/A830 junction at Lochybridge from November 16 and is expected to last three weeks.

However, the entire project could take eight months to complete, with traffic management expected to be in place at 'various locations' on the A82.

The route will be down to one lane, but Fraser Rowberry, Scotland general manager for BT's Openreach, said disruption has been minimised: 'Openreach

has arranged the works to ensure that there are two lanes in operation throughout the day with any lane closures at night time. This duct-laying work and the majority of the new cabling and the redundant cable removal will therefore take place at night to reduce traffic congestion through the town.'

'We'll be making every effort to minimise the timescale of the works and any inconvenience to road users.'

'I'd like to ask drivers to bear with us as we carry out this necessary work to keep Fort William and its environs in touch with the rest of the world.'

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### Spreading the word at birthday ceilidh

A COMMUNITY newspaper covering north west Lochaber recently celebrated its 20th anniversary – on the eve of its 21st. Editors old and new joined long-term advertisers, contributors and volunteers for a ceilidh in the West Highland Hotel in Mallaig on October 23 to mark the achievements of the 48-page monthly publication.

The highlight of the evening was a display of 130 pieces of artwork from local schools on the subject, 'West Word area and me', as well as a slideshow of more than 270 photos

included in the newspaper over the years.

A cake was cut by present editor of 15 years Ann Martin, and predecessors Jill de Fresnes (1994-1999) and Jacqueline McDonell (three issues in 1997), before the ceilidh was opened to the public.

**CELEBRATION: past and present West Word editors cut the cake celebrating 20 years of the community newspaper. From left: Jill de Fresnes, Jacqueline McDonell and Ann Martin.**



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## Inaugural Charles Kennedy lecture

THE INAUGURAL Charles Kennedy memorial lecture will be held later this month, to be given by a leading Liberal Democrat Lord.

Jim Wallace, Baron Wallace of Tankerness, who is party leader in the House of Lords, will speak at the new, annual event on November 20 as part of Lochaber Chamber of Commerce's Ideas Week.

Mr Kennedy, who died in June, served as the MP for Ross, Skye and Lochaber from 1983 to 2015, and led the party from 1999 to 2006.

The title of the first lecture, being held at West Highland College UHI, Fort William, is: 'A Highland Style of Politics: How Charles Kennedy's Highland heritage shaped him, his politics and his life.'

It will debate whether or not, as residents of Lochaber, the people draw on the influence of a Highland culture and what this brings to them, as people, as a workforce and as politicians.

The lecture will be followed by a reception with an informal business and political networking session.

Willie Rennie, MSP, leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats, said: 'It is wonderful Lochaber Chamber has taken the lead by organising this lecture to remember Charles Kennedy. I know Charles greatly valued the good relationship with the Chamber.'

'Jim Wallace, our former deputy First Minister and now Liberal Democrat leader in the House of Lords, will deliver a fascinating lecture.'

Anne Widdop, vice chairwoman of Lochaber Chamber, said: 'We felt it was a fitting and lasting tribute to Charles Kennedy to establish an annual lecture. I would like to think he would have approved and be delighted his legacy is celebrated with a lecture and debate hosted in Lochaber - a place he was passionate about and worked tirelessly for.'



LEGACY: the first Charles Kennedy memorial lecture will be given as part of Lochaber Ideas Week.

## Tasty end to Strontian pupils' class project

### Butter and biscuits on the menu at Torlundy

PUPILS of Strontian Primary School have just come to the end of a project on food, from growing to the table.

Last Thursday the pupils, who are in primary one to four, travelled to the An Clachan Rural Education Centre at Torlundy. During their visit to the centre, which is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year, the children learned to make butter and biscuits.



## LOCHABER SPORTS ASSOCIATION VOWS TO CARRY ON DESPITE COUNCIL FUNDING SHORTFALL

# Indoor sports centre grant leaves group in cash crisis

EMMA CRICHTON  
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DETERMINED: councillor Brian Murphy.

A COMMUNITY group has vowed not to give up despite losing out on more than £400,000 for a new indoor sport centre in Fort William. Lochaber Sports Association (LSA), the organisation behind the plans for the £1.47 million training centre and community hub near Lochaber High School, is said to be 'extremely disappointed' to only receive £200,000 from Highland Council, after applying for £845,000 including VAT.

A report by the local authority's director of finance, Derek Yule, recommended the lower amount be awarded, as an expected £400,000 developers' contribution was lost when Tesco shelved plans to build a new supermarket at the Blar Mor.

The blow now leaves LSA with a hole of £700,000 after councillors voted to dish out the reduced grant by 36 to 29, with two abstentions, at the full council meeting last Thursday (October 29).

It is hoped the indoor mul-

ti-use centre, which already has full planning permission, will be used by Lochaber High School and other community groups outside the sporting world.

Jane Blanchard, chairwoman of LSA, said: 'We have no idea how to continue from here but be assured we are not giving up. This project is more vital than ever, shovel-ready and our community has invested heavily in its development. Thanks to all who have supported us

on the journey so far and to our councillors who spoke and voted in favour of the project on Thursday. I have no doubt we will win through in the end.'

During the meeting last week, Lochaber councillors appealed to their colleagues to support the facility.

Allan Henderson proposed the amendment to grant LSA the whole £845,000.

He said: 'If this project goes ahead the schools would benefit from it greatly, particularly the high school there and the community would be able to use it at night and weekends. We need to make sure every penny is in place so this can go ahead.'

Brian Murphy, councillor for Fort William and Ardnarmurchan, drove home the importance of an indoor facility in the town, which is one of the wettest in Britain: 'Almost everyone has cracked a joke about Lochaber's weather. We always seem to be the butt of jokes about rain and that's okay. We have lousy weather and we know that, but when we come and ask for a bit of help to do something about

Be assured, we are not giving up.

Jane Blanchard  
LSA chairwoman

our poor training facilities all kinds of difficulties seem to be put in our way. The way things are now, it almost feels as if it's Lochaber's fault that Tesco didn't go ahead.

'Over the years I've seen numerous occasions, not just sports but roads and all sorts of things, when there has been European funding, Scottish government funding and Sport Scotland funding available and we have always made a point of making sure that we get that and that's been done many times. I see no reason why we shouldn't do it this time.'

Concerns were also raised about the possibility of LSA losing a further £500,000

pledged in principle by Sport Scotland as this was supposed to be dependent on the Highland Council grant.

But in a faint silver lining for the group, Sport Scotland has agreed to honour their pledge.

Ms Blanchard said: 'Thankfully we haven't lost the Sport Scotland funding but we still have £700,000 to find and no idea where to get it. This is a massive step backwards for us. I feel like we're further away from our goal now, six years down the line, than we were two years ago.'

Council convener Isobel McCallum called the facility a 'very worthy project', but added: 'Clearly members would like to support enhanced sports facilities in every part of the Highlands. We have, however, a very challenging financial situation with a reducing budget and increasing pressures.'

'We have a limited availability of funds and we must cut our cloth accordingly.'

An LSA meeting was due to be held last night (Wednesday) to discuss how to save the facility.

## Council poses tax rise question as possible alternative to frontline service budget cuts

PEOPLE could be willing to pay more council tax to protect frontline services according to a poll on Highland Council's Facebook page.

Last Tuesday, the local authority held the first of a series of Facebook chats on budget issues. Margaret Davidson, council leader; Bill Fernie, chairman of the council's resource committee and Derek Yule, director of finance, all took part in the event which focused on council tax.

A poll was included on the page which asked the

question: 'The council has to save around six per cent across all services next year. Would you be willing to pay a bit more council tax to protect some services against cuts, such as education, care, roads, voluntary groups etc?'

There were 137 people who responded to the question to date. Sixty one people (44.5 per cent) said they would be willing to pay more council tax. Fifty three (38.6 per cent) said they wouldn't and 23 (16.7 per cent) said they didn't know and would need more information.

Many of the questions asked during the session related to where the council could make savings and many people expressed a concern for frontline services such as winter maintenance. There were also suggestions on other ways in which the council could raise additional funds.

Councillor Davidson commented on the chat: 'Social media is a valuable tool for reaching out and engaging directly with people in our communities. We know that the vast majority of our 10,000 Facebook followers

are based in the Highlands and this is an easy and convenient way for a great many people to take part in discussions about services.'

'We have committed to making budget decisions in an open, transparent and fair manner. It was very valuable to hear a varied range of opinions and ideas and what people really think and I really enjoyed chatting to people in this way.'

A council tax rise of five per cent would equate to just under £5 per month for properties on Band D. The

council will be carrying out consultation on a range of budget proposals, including council tax, with the Citizens' Panel in November and December.

If Highland Council broke the eight-year tax freeze, without a change in national policy, it would become the first local authority in Scotland to do so. Councillors in the Independent party, currently in a minority administration, previously called for a rise in council tax during last year's budget cuts, when they were in opposition.

## Community project sparks life into disused Strontian dam

A COMMUNITY hydro scheme on the Ardnarmurchan peninsula is now generating electricity after five months of construction.

The £850,000 project at a previously disused dam in Strontian was funded through grants and community shares and will generate future income for the area.

Richard Laybourne, chairman of Sunart Community Renewables, the group behind the project, said: 'This is an exciting day for the community.'

'The hydro will generate income to spend on projects in our local community for years to come. We want to thank all our investors who bought community shares and the many supporters who have made the vision of five years ago into a reality.'



TRANSFORMATION: a disused dam in Strontian has been turned into a hydro scheme to generate income for the Sunart community.

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# Parents sorrow at 'waste of life'

**LOUISE GLEN**  
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THE DEATH of an inspirational island vet has been described as 'a terrible waste of a young life' by her mum, after she was tragically killed in a road traffic incident on the Isle of Mull.

Theresa Wade, 29, from Mull, has been called caring, honest and kind by more than 700 people commenting on her death on social media.

Theresa was killed last Wednesday when her van was involved in an incident with another vehicle on the road between Fishnish and Craignure as she was making her way home after a day of work.

Moments before her death, she had been discussing plans for a Christmas staff dinner, and those who saw her last week said just how happy she looked.

Mum and dad, Mary and Trevor Wade, who for many years ran the Bayview grocery store in the village of Bunessan and now live in Oban, said they were



TRAGIC: Theresa Wade, left, with her sisters, Louise and Rosie.

devastated by their loss. Mary said: 'When we visited the crash site on Monday, a CD cover from one of Theresa's bands was left behind with the words 'It'll be fine.' A message that Mary believes is for her.

Mary said: 'Theresa was very practical and organised from a young age. At the crash site one of the bouquets of flowers has a message on it; it says 'Don't worry Theresa, we will make

sure everything is fine.'

Theresa's parents said that the inspirational young woman was always interested in animals, owning horses, cats as well as a hamster. She learned to ride after one of the islanders took her under her tutelage, eventually, as a teenager, getting her own Highland pony, Skerry.

Mary and Trevor say she was an excellent singer who sang in the school choir, before she

became too shy, and was a fine violinist - a talent she continued into adulthood.

Mary continued: 'She really enjoyed ceilidh music and dancing.' Mary laughed: 'For her small height [just over five feet] she was strong and was able to throw anyone across the floor in a Strip the Willow.'

That strength was also vital to the work that Theresa did with both commercial and domestic animals. Many of the tributes paid to the young woman are about her humane, kind and caring treatment of all animals.

Taking on veterinary work experience from an early age, Theresa worked on farms and crofts, as well as a spell at Oban Wildlife Park where she was able to work with more exotic breeds, such as monkeys and snakes.

From the age of 12, Theresa lived in Oban Glencruitten Hostel before moving into halls at university - but she never missed a trip back home to Mull, which she did every weekend.

Mary said: 'Theresa loved Mull, it was her ambition to become the vet there and we were delighted when last July she took over the veterinary practice on the island.'

Mary continued: 'From going to high school in Oban [where she was the dux], Theresa knew she wanted to be a vet.'

'At Glasgow University she studied very hard and excelled at what she did.'

Before relocating her practice to Mull last year, Theresa had a job in Fort William which allowed her to work across the north of Scotland and at the same time return home to her parents in Oban and to Mull most weekends.

Last July she took over the Mull practice and had set about continuing to improve and expand the business. In the last few weeks she had purchased a cow pregnancy scanner.

Trevor said he was taking time to remember all the fun he had with his eldest daughter.

He said: 'Some years ago we went on a hiking holiday together - in spite of having incredibly sore feet and having received medical treatment for them, she was determined to finish the walk.'

'That was my girl - strong and determined. She would be very angry this has happened to her.'

Theresa's partner for more than 10 years, Charles Pease, who lived with Theresa at the Kinloch Hotel in Pennyghael, Mull, said: 'The captain of the ship has gone ashore - but the journey is not over, we will be together again.'

'She was in the wrong place at the wrong time. I have been overwhelmed by the kindness of people who have spoken or written to me.'

The family praised the police and emergency services and the staff at the vets on Mull for their support at such a difficult time.

Theresa is survived by two sisters - Rosie and Louise, who are both nurses, and a niece Sophie.

## Textile festival returns

FASANTA Festival of Textiles and Fashion will return to Oban for the third consecutive year on Friday to celebrate Jewels of History.

As well as a full weekend of workshops, talks, discussion and exhibitions celebrating Scotland's textile heritage, Fasanta will also feature a community programme in the Corran Halls, Oban.

On Friday afternoon primary schools from Argyll, including Park, Achaleven, Taynuilt and Dalmally will participate in workshops led by textile expert Carol Hamilton to create two fabulous outfits to be modelled at the Community Catwalk Show that evening at 7.30pm.

The Fasanta market place will also be open in the Corran Halls, with a great selection of products by makers from all over Scotland. Stall holders will be providing 'taster sessions' to allow visitors a chance to try out a new skill.

The market place will also be home to Fasanta children's activities.

Award-winning Gaelic singer Rachel Walker will perform a new composition titled Seudan (Jewels) on Saturday November 7 at 8pm.

## Susie Wolff calls it a day on F1

WILLIAMS F1 test driver Susie Wolff, from Oban, is to retire from motorsport.

Susie, 32, was the first woman to take part in a Grand Prix weekend for more than 20 years - but told BBC News on Wednesday morning: 'My goal was to get onto the starting grid and that didn't look achievable. So I had to call it a day. There was very little opportunity to carry on in Formula 1.'

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www.facebook.com/obantimes

## Islay man six times over limit

AN ISLAY man, who was nearly seven times over the drink-drive limit, has been banned from driving for three years.

Alistair Peter Learmond's car was stopped shortly after he drove off the ferry in Oban on September 2.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said police received an anonymous call that a car was being driven erratically and police officers stopped the car after seeing it cross the white line on several occasions.

Learmond, 34, of 6 Glen Road, Bridgend, admitted drink-driving at Corran Esplanade on September 2; he had a breath-test reading of 142 mcg of alcohol in 100ml of breath. The limit is 22.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC, handed down a community payback order for 100 hours of unpaid work along with the three-year driving ban.

## Children who care about Pudsey Bear ...

PRIMARY six and seven pupils at Rockfield Primary School in Oban showed what big hearts they have this week when they drew pictures for business advertisers in the Oban Times for a Children in Need fundraising feature.

The pictures, which can be seen on page eight, show off the youngsters' graphic design talents and offer a different twist on the businesses which have chosen to advertise. Children in Need takes place on BBC 1 on Friday November 13. 17\_45Rockfield01



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# Bravery award for teen who saved grandfather

**LOUISE GLEN**  
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A TEENAGER, who saved his grandfather's life after he fell off a boat, has been awarded the Chief Coastguard's commendation.

Andrew Paton, 13, told HM Coastguard that his grandfather Sandy Malcolm, aged 82, had gone overboard from their boat in Lower Loch Fyne.

The incident happened between Tarbert and Portavadie on September 5 this year.

Andrew reported calmly and concisely to the coastguard that his grandfather – who has a heart condition – had fallen

from the boat but could not get back on board.

The teenager had managed to get a line to Mr Malcolm and was holding onto one end of the rope while making the 999 call from the boat.

A Mayday relay call was made by the coastguard and boats in the area were able to track down Andrew because he had given a clear and concise position.

As he saw the other craft approaching, he sounded a horn to help further identify his location.

Mr Malcolm was rescued from the water and taken by the assisting vessel to Tarbert, from where he was airlifted to hospital by rescue helicopter. He has since

made a full recovery.

At the weekend Andrew was presented with a special certificate of commendation for his actions at a ceremony held at Troon RNLI.

As a surprise for the teenager, the Royal Navy search and rescue helicopter based at HMS Gannet, Prestwick, was able to incorporate a short flypast as part of its duties that day.

In the commendation, Chief Coastguard Keith Oliver said: 'Throughout this incident, Andrew remained on the line to the coastguard and calmly conveyed all details asked of him during this operation, which was made more difficult by the remoteness

of the location.

'Andrew is to be congratulated on his calmness, bravery and effective actions on that day, which undoubtedly saved the life of his grandfather.'

Andrew said: 'I had to get him out. I am very excited about getting this award.'

'My advice to other people going out on similar trips would be to always wear a lifejacket, let someone on the shore know when you are leaving and when you are due to return. And always have a means of contacting someone ashore in case there is a problem.'

His mother, Christine, said: 'I am so proud of the calm and

common sense approach that Andrew took when faced with this life-threatening situation.'

Mr Malcolm said: 'I was under the water and knew I had to get to the surface. When I saw Andrew in the boat coming towards me, I had every confidence that things would turn out all right.'



**HONOURED:** Andrew Paton, 13, who saved his grandfather Sandy Malcolm, 82, left, was presented with a medal by Chief Coastguard Keith Oliver.

t45hero1no

## Community council backs parents fighting ASN cuts

**LOUISE GLEN**  
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PUPILS in every single class in Argyll will suffer if 'cruel' cuts are approved to cut additional support needs (ASN) staff, say the parents of seriously incapacitated children in Oban.

Campaign group Argyll and Bute Parents Against Council Cuts (AB-PACC) said the knock-on effect of losing more than 3,000 hours of support for children will see every child's access to education diminished.

This week parents secured the support of Oban Community Council for its campaign. Promises were made on Monday evening to write to the local authority and raise concerns about the funding



Parents staged a protest outside the council meeting

A spokeswoman for AB-PACC said: 'On Monday night a number of the Oban AB-PACC parents attended a special meet-

ing of Oban Community Council. 'We were given the chance to present our case to some of the community councillors and

some of the local Argyll and Bute councillors, and the press were also in attendance. We are happy to report that the Oban community councillors present voted unanimously to support us in our campaign in asking for the ASN cuts to be removed from the public consultation.'

'Oban community council is now going to write a letter to [council leader] Dick Walsh stating this.'

'Oban Community Council is also going to work with us to hold a public meeting centred on the ASN cuts and how their inclusion would affect every child in education in Argyll and Bute, not just children with additional support needs, but every child in mainstream education too.'

'We need every parent in the communities of Argyll and Bute to get involved and we would advise other parents to contact their local community council and ask for support from them with this.'

'We would like to thank the community councillors for their support.'

Jan Roberts, from Oban, said: 'We are parents who do not understand the way the council works. What we do know about is our children and the support they require to access school.'

'The local authority has a statutory obligation to offer our children support – so I think that in the long run there is very little it can do to cut that provision.'

'However, children who have lesser needs may see their provi-

sion cut. Perhaps those children who need support and benefit from one-to-one time.

'Cutting the support staff means everybody in school will be affected, from the teachers to the pupils. The wider implications of how this could affect children's education has not been thought through.'

Julie McKenzie, a community councillor, said: 'I'm really pleased to say that at a special meeting on Friday night my fellow Oban Community Councillors and I all voted unanimously to back AB-PACC with their campaign.'

The council has launched its consultation document on proposed cuts, which can be found on its website until December.

## Man charged with dangerous driving

A MAN has appeared in court accused of causing the death of a woman on the Isle of Mull.

Thomas Wainwright, 26, has been charged with death by dangerous driving after a crash near Craignure last Wednesday night, October 28. He is also accused of failing to provide a sample of breath.

Wainwright, who lives in France, made no plea or declaration during the private hearing at Paisley Sheriff Court last Friday evening.

Wainwright was remanded in custody after the hearing, and his case was continued for further examination.



Minke whales off Scotland's west coast increased in 2015.

## Minke whale baby boom

SIGHTINGS of juvenile minke whales off Scotland's west coast increased to the highest ever recording within a survey season.

Marine research expeditions, carried out by Mull-based Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust, indicated either a significant increase in actual numbers or an influx of minke whales from elsewhere.

The charity's 2015 research season also recorded the highest annual number of common dolphin sightings since its expeditions began, with 723 individuals observed over 63 encounters. The trust's encounter rate with the species has more than doubled in 12 years.

## Sci-fi brothers turn their camera on Oban tower

**STEVEN RAE**  
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WHAT would it be like if McCaig's Tower wasn't actually an iconic amphitheatre, but rather a portal to another planet?

It certainly takes a good imagination to make the link, but that's exactly what a pair of brothers have done. They have filmed three episodes of a self-made science fiction show in and around Oban.

Douglas and Andrew Kyle began making Pandora Men last year on Orkney, where Douglas now lives.

They describe the show as 'Doctor Who meets the X-Files meets Sapphire and Steel meets the Twilight Zone'.

Now into season two, Andrew, from Tainuill, suggested shoot-

ing in and around Oban for three episodes, with the famous 19th-century tower being used as a backdrop and plot device in one of the episodes.

Andrew explained: 'The episode set in Oban is called The Folly of McCaig, and a further episode filmed in Airds Wood, near Fearnoch, is called Primitive Eyes.'

'The series has monsters, madmen and mysteries, and enough film and TV references to keep any geek happy.'

'The Folly of McCaig deals with some sci-fi poetic licence, with the story of the tower itself.'

'The whole show is filmed using a £300 camcorder and low-budget effects.'

The brothers hope the episodes will appeal to people with an interest in the local area, as well



Andrew, left and Douglas Kyle, during filming in Oban at the viewpoint at Pulpit Hill

as sci-fi fans worldwide.

For more information, and for links to episodes, visit: www.facebook.com and search for The Pandora Men.

## Music won't stop as Trail West fans donate £11,000

**DAVID MCPHEE**  
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AN 'OVERWHELMING' show of support for a ceilidh band saw more than £10,000 donated in less than a day to replace equipment stolen in Glasgow.

Trail West has now organised a special 'thank you' ceilidh on January 9 to thank everyone who came to their aid.

When Dr John Holliday on Tiree heard that the island musicians had been the target of thieves, he set up a crowd funding website to help them replace some of the instruments.

Setting the bar at £5,000, Trail West musicians Ian Smith, Andrew Findlater, Alain Campbell and Seonaidh MacIntyre saw that target and more raised in a day.



DELIGHTED: The band plan a special ceilidh for all who supported them.

A statement on the band's Facebook page read: 'Wow!!!! Our crowd funding page has only been up since midday and we've already reached our target!'

'Completely overwhelmed and can't thank everyone who has donated enough – certainly didn't expect to reach the target this quickly.'

'Never in a million years did we think we would raise our target within one day and thanks must go to Dr John Holliday in Tiree for setting up the page for us.'

Drummer Andrew said: 'The public support has been amazing. I saw we were raising money fast and couldn't believe it.'

'Dr John Holliday set up the crowd funding page for us. He is heavily involved in Féis Thirodh, which is an organisation that helps promote music in Tiree, which we have attended and taught at.'

Trail West has organised a free dance, which will take place in the Queen Margaret Union in Glasgow on January 9.

## Nine months for disqualified driver who sparked car chase

A DISQUALIFIED driver who 'panicked' when he was spotted, sparked a high-speed police chase through the streets of Oban, the town's sheriff court heard last week.

Other motorists had to brake sharply as James Hendry sped away through road junctions, mounting the pavement, and weaving in and out of traffic until the risk to the public was so great that the police stopped.

'Police decided it was too dangerous for them to continue, so in police terms, the chase was 'stood down', said procurator Eoin McGinty.

The officers then drove round the town looking for the VW Golf, which belonged to Hendry's partner.

They found Hendry, 34, of 1 Hill Street, Oban, walking through Argyll Square. The car was found in the alleyway by the Royal Hotel; the hotel's CCTV showed Hendry taking off his hat and jacket and dropping them there before walking away.

Hendry admitted three charges: driving while disqualified, driving dangerously at excessive speeds and

without insurance on October 2. Mr McGinty told the court that when police saw Hendry, whom they knew to be disqualified, they signalled for him to stop but he took off along Stevenson Street, failing to give way at the junction and causing another car to brake sharply. He broke the speed limit in Glencruitten Road, turned onto Quarry Road and then Sinclair Drive, where he went through a stop sign and mounted the pavement. By the time he reached Mossfield Avenue he was weaving in and out of slower-moving traffic.

Edward Thornton, Hendry's defence agent, said: 'He simply panicked when he realised he had been seen.'

The car belonged to his partner and had been parked on Star Brae; he went to collect the car to save the driver the walk up the steep hill to collect it.

'He accepts it was gross stupidity on his part,' said Mr Thornton.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC sentenced Hendry to a total of nine months in jail and disqualified him from driving for two years and ruled that he must resist

## Ferry procurement panel gives project green light

THE first report from the Independent Procurement Reference Panel has said that the first stage of the tender process for the contract to operate the Clyde and Hebrides Ferry Services (CHFS) was fair, open and transparent.

The panel was set up to provide assurances that nothing was being done in the procurement that could be perceived as discriminating against either of the bidders, Serco and Caledonian MacBrayne.

The panel consists of representatives from the following organisations: Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar, Argyll and Bute Council, North Ayrshire Council, Highland Council, Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Scottish Tourism Alliance, Ullapool Harbour Trust, Scottish Trades Union



Congress, National Farmers Union Scotland, Mobility Access Committee Scotland, Tiree Community Council, Islay and Jura Ferry Committee, Isle of Mull and Iona Ferry Committee, and Arran Ferry Committee.

CalMac is currently the operator of the UK's largest ferry network and last year the network carried 4.65 million passengers.

## Balvicar motorist fined £500

A BALVICAR man lost his driving licence after he admitted drink-driving on June 6 this year on the B844 south of Kilniver.

Roderick McDonald, 49, of 2 Clachan Dubh Cottage, was banned at Oban Sheriff Court last week after he was found to be nine microgrammes over the legal drink-drive limit.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said a passing motorist found McDonald's BMW crashed in a ditch and extensively damaged. The driver checked the vehicle, found no one but saw that the airbags had been deployed and called the police. He later passed McDonald

walking home and offered him a lift, but he declined saying a friend was on the way.

The following morning McDonald went to Oban Police Station and reported that he had crashed his car. When breathalysed he gave a reading of 31 mcg alcohol in 100ml breath; the legal limit is 22.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson said: 'He waited, but he didn't wait long enough.' McDonald's defence agent said: 'He accepts he was drinking the night before.'

McDonald was fined £500 and disqualified from driving for a year.

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## Kilmallie will face Kingussie for a place in shinty's top flight

'We're going to give it our best shot and see what happens'

**KILMALLIE** are 'quietly confident and raring to go' after hearing they will face Kingussie in a play off at the end of this month in a bid for promotion to the Premiership.

The rival of the Caol national division side was confirmed on Saturday when Oban Camanachd inched out 2-1 winners against Kingussie.

This is the chance for Kilmallie manager Mark MacPherson to

### Shinty

bring his team back to top-flight shinty, an ambition of his since he took the reigns at the end of last season.

The clash is due to take place at the Bught Park, Inverness, on Saturday November 28.

MacPherson said: 'We're quietly confident and raring to go. To be honest it didn't really matter to us who we got, it's going to be a hard game either way. We're fairly confident because there's no point in going in to a big game like this if we're not confident so we're going to give it our best shot and see what happens.'

The play off comes after Skye beat Kilmallie to the top of the national division to take a guaranteed place in the Premiership.

Despite not playing since September, MacPherson said he is happy to wait until the end of the month: 'There's rumours Kingussie want the fixture brought forward but I'd rather wait because that's what we've been working towards. The boys haven't played for more than a month so I wouldn't say they're quite match fit but they're training hard and in a game as big as this adrenaline will see them through.'



Kilmallie manager Mark MacPherson said his boys are 'raring to go' ahead of their play off later this month



The field set off for Eddie's Half Marathon on Sunday.

## Eddie remembered at half marathon event

**RUNNERS** enjoyed a dry and mild day for the 31st Eddie's Half Marathon in Fort William at the weekend.

Ninety-nine athletes set off from the new start point of Lochaber High School on Sunday and 17-year-old Steven Burns of Lochaber Athletic Club (LAC) was the first local to cross the finish line, in fifth place overall, in one hour, 22 minutes and 17 seconds. The speedy youngster was just under a minute ahead of his father, Stephen Burns, who was hot on his heels in sixth place.

LAC member Amanda Blackhall was first local lady home in one hour, 34 minutes and 40 seconds but was beaten to the finish line by many visiting runners, leaving her

to finish 36th overall. It was visiting Brian Douglas of Glasgow's Bellahouston Harriers who took first place, finishing in one hour, 20 minutes and 36 seconds.

The race is in memory of Fort William taxi driver Eddie Campbell who completed the Ben Nevis Race 44 times and won three, until he died of cancer in 1996.

Top 20 finishers (LAC unless otherwise stated): 1 Brian Douglas, Bellahouston Harriers, 1:20:36; 2 Shona Macintosh, Hunters Bog Trotters, 1:20:58; 3 Lesley Pirie, Victoria Park Harriers, 1:21:02; 4 James McLaughlin, Dumbarton AAC, 1:21:02; 5 Steven Burns 1:22:17; 6 Stephen Burns 1:23:08; 7 Colin Crabbie, Hunters Bog Trotters, 1:23:35; 8 Fiona Matheson,

### Half marathon

Falkirk Victoria Harriers, 1:25:07; 9 Richie Birt, Dumbarton AAC, 1:25:39; 10 Stephen Cole, Dumbarton AAC, 1:25:59; 11 Danny McLaughlin, Greenock Glenpark Harriers, 1:26:12; 12 Forbes Wilson, unattached, 1:26:23; 13 Lindsey Currie, Dumbarton AAC, 1:26:51; 14 Ross Hamilton, unattached, 1:27:01; 15 Michael Ross, Falkirk Victoria Harriers, 1:27:29; 16 Mark Willetts, 1:27:35; 17 Robert Wilson, Greenock Glenpark Harriers, 1:27:47; 18 Ali Kennedy 1:28:48; 19 Robert Wilson jnr, Greenock Glenpark Harriers, 1:28:54; 20 Andrew Craig 1:29:10.

## Ben comes home first in Fort to Fort race

**CONDITIONS** for this year's Fort to Fort cycle race were slightly better than last year's torrential rain and hurricane-like winds but competitors still faced gales as they battled the 50-mile route last weekend.

Twenty-eight hardy cyclists, including two who travelled from Hull, took on the race from Fort Augustus to Fort William.

West Highland Wheeler Ben Thompson was first home and one of only two riders to complete the course in less than two hours.

Other notable times came from junior Alex Dent, who came third overall and beat his father, Alan Dent, by two minutes. First

### Cycling

lady home and 10th overall was Frances Dent.

Wheeler thanked marshals for braving the poor weather to volunteer. All entry fees from the race have been donated to the Friends of Banavie Play Park fund.

Top 10 finishers: 1 Ben Thompson 1:56:47; 2 Yan Valentine 1:58:14; 3 Alex Dent (first junior) 2:01:27; 4 Alan Dent 2:03:29; 5 David Munro 2:05:11; 6 Gavin Linfield 2:08:04; 7 Jamie Gall 2:13:17; 8 John Shirley 2:16:50; 9 Keir Gibson (junior) 2:21:43; 10 Frances Dent 2:21:55.



West Highland Wheelers head to Fort William from Fort Augustus.

## Heavy defeat for Lochaber

Deeside	93
Lochaber	8
<b>BT Division Two North</b>	

**LOCHABER** rugby club suffered a severe defeat against league leaders Deeside after travelling to Aberdeenshire for the pleasure.

Deeside haven't conceded a single point this season and were true to form on Saturday, starting the game at full speed leaving the Banavie side struggling to cope.

Lochaber finally got on to the scoreboard in the last play of the first half when Christopher Simpson kicked a penalty for the visitors.

But their stroke of luck was not to last when Lochaber suffered

### Rugby

some serious injuries in the second half, including two dislocations and a broken bone. The visitors persisted with a depleted squad but the tries kept coming in for the home side. Lochaber had the last say in the game with a try from Ally Rowantree in the last play of the game, bringing the final score to 93-8.

With a free weekend ahead, Lochaber's next game is at home against Ellon on November 14. Ellon are four points ahead of bottom of the league Lochaber, so a defeat from the home side could see them adrift at the bottom of the table.

## Stephen wins in Australia

A **FORT** William man has been named one of the best athletes of his age after competing in a worldwide duathlon event in Australia.

Stephen Burns travelled across the globe for the Adelaide duathlon world championships in October and was crowned first place of all Europeans in the age

### Duathlon

40-44 category.

Stephen said: 'I usually do local triathlons but this is the first time I entered anything like this. I was delighted to do so well, especially on my first time. It was a great experience and I also had a lovely holiday while I was there.'



From left, Lochaber judo club members Hannah Loughray, Tommy Rand and Zoe Hough, with proud coach Tom Cameron

## Lochaber Judo youngsters bring home the medals

**LOCHABER** youngsters performed well against competitors from all over Britain when they hosted a judo competition in Fort William at the weekend.

Three members of Lochaber Judo Club welcomed almost 100 people from rival clubs to the Nevis Centre for the Highland Region Open Judo Championships on Saturday and held their own against the competition, picking up a medal each.

Nine-year-old Zoe Hough won

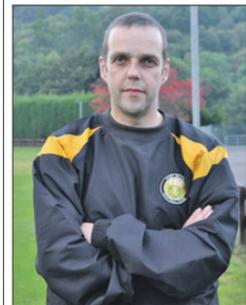
### Judo

a silver in the under 40 kilogram category, while Hannah Loughray, also nine, won a bronze in the under 28s and Tommy Rand, eight, was awarded bronze in the under 48s.

The day also marked the last time Lochaber coach Tom Cameron will organise the annual event, after years of commitment to the competition.

## Fort William football club pay tribute to John

### Football



John Matheson

**FORT** William Football Club has paid tribute to coach John Matheson who died at the weekend.

Mr Matheson began training the under 17s team and recently returned to his roots after coaching the first team under managers including Danny Conlon, Calum MacLean and Ally Ewen.

It is thought Mr Matheson died on Sunday morning, but the cause of death was unknown when the Oban Times went to press.

A statement released from Fort FC said: 'We would like to pass on our sincerest condolences and deepest sympathy to the family of Fort William FC coach John Matheson who sadly passed away at the weekend.'

'John was a highly respected and talented coach who worked under several Fort managers. He was one of life's nice guys and will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Our thoughts are with John's family and friends at this sad time.'

A minute's applause in honour of Mr Matheson was held before Fort William's 4-0 Scottish Cup defeat against Cove Rangers at Claggan on Monday night.

## British Legion have maximum points

### Ten pin bowling

**AFTER** week three of the Lochaber Building Supplies 10 pin bowling league only one team has the maximum points in the scratch division.

British Legion Fort William lead the Nevis Centre competition with 15 points, followed by Alleycats on 13 points and The Creeps and Mis Fits holding joint third with 10.

British Legion also lead the handicap division with the maximum 15 points, followed by Mis Fits on 12 points and Alleycats and The Creeps in joint third with eight.

Individually, the best game of the week came from Dave Cameron of Council with a 182, which ties the season high. Dave also swept the board with the week's best handicap game of 250, a season high, best two-game scratch series with 334 and the best two-game handicap series with 470, another season high.

The top team scores of the week came from Alleycats with a scratch game of 579 and a two-game scratch series of 1095 whilst The Creeps had the best handicap game of 791 and Council had the best two-game handicap series of 1568.

Pam Weller of Alleycats holds the best scratch average with 170, followed by Tim Attack, Ardtee and Co, and Darren Duncan, The Creeps, both on 147.

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**WEATHER**

**Thursday** Light rain  
Winds moderate south easterly  
Temperatures 12°C to 13°C.

**Friday** Heavy rain  
Winds moderate southerly  
Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.

**Weekend Outlook** Heavy rain showers on Saturday  
Heavy rain showers on Sunday  
Winds moderate southerly  
Temperatures 8°C to 12°C.

**Stop Press:** New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

**TIDAL INFORMATION**  
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday November 5, 2015** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	01.26 2.8 06.30 1.7 13.46 3.1 20.23 1.9	
Fri	02.28 3.0 07.48 1.7 14.39 3.2 21.18 1.8	
Sat	03.08 3.2 08.53 1.6 15.13 3.4 21.57 1.6	
Sun	03.40 3.4 09.42 1.4 15.45 3.6 22.29 1.4	
Mon	04.12 3.6 10.21 1.3 16.19 3.8 22.58 1.3	
Tues	04.46 3.8 10.55 1.2 16.54 3.9 23.26 1.2	
Wed	05.19 3.9 11.29 1.1 17.28 4.0 23.56 1.1	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate