

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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A DAY OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR FOUR WITH VERTICAL DESCENTS WORTH £430!



A MOUNTAIN BIKE WITH MONSTER ENERGY!

REVEALING THE SECRETS OF SAMS



Log on to www.obantimes.co.uk: 'Pink' bikers roar into town Mackay Cup final MV Finlaggan in Oban

Second raid on IT firm is foiled by increased security

A FURTHER attempt to break into Digital Kangaroo on Combie Street has proved security measures the company put in place can foil would-be intruders.

Police are now appealing for witnesses to the attempted break in to the back of the shop some time overnight between May 24 until 9am on May 25.

Police want anyone with details of the crime, or who saw any suspicious activity at the premises to contact them on 01631 510501 or phone Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Air weapons fired at two cars in North Connel

TWO CARS damaged with bullet marks pointed to the use of an air weapon, according to police.

Officers are appealing for information to the crime which happened some time between Thursday and Saturday on Lora View, North Connel.

A police spokesman said: 'It is very dangerous to be using an air weapon in a public place.'

'Skye' on the move to stand in neighbouring ward

A WARD shake-up at next year's council elections will see Councillor Donald 'Skye' McIntosh move from his ward in Oban, South and the Isles to stand in neighbouring Oban, North and Lorn.

He said: 'I feel that as I no longer live in the ward it would be best if I moved to represent the area in which I live.'

Disturbance outside restaurant

A 23-YEAR-old man was arrested in George Street, Oban for allegedly behaving in a disorderly manner.

The police were called to the incident shortly after 11pm on May 27, to a disturbance outside a fast food restaurant.



We're off to see the wizard...



Jitterbugs Jenny McIntyre (left) and Jessica Reeves are put under a spell by Wicked Witch of the West Nancy Long as they prepare for Argyll Youth Theatre's production of *The Wizard of Oz*, which is being staged at the Corran Halls, Oban, on Friday and Saturday nights this week. 15_122theatre02

Firms admit failings in barge tragedy

SCOTTISH Sea Farms Ltd has admitted its part in the deaths of two Argyll men at its South Shian site after failing to provide sufficient health and safety and welfare of its employees.

Colleagues Rab MacDonald from Appin and Maarten Den Heijer, Oban, died after succumbing to a lack of oxygen in a confined space below the deck of a floating barge on Loch Creran on May 11, 2009. Another colleague, Campbell Files briefly lost consciousness after entering the chamber.

At Oban Sheriff Court on Monday Scottish Sea Farms pled guilty to failing to provide a risk assessment, sufficient training nor a system of work, where con-

finned spaces were concerned. A fault with a hydraulic crane on the barge had led Campbell Files, Rab MacDonald, Maarten Den Heijer and Arthur Raikes, an engineer employed by Logan Inglis Ltd, into the lower compartments of the barge.

Mr Files initially went down into the chamber and began to feel disorientated. Procurator fiscal Maureen McGovern explained he had put the feeling down to motion sickness but soon collapsed on the floor in four to six inches of water.

Mr MacDonald went down into the chamber to help but after moving Campbell Files out of the water he was seen to sit down in the corner of the room with his

head slumped forward. Maarten Den Heijer went to his rescue but collapsed as he got to the floor of the chamber. Both men were declared dead at the scene. A hypothermic, but now conscious, Mr Files was taken from the chamber by firefighters and flown to Lorn and Islands Hospital, where he recovered.

Logan Inglis Ltd also tendered a guilty plea to failing to provide a risk assessment, or adequate training to engineer Arthur Raikes.

However, the court heard both companies had previously sought independent health and safety advice and had good health and safety records. Sentence was deferred until July 4.

Police chief pledge on drugs 'explosion'

Claims of substance use among children as young as 11 'will be tackled swiftly'

AN 'EXPLOSION' of drugs such as cocaine, ecstasy, amphetamines and designer substances such as 'meat' tablets are freely available in Oban.

So-called recreational drugs are being 'bought and sold' in the open and cars used for smuggling drugs are bringing supplies up and down the road from Glasgow on a nightly basis.

The claims have been made to new Oban area commander, Chief Inspector Brian Auld who pledged to tackle the problem swiftly.

Mr Auld has now set out a clear agenda that anyone selling or using drugs in the town will be caught and brought to book.

Oban Community Council heard from a number of their members that there were grave concerns of a growing drug culture in the town - where youngsters from as young as 11 or 12 are using on a regular basis.

They also heard it was 'impossible' for teenagers to avoid coming into contact with the mind altering substances. The drugs, they claim, can be bought for as little as £10 a bag.

Community councillor Catherine Gillies said: 'There has been

REPORT
by LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

an explosion of drugs onto the scene in Oban in recent months. I am not talking about drugs like cannabis I am talking about heavy-duty drugs that have devastating effects. There are a range of pills and potions.'

Duncan Martin, secretary, added: 'There seems to be a growing problem with drugs and we would like a report from the police about their progress in stamping it out.'

Councillor Donald 'Skye' McIntosh said: 'I make three early morning journeys to Glasgow every week for medical treatment and I see people exchanging packages in lay bays all over the place. It is of great concern to me.'

A former drug user, who did not want to be named, said there was a marked difference in the number and range of drugs on the street.

He said: 'When you go to the toilets in any number of pubs in the town there are drugs on show.'

'There are also deals being done all over the place. Drugs are



Area Commander Chief Inspector Brian Auld is promising 'swift action' to stamp out drugs in Oban. 16_122brianauld1

"There are deals being done all over the place. Drugs are everywhere."

Ex-Oban drug user

everywhere and it won't be until someone is killed that anyone will take notice of it.

'There are too many people dead already - I wish young people would just say 'no'. It ruins lives.'

One 27 year-old man said: 'I don't do drugs myself but I know people who do. If I was of the mind to take drugs it would be easy to get them.'

Chief Inspector Auld said: 'We are already gathering good evidence in this matter and I would urge anyone with information to come forward.'

'We are establishing data on drug networks, markets, types and demographics of users. Already we have a good source of substantiated information.'

'If you know anyone who is using or selling drugs in Oban, I want to know about it.'

'It is one of my short term aims to take swift action to deal with people's concerns about drug use.'

Anyone who would like to speak in confidence about drug use should contact Oban Police Office on 01631 510501 or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Authority urged to abandon school closure plans

ARGYLL and Bute Council is being urged to abandon its controversial proposals to axe rural schools after the Scottish Government announced a year-long moratorium on closures, beginning on June 20.

Education secretary and Argyll and Bute MSP, Michael Russell, told The Oban Times: 'I am asking councils not to close any rural schools for the next year.'

'I do not think the rural schools legislation has worked the way we had intended it to, and therefore we need to find a way forward.'

Mr Russell added: 'I hope that throughout Scotland this moratorium will allow a serious and detailed consideration of who we

are as rural communities.

'This is a real opportunity for new thinking and a real chance for something better to emerge.'

'I will set up a Delivery of Rural Education commission that will also consider rural regeneration.'

'There are some proposals for closure already in front of me, but for those that are not at the final stage this is an opportunity for authorities not to suspend, but to give up closure proposals completely.'

Councillor Roddy McCuish urged the authority to accept the offer, adding: 'While the local authority does not need to accept Mr Russell's offer, it would give them the opportunity to back

away from the unpopular rural schools programme.'

'I would urge them to seize the opportunity to abandon the school closure programme.'

'Time and again throughout the recent election campaign, rural schools were an issue - whether people were directly affected or not. It is time to end the misery, the heartache, the uncertainty for schools and communities.'

'This gives the council an opportunity to back down without losing face. I would urge them to endorse this moratorium and take part in the commission. It is vital we are at the table.'

Parent Susan Bland, from Ardchattan School, said: 'This offer is a lifeline for Argyll and Bute

Council. It would give everyone a chance to sit back and look at the facts and figures. We, as a whole community, want to be involved in the future of our school.'

Council deputy Leader Ellen Morton, education spokeswoman, said: 'It is clearly something to be considered.'

'We will need to get more details - does this mean the proposals are paused or dropped completely.'

'It will take a meeting of the council to agree these proposals.'

It is unlikely the proposals will be discussed at the Executive meeting of the council today, Thursday.

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Engine hitch keeps MV Finlaggan in port

CALEDONIAN MacBrayne's (Cal-Mac) newest ferry, MV *Finlaggan*, has been repaired after breaking down on the day it was supposed to begin service.

The company has spoken of its 'frustration' and 'disappointment' after its latest addition to the fleet suffered engine problems last Friday.

The MV *Finlaggan*, which will serve the Isle of Islay, was unveiled to the islanders at a grand naming ceremony in Port Askaig last Wednesday before taking invited guests on a short cruise.

It had arrived in Oban on Sunday, May 22 from Gdansk, Poland, where it was built, following successful sea trials.

A CalMac spokesman explained:



MV *Finlaggan* is piped into Port Askaig as it arrives for the naming ceremony last week. 08_122name03

'The MV *Finlaggan's* entry into service has been delayed for a few days due to an unexplained component failure in its port main engine on Friday afternoon.'

'Engineers from Wartsila, the engine's manufacturers, were working on her over the weekend and the fault has now been fixed.'

'The MV *Finlaggan* is a highly advanced and complex ship with around 500,000 components, so teething problems of this kind are not unusual. The fault was not a major one, but the impact was enough to prevent her sailing.'

The MV *Isle of Arran* was on standby last Friday and took over from MV *Finlaggan*.

MV *Finlaggan* was due to return to service yesterday (Wednesday).

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Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB Tel: 01631 568000 www.obantimes.co.uk

Editorial

Editorial Director Stewart MacKenzie editor@obantimes.co.uk

Deputy Editor Stuart Laundry slaundry@obantimes.co.uk

Northern Editor Stephen Norris snorris@obantimes.co.uk

Chief Reporter Euan Paterson epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

Senior Reporter Louise Lee lleeg@obantimes.co.uk

Senior Reporter Steven Flanagan sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter Christine McCartney cmccartney@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter Edel Kenealy ekenealy@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter Richard Haddock rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

Web Co-ordinator Marian Miller mmiller@obantimes.co.uk

Newsdesk 01631 568060 editor@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising

Advertising Sales Manager Fiona MacInnes fmacinnes@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Sales Person Rhona McKillop adverts@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Sales Person Fiona Bennett fbennett@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Sales Person Vanda MacDonald copy@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Sales Person Margaret Freytag adverts@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising Sales Person Claire Firth cfirth@wyvmedia.co.uk

Branch Offices

Fort William Tel 01397 703003 Fax 01397 702495

Lochgillhead Tel 01546 602345 Fax 01546 602661

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Horseback marathon blown off course by summer storm

Riders were recreating capture of last Scots horse thief to be hanged

A 150-mile journey by horseback recreating the capture of Scotland's last hanged horse thief became a trial all of its own between Glencoe and Benderloch.

John Nelson was hoping to complete the 150 mile journey from New Cumnock, Ayrshire, to Inveraray in one week, 200 years after John Kerr tracked tinker George Watson along the same path after the transient stole his best horse.

off for the final leg, to Inveraray via Benderloch. It was anything but easy. Speaking at Benderloch, John said: 'We didn't ride yesterday because it wouldn't have been safe for the horses.'

'You just couldn't ride in that weather. This has easily been the hardest leg of the journey. A lot of trees are down on the path and the weather hasn't been brilliant today either.'

was joined by Derek on Mani, an Ardennes horse, while son Peter followed on a mountain bike as often as physically possible. A full support team followed by car to make sure everyone was safe. 'It wouldn't have been possible to do this without them,' John said. The journey finally came to an end at Inveraray Jail on Wednesday, where John and Derek donned the clothing that would have been worn when Watson was captured all those years ago.



John and Ben, right, are joined by Derek Henderson on Mani during their brief stop in Benderloch while recreating the capture of horse thief George Watson. 15_122horse02

Brilliant bridges - but what about isle's roads?

ARGYLL and Bute Council has spent more than £400,000 repairing four bridges on Coll - but the roads leading up to them are practically non-existent.

By STEVEN FLANAGAN sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk late to do anything now, but I will make sure something like this doesn't happen again.



Argyll and Bute Council has spent £600,000 repairing bridges on Coll, but the state of the roads is a cause for concern.

Councillor Donald 'Skye' MacIntosh discovered the bizarre scenario during a recent trip to the island, leaving him flabbergasted. Members of the island's community council, too, have been left baffled by the council's operations, with chairman Rob Wainwright describing the situation as 'bizarre'.

The condition of the roads was also to be raised with the council. Mr Wainwright, who has previously complained about the condition of the roads, said: 'Certain sections of our roads are really dangerous now.'

jet-patching machine is to visit the island in the coming weeks to make safe some of the more deteriorated areas. 'After that,' he said, 'they're going to carry

out a full assessment. But our long-term goal of having every road resurfaced isn't financially feasible just now.' A council spokeswoman said: 'It was likely that the four bridges on Coll would have been considered for some level of formal weight restriction in the near future if the replacement works were not undertaken.'

'One of the bridges had partially failed and was in need of renewal otherwise residents could have been cut off as there are no alternative routes. The decision was taken that it would be better value for money if four bridges were replaced at the same time. The bridges are due to be surfaced next week and the total cost of the works is £430,000.'

School pupils make the connection with crofting

SEVEN primary schools across Argyll and Bute are getting together this Monday at Inveraray primary to celebrate and share the work they've been doing in the Crofting Connections project.

in securing the future of crofting. Today, there are less than 18,000 active crofting households, and the average age of a crofter is over 55.

Cash cuts 'will hit visitor numbers'

A BOARD member of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park has warned that further cuts to its budget will result in dwindling visitor numbers.

authority this year had a cut of four per cent from last year and that's disastrous when you're operating on the basis that the vast majority of money is spent on staff. 'Jobs have already gone as a result. 'Yes, we're all feeling the pinch, but it's the old story. You have to invest to get a better product.'

only much more substantial, but vital to the country's economy. 'Yosemite Park is roughly the same size as ourselves, but they have four times the numbers of employees and six times the budget. 'It's a massive sum by comparison, but obviously they are different in that they don't have permanent residents within the park. 'Over the past few years we've had to run on a tighter and tighter budget and we've managed that. Now we're getting close to the bone. It is important that the visitor experience here is as good as it can be so that people keep coming and that people continue to enjoy living here.'

Council counts cost of clearing up after winds

MORE than 100 council workers were out clearing up after last week's unseasonably severe storm.

While the clear up continues, members of the council's roads team are continuing in their efforts to clear the debris left by the storm.

A special place for cancer sufferers

A SPECIAL holiday home in Oban has celebrated its 20th anniversary. The Hameart holiday flat was set up for the benefit of cancer sufferers and their carers in 1977 by the former Oban Housing Association.

volunteers and its administrative costs were therefore minimal. At one of its regular meetings, a suggestion was made that some surplus money could be spent on buying a caravan for holiday use by disadvantaged children. Problems But there were obvious problems of what constituted a disadvantaged child and where the caravan would be kept, especially during the winter. It was then suggested that as cancer affected so many people, and as the association's housing development was nearing completion, it could earmark

one of its flats for holiday use by cancer sufferers and their carers. Since 1991, it is estimated more than 1,000 people have enjoyed holidays at the flat and they have come from all over the country normally, but not necessarily, introduced by health visitors, nurses, hospitals and hospices. Support Oban Charitable Trust is responsible for the flat, with financial support coming from West Highland Housing Association and Macmillan Cancer Support. Donations are also made by the holidaymakers themselves.

Western Isles warning over counterfeit notes

COUNTERFEIT bank notes have been circulating around the Western Isles, prompting a warning from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Trading Standards officers.

will detect the security markings built into genuine notes as well as credit and debit cards. Gordon Anderson, acting chairman of Outer Hebrides Chamber of Commerce, said: 'We have evidence from a number of businesses that there are a number of counterfeit notes circulating in the Western Isles.'

Town congratulates ferry operator

Ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) has been congratulated on its success in a recent travel awards scheme. The company was judged Scottish Transport Operator of the Year for 2010 in the Guardian and Observer Travel Awards. Oban Community Council presented CalMac with a certificate to mark its success. Community councillors Kenny MacIntyre and Marri Malloy, along with Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, presented the award to CalMac manager Ian Fox. The certificate is displayed behind the ticket desk at the Oban terminal. 16_121calmac1



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No car service for Gourock-Dunoon ferry

A CAR ferry service between Gourock and Dunoon town centres is to come to an end by June 30.

'It is very disappointing that the process has not produced what the communities wanted - a regular vehicle and passenger service between Dunoon and Gourock town centres.'

Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) currently operates a car ferry crossing on the route in competition with private company Western Ferries. Both Argyll and Bute and Inverclyde councils had hoped a car service would continue. However, Argyll Ferries, a subsidiary of Caledonian MacBrayne, has been chosen as the preferred bidder - for a passenger only service. Transport Scotland said the £10.6 million, six-year contract would provide a bigger and faster vessel, with increased services. Councillor Dick Walsh, leader of Argyll and Bute Council, said:

The two car ferry services between Gourock and Dunoon, cut the road journey to Glasgow from more than two hours to as little as 40 minutes. Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, transport and infrastructure spokesman, added: 'We did everything we could to try to secure a vehicular element, but the decision has not gone the way the community had hoped it would. What's important now is that this ferry service becomes part of an integrated transport network serving the Cowal and Inverclyde communities.'



Beachd Ailein

RUIGIDH EACH MALL MUILEANN! Agus nach fìor mhath an naidheachd gum bi BBC Alba ga chraoladh air saor-leir (freeview) Seanal 8 bho 8 An t-Ogmhios. Tha e air a bhith na iongnadh mòr dhomh fhìn na bha de dhaoine aig nach robh comas air BBC Alba fhaicinn thuige seo.

Chanainn nach e cosgais seirbheis saideil a bha na bhacadh dha mòran idir ach am faireachadh nach robh e iomchaidh gum feumte companaidh as an roinn phrìobhaidh a phàigheadh gus an aon seirbheis telebhisean Gàidhlig a th'againn fhaicinn. Tha an t-seirbheis sin ann an-diugh ri linn spàirn leantainneach a rinn mòran thar iomadh bliadhna agus tha e math a bhith cur clach air càrn.

Ged a bha am BBC a' craoladh ann an Gàidhlig fad iomadh bliadhna, bu shuarach na bha de thaic dhan chànan taobh a-staigh na buidhne agus bha stri mhòr ann airson maoin a ghleidheadh gus cùisean a chumail a' dol, gun ghuth air leudachadh. Cha robh inbhe aig a' chànan am measg na mòr-chuid de luchd-obrach a' BhBC a bharrachd agus tha deagh chuimhn' agam fhìn air àrd fhear-deasachaidh naidheachdan, ann an Dùn Èideann aig an àm ud, ag ràdh nach robh leithid de rud ann ri neach-naidheachd Gàidhlig! Tha e a' toirt toileachas mòr dhòmhsa agus dha iomadh duine eile a bhith a' cluinntinn Ghàidheil a' craoladh far feadh an t-saoghail agus gu sònraichte, luchd-naidheachd a tha a' dearbhadh an cuid ealantais ann an Gàidhlig agus Beurla gach latha.

Tha eachdraidh a' dearbhadh gun robh na Gàidheil riagh comasach agus dealasach ann a bhith a' dèanamh adhartas feadh an t-saoghail a dh'aindeoin cho beag chothroman fòghlaim is eile 's a bh'aca. Ach fad linntean, cha robh an cuid cànan neo cultair gu cus feum dhan mhòr-chuid aca a' dèanamh an slighe. Agus sin an t-atharrachadh as motha a th'air tighinn air cùisean thar nam beagan bhliadhnaichean a chaidh seachad. Tha inbhe na Gàidhlig a' fàs! Tha e a' fàs fasanta a bhith na measg agus ga bruidhinn! Tha daoine aig nach robh diù sam bith dhì beagan bhliadhnaichean air ais a-nise a' nochdadh mar luchd-taice. Nach math sin, agus 's math cuideachd cuimhneachadh mura robh am BBC air cumail a' craoladh Gàidhlig feadh Alba, cha bhiodh Achd againn an-diugh agus cha bhiodh seirbheis craolaidh againn a bharrachd. Fàilte chridheil air BBC Alba air Seanal 8, tha fiosam gun còrd e ribh!

FROM June 8, on channel eight, television viewers in Scotland will be able to enjoy BBC Alba on freeview. The campaign to make Scotland's only Gaelic language TV service freely available to its homeland has been long and fraught, but justice has at last been done and BBC Alba viewer numbers will soar. I am confident that viewers across Scotland will enjoy BBC Alba and it is nice to think that some lapsed Gaelic speakers will rekindle their language skills. It is also heartening to think that some will rediscover their cultural identity by learning the language.

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

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Views sought on new-style synthetic footpath

WHILE the Scottish Government 'reviews' funding for a major upgrade of the road through Oban, residents are being asked to put the boot in - but only on a new piece of pavement.

Scotland Transerv, the operating company for the management and maintenance of the trunk road network in Argyll and Bute, has prepared a trial panel of footpath material for the planned improvement works in Oban town centre.

The trial panel is located on the path adjacent to the former premises of Puffin Adventures, opposite the cinema, on George Street.

A spokesman for Transerv said: 'The proposed footway material is a synthetic material that is imprinted when hot to produce a decorative pattern that is durable and is an alternative to traditional paving materials.'

Comments should be sent to obanfootway@scotland.transerv.co.uk

Sale to support endangered turtles

THE Scottish Sea Life Sanctuary at Barcaldine is holding car boot sale and raffle to raise money for endangered turtles and seriously ill children, this Sunday.

The activities come as the centre celebrates Turtle Fest to raise awareness of the plight of Loggerhead Turtles suffering the drastic effects of tourism on the Greek Isle of Zakynthos.

Half of money raised will be given to Earth Sea and Sky, a Zakynthos based turtle conservation group working in partnership with sea life centres to build a turtle hospital on the island.

Proceeds will also be donated to Merlin's Magic Wand, the official charity of the Merlin Entertainments Group, of which Oban Sea Life Sanctuary is a part.

Car boot sellers are welcome from 9.30am with doors open to the public at 10.30am. For further information please call Oban Sea Life Sanctuary on 01631 720386.

Authority sitting on £2.455 million

ARGYLL and Bute Council is yet to distribute cash it was allocated from the Scottish Government.

The authority was given a further £2.455 million after a dispute with the government over the Supporting People fund.

The cabinet minister for finance agreed the deal in late March but council officers have confirmed the money has not been redistributed.

A spokeswoman said: 'The payment from the Scottish government was £2.455m. Discussions are ongoing over this payment and the council is considering how this money will be spent to deliver the council's priorities in a sustainable way.'

'Aggressive' man held by police

A MAN who allegedly behaved in an obstructive way towards police has been arrested.

Police were called to Stevenson Street after a man was seen urinating in the street shortly after 2am on May 29.

However, when they approached the 32-year-old man he became aggressive and police arrested him.

Car window smashed

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a car window was smashed on Glenmore Road, Oban.

The incident happened overnight from May 25 to 26 when the rear window was damaged.

Details of the incident should be passed to Oban Police Station on 01631 510501 or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Mull woman arrested

A WOMAN on Mull has been reported for suspected fraud after displaying a road tax disc that it was alleged had been tampered with.

The 34-year-old was reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

However, Councillor Neil Mackay, who last week said, 'We are looking forward to the harbour being involved with renewable energy with regard to the Tiree Array,' is hopeful that as the main terminal for travel to Tiree, other than by air, Oban should be able to attract work to service the island.

Driver charged after collision

A 37-year-old woman was charged with a driving offence after bumping into another car on Duncreggan Road, Oban, on May 30.

Bridge vandalised

POLICE are calling for information about vandalism on the Soroba footbridge near to Drummore Road.

Officers can be contacted on 01631 510501 or 0800 555 111.



Easy rider - Breast Way Round organiser Carol-Ann Barneson her Honda Goldwing 1500 GL trike, with some of the other riders who took part in the event. 15_122bikers01

Bikers in the pink for fundraising dash

A HUNDRED lady bikers roared into Oban last weekend as part of an annual ride to raise thousands of pounds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

It was the fourth year in a row the bikers had come to town as part of a route which takes in Inveraray, Fort William, Fort Augustus, Inverness, Aviemore, Glencoe and Loch Lomond before finishing in Glasgow's George Square.

Dubbed the Breast Way Round, organiser Shirley-Ann Barnes explained the event was begun in memory of a friend who died of breast cancer aged just 47.

Since then, the rides have raised more than £115,000. This year's event alone is expected to add more than £19,000 to that total.

'We have women from all over the country taking part - some have ridden for two days just to take part,' said Carol-Ann.

'They are of all ages and abilities and from all walks of life, from teachers to paramedics and police.'

'One girl, Laura White, has only just passed her test.

'We have got a fantastic bike school that supports us. We are not racing.'

'We have tried to incorporate all the iconic sights and we only do 50 miles at a time,' she said.

Town centre collections are held in each part of call - although such was the weather when they arrived on Friday, this had to be abandoned in Oban.

Carol-Ann said the bikers had received a warm welcome in the town.

'We could not do this without the generosity we receive throughout the event.' From a safety point of view, numbers are restricted to 100 and in addition to the street collection, the bikers have an online 'Just Giving' page, while Carol-Ann said quite often people just walk up to them and make a donation.

The riders were given a police escort out of Oban on Saturday morning as they set out on the next leg of the ride, which concluded in Glasgow on Monday.

For further information on the event, log on to www.breastwayround.com.

Women's Aid fury over 'derisory' fine

'Unacceptable' comments in court after domestic assault

A WOMEN'S Aid worker has called a fine imposed for a domestic assault 'derisory' and has demanded courts treat reports of domestic assault with 'utmost seriousness'.

Janine Calder wrote to *The Oban Times* after reading a report of a case in which a woman was grabbed by the hair and dragged out of her bedroom.

Ms Calder, who works at Argyll and Bute Women's Aid, said she was 'astonished' to read Sheriff Douglas Small's remarks that it was not the most serious case of assault.

'Imagine that appalling act taking place in public, and the reaction there might be from onlookers,' she said.

'In my experience, this sort of violent behaviour often causes long-term psychological trauma for the victim.'

'It takes many victims upwards of 35 acts of domestic abuse before they report a case therefore each and everyone needs to be treated with utmost seriousness.'

'Whether there was any degree of provocation or not,' she said, 'it trivialises the offence especially when remarks such as

REPORT
by LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

these are made by a man of the law. Reinforcing the notion that domestic assault is allowable under certain circumstances, but just a little frowned upon by the courts is unacceptable,' Ms Calder claims.

In the original story it was pointed out that the court heard the victim had thrown a glass and a drawer at her attacker before he dragged her from the room.

Police officers said the woman was in a 'hysterical state,' when they arrived at the scene and the incident happened after the victim 'came home drunk.'

When Sheriff Small remarked on the case during the hearing he said it was not the worst he had seen, referring to the lack of a weapon, which would demand a higher sentence, and there was a degree of provocation, which would further reduce the sentence enforceable by law.

He confirmed, however, that any domestic incident was serious and the court would do everything in its power to bring people to justice.

While unable to comment on individual cases, a spokeswoman for the Judicial Office for Scotland said: 'When deciding on an appropriate sentence in a case the sheriff will take into account all the facts and circumstances and, if relevant, any previous convictions.'

☐ POLICE dealt with four reports of domestic assault over the weekend.

Three of the cases, one woman and two men, were later heard in Oban Sheriff Court.

"The notion that domestic assault is allowable under certain circumstances is unacceptable."

Janine Calder, Argyll and Bute Women's Aid

Islanders' sewage misery continues two years on

A SENIOR Scottish Water manager has claimed she would 'probably not' fit an £11.7 million sewage membrane system again.

The comments, by regional waste water manager Sheila Campbell-Lloyd, were made at a meeting of Seil Community Council where three senior water company officials attended to discuss ongoing problems with a system fitted on the island in 2009.

The community council noted the sewage equated to more than £90,000 per household with an ongoing annual cost of £100,000.

Islanders continue to express disappointment at 'a lack of progress in having outstanding issues resolved.'

When islander John Wilson asked how well the plant was operating, Ms Campbell-Lloyd reported there was infiltration of water into the system, which was being checked via cameras in the pipe work. Therefore the system was not working to its full potential. When councillors asked if she would install the same system again, Ms Campbell-Lloyd replied: 'Probably not.'

However, a spokesman for Scottish Water was upbeat about the system. He said: 'Our new public waste water system in the Clachan-Seil area is delivering significant benefits to customers and the local marine environment in the area.'

'The project has connected 169 properties in the Clachan-Seil and Balvicar area to the network for the first time and this has meant an end to waste water from those properties being discharged into Seil Sound with little or no treatment.'

'This waste water is now treated and screened before it goes out to the sea via an outfall.'

'That has improved the environment in the stretch of sea between Seil and the mainland.'

'We have some operational issues that Scottish Water is addressing and a number of customer issues that AW Scott, the new contractors we appointed recently, are tackling.'

'The work on operational issues includes an investigation into the flow in the network and action to tackle surface water ingress.'

Scottish Water confirmed it is looking into compensation claims from islanders for reinstatement work, drains, gullies and driveways, but declined to comment on the regional manager's comments.

Council pledges continued help for vulnerable adults

OFFICIALS at Argyll and Bute Council have pledged to continue to provide help to vulnerable adults who do not fall into the category of greatest need for support.

Under new care legislation it will be up to each individual to secure his or her own services in place of those which were previously provided by Neighbourhood Networks. Many clients, who are not classed as severely disabled, argue they need different levels of care at different times.

One woman, who did not want to be named, said: 'I can feel myself falling into a depression and when I cannot cope, having someone I can rely on is absolutely indispensable. Imagine if I was depressed, suicidal and at that time needed to reach out to find someone I don't know to support me.'

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'The council will support those people whose needs fall into categories three and four in the Priorities of Needs scale in two ways - we will help them to maximise their state benefits to allow them to commission services independently and we will also help them to identify care providers from whom they can commission these services.'

Officials at Neighbourhood Networks, whose care contract with the council was not renewed after it lapsed last month, are now discussing whether to seek a judicial review of its treatment.

Shining a light on the work of Bangladesh health centre



Newly-elected Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell was in Oban earlier this week to hear about the work of the Bangladesh Poverty and Health Development Centre. Joining him for a photograph are workers in the Light of India Restaurant who all raise money for the centre, which provides aid to some of the poorest people in the world. 16_122bangladesh1

Plug pulled on Polvinister Reservoir during heavy rain



Where's the water gone? Polvinister Reservoir, which was drained by Scottish Water. 15_122polvinister01

THE DRAINING of Polvinister Reservoir in Oban caused concern among residents that vandals had pulled the plug.

However, Scottish Water have confirmed it had drained the water from the reservoir because of exceptionally heavy rainfall in recent weeks.

A Scottish Water spokesman said: 'The water level at Polvinister Reservoir in Oban, which is owned by Scottish Water, but is not used for supplying water to customers, was lowered recently because there was some seepage from the reservoir.'

'We have lowered the water to a depth of about one metre, which stops the water leaking, and we are controlling the water at that level.'

Meanwhile the water company thanked residents for their patience as they dealt with upgrading work.

The spokesman continued: 'There were some planned interruptions to normal supplies for customers in some parts of Oban as part of a project to improve pipes which supply water from the Tullich Water Treatment Works.'

'This work involves the replacement of non-functioning valves in the network of pipes.'

'We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the interruptions to supply and thank customers for their co-operation and understanding during this investment in our assets in the Oban area.'

Oban's harbour 'would benefit from Tiree Array traffic'

THERE have been no discussions with the developers of Tiree Array in order to bring windfarm components through Oban, claim islanders.

However, Councillor Neil Mackay, who last week said, 'We are looking forward to the harbour being involved with renewable energy with regard to the Tiree Array,' is hopeful that as the main terminal for travel to Tiree, other than by air, Oban should be able to attract work to service the island.

Freight

Councillor Mackay said: 'All the people who travel to Tiree by ferry do so from Oban.'

'Ours will be the main harbour that services the island. If there is an increase in population there will be an increase in freight. This will mean an increase in that traffic. That will benefit Oban.'

In an email shown to *The Oban Times*, Scottish Power Renewables told islander Robert Trythall: 'We have had no discussions whatsoever with the Oban harbour authorities or any other body in connection with Oban Harbour.'

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Revealing the secrets of SAMS

Hundreds enjoy a look at new multi-million pound centre

AN ever-increasing number of people are taking an interest in what goes on behind the doors of the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), according to the complex's director Professor Laurence Mee.

Last weekend, an estimated 600 people enjoyed a first glimpse of the £6 million Scottish Marine Institute teaching facility, which was opened by the Duke of Gloucester in November last year, during SAMS' annual open day. The state-of-the-art building was constructed to accommodate the rapidly growing number of students studying marine science courses, providing undergraduate and postgraduate students and professionals on tailored professional development courses with the space to learn.

'We are very keen for people not to see this place as some sort of mysterious place in Dunbeg - that is really important to us,' said Professor Mee.

'We have an open day every year and it is interesting to note that we get more visitors every year.'

'The first time people come,

REPORT
by STUART LAUNDRY
slaundry@obantimes.co.uk

they are surprised to see what goes on, but then they keep coming. The open day has become quite an annual event.'

Professor Mee explained that as the biggest non-public sector employer in North Argyll, there were three parts to SAMS' operation - commissioned research, commercial activities and as part of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI).

"This building is probably the best teaching facility in the UK for marine research."

Professor Laurence Mee.

'This building, which was inaugurated last year, is our contribution to the UHI. It is probably the best teaching facility in the UK for marine research.'

He said future plans for the SAMS complex included the development of a public Scottish Ocean Explorer Centre, which would allow visitors to learn about marine activities and heighten awareness of the marine scene in Argyll.

During Saturday's open day, visitors were given the chance to see the work being undertaken in the field of ocean acidification - the 'evil twin' of climate change - and learn how SAMS was contributing to deep ocean research.

Visitors could also find out how quickly a glacier melts and were introduced to some aliens - invasive species which have arrived in the waters of Argyll.

There was also canoeing, a chance to see Oban's lifeboat and visit the SAMS research vessel Calanus, as well as performances of 'Cauldren of the Speckled Seas' by the Three Wee Crows drama group.



Two-year-old John McDougall is not impressed as his mum, Angela, shows him a sea urchin, which was part of a display by the Scottish Sea Life Centre at the SAMS open day. 15_122sams02

Macmillan cancer supporters plan round Kerrera walk

THE OBAN branch of Macmillan Cancer Support is appealing for people to put their best foot forward and help raise money.

On June 19, the group is organising a walk around Kerrera, in a repeat of a successful fundraising event of two years ago.

Those taking part can choose when they want to take part in the walk, between 10am and 4pm on the day.

Registration, which costs £5 - under-16s free - is now open and can be completed at Oban Mica Hardware, the Music Shop, in Argyll Square, and Urban Summits, in George Street.

Alternatively, those wishing to take part can contact Jim Heward, from the Oban Macmillan Support Group, on 01631 565895.

People can also register on the day.

'Two years ago, 95 people took part. It was a brilliant day and the weather was great,' said Jim.

Thirty businesses sit down to enjoy breakfast

BID4Oban, the town-centre improvement scheme for Oban, held a second successful breakfast meeting at the Rowantree Hotel last week.

Thirty Oban businesses were represented and appreciated an update on progress on the business surveys from town centre manager Campbell Cameron.

'The project has been well received and the survey responses are very positive,' said Campbell.

'We are encouraged that so many businesses want to take part in the process of getting a business improvement district up and running.'

There is still time to have your say in the Oban business plan by returning a survey by June 30.

BID4Oban will have an early evening meeting before the end of June and will present the business plan over the summer at public meetings.

St Columba's pupils win through to Euroquiz final

PUPILS from St Columba's Primary School, Oban, have won the Argyll and Bute heats to gain a place in the Euroquiz Final which takes place at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh on Monday June 6. The event was organised by the Scottish European Education Trust.

Head teacher Mary Jane Macswain, said she was delighted with the pupils' achievements.

'The win is well deserved after all the work the pupils have put in learning about Europe and the European Union.'

The pupils taking part are Callum Shaw, Eve Beaton, Sophie MacDonald and Nathan Allan.

Fishing boat comes to aid of yacht which ran aground

OBAN lifeboat, the *Mora Edith Macdonald*, along with the fishing boat *Polestar*, reacted to a mayday call from a yacht, which had run aground in Seil Sound.

The yacht *Prime Cut* ran aground in a fresh south-westerly wind on Sunday afternoon at 3.38pm.

It was refloated with the aid of the *Polestar* and put back on to its mooring before the lifeboat arrived at the scene.

The two people aboard were not hurt.

Dementia comes under spotlight in series of events

DEMENTIA and the work of Alzheimer Scotland has been much to the fore in Oban and Argyll during recent weeks.

Ahead of Dementia Awareness Week, from June 5 to 11, a number of events have taken place to ensure sufferers, their families and carers know there is help and support available.

Alzheimer Scotland's Memory Bus toured Dunoon, Lochgilphead, Campbelltown, Tarbert and Benderloch before a final stop in the Tesco car park in Oban last Saturday.

This offered people the chance to speak to Alzheimer Scotland staff as well as heightening awareness of dementia issues in more remote areas.

Drama
Oban's Corran Halls was the venue for an evening of drama and music with a performance of Creative Training Unlimited's 'I Don't Remember Forgetting'.

On Saturday and Sunday, a collection was held at Oban's Tesco store, while on Saturday, at the Glenruttan Church Hall, members of the Oban and Lorn Alzheimer Scotland branch staged their annual coffee



Serving up a cuppa at the Oban and Lorn Alzheimer Scotland coffee morning were, from left, chairwoman Christine Hammond, helpers Mairi MacGillivray and Norma Foster, treasurer Pauline Evans and committee members Henry Woodman and Suzanna MacCardle. 15_122alzheimer02

morning. The branch's newly-elected chairwoman, Christine Hammond, said the event was as much about raising awareness as raising money.

'When I started off in this a

long time ago, people did not know what Alzheimer's was,' she said.

She also paid tribute to the support afforded to the branch volunteers by people in town.

The final Alzheimer Scotland event is at Brander Lodge, Lochawe, on June 11.

A fundraising ceilidh concert is being held from 7pm to 10.30pm.

Council is improving, says Audit Scotland

AUDITORS say Argyll and Bute Council is making significant progress in its improvement agenda.

A positive report by Audit Scotland will be presented at the executive meeting today, Thursday.

Drawing on information from all areas of the council's activity such as education, social work and housing, auditors state the authority has 'a number of areas of improving performance'.

Their report praises the council's programme of service reviews and the examination of options for shared services.

Particularly recommended the council's strong leadership team.

Sally Loudon, chief executive, said: 'It is gratifying to learn that the work everyone is putting in to improving the organisation is acknowledged and supported by these independent bodies.'

'We will continue to strive for further improvements. We cannot afford to take our foot off the pedal, particularly given the very challenging financial climate for

local government across Scotland in the foreseeable future.

'We do not underestimate the scale of those challenges, and are fully committed to meeting them by being more efficient, more focussed and more flexible in the years ahead. That's what we are all working towards.'

Council Leader Dick Walsh said the document provided clear evidence that the authority's improvement plan is having a significant effect.

Councillor Walsh continued: 'It is obviously satisfying that these independent bodies have had so many positive things to say about the changes we have made and will continue to make.'

'We want to see improvements in service delivery and service user satisfaction across Argyll and Bute, and the comments in this report suggest we are progressing well towards that target.'

I am pleased that national agencies believe the measures we have taken so far have been effective.'

Itchy alive and well - but no sign of Scratchy

A WHITE-tailed eagle, made famous on BBC Two's *Springwatch*, has been discovered breeding in a secret location in the west of Scotland.

RSPB Scotland had launched a nationwide appeal to find Itchy and Scratchy, the birds featured as chicks in the first series of the hit nature programme.

Named by pupils from Dervaig Primary School on the Isle of Mull, the pair of chicks and their parents were watched every night for a week as live images of their nest at Loch Frisa, on Mull, were beamed into homes across the UK.

Since fledging from their nest in July 2005 there have been occasional sightings of the siblings but the RSPB and BBC have often wondered about their exact whereabouts now they are at breeding age.

After years of searching and following up reports, Itchy, identified by the 'I' on his red wing-tag, has now been found breeding with an untagged adult female.

Gordon Buchanan, a wildlife cameraman and presenter who filmed Itchy in 2005, said: 'We've been looking for him for a very long time so it's brilliant news he's been found alive and well and raising a family of his own.'

Dave Sexton, RSPB Scotland's Mull Officer, added: 'This is the breakthrough we've been waiting for.'

'A local boatman alerted us to Itchy's secret west coast location after spotting a wing-tagged white-tailed eagle.'

Thrilled
'I'm thrilled and relieved to know that he is doing so well and is now a dad himself.'

'He and his mystery mate have successfully raised one chick and the hope is that they will now continue contributing to Scotland's growing white-tailed eagle population.'

'Meanwhile, the search for his brother Scratchy continues and we'd urge anyone who spots an adult white-tailed eagle with an S on a red wing-tag to give us a call.'

Alien sea invaders may be friendly

ALIENS are invading the seas off Argyll!

But don't panic - they may actually be doing some good.

PhD student Adrian MacLeod was highlighting his research into the invasive skeleton shrimp *Caprella Mutica* at the Scottish Association for Marine Science open day on Saturday - with the help of a giant model.

'It is a Japanese species which has been introduced to Scotland and is classed as an alien invader,' said Adrian.

'It has been shown to compete with native species, but there are some research papers which say that it might be beneficial as a food subsidy for salmon.'

Adrian's research is looking at how well the skeleton shrimp thrives in habitats on artificial renewable energy devices such as wind turbines, wave and tidal machines.

Twins Lisa and Cara Sinclair, from Kilchrenan, are pictured with the giant model of a skeleton shrimp *Caprella Mutica*. 15_122sams01



Campaigners hear of Palestinian woes

OBAN Concern for Palestine Group had the benefit of another impressive speaker at its latest public meeting.

More than 40 people heard about the work of Daoud Nassar. Daoud was in Scotland at the invitation of the Church of Scotland to speak at the General Assembly and the Oban visit was organised by church members and members of the local Palestinian campaign group.

Oban Concern for Palestine's Graham Pagan said: 'Daoud is a farmer on the West Bank, in Palestine and his farm lands have been owned by his family for generations - but that has not

stopped Israeli settlers from encroaching on his ground with illegal developments and by wantonly destroying 250 ancient olive trees.'

'Olives in Palestine are a vital part not only of the Palestinian diet but also an important part of the Palestinian economy.'

'Replacement trees are being planted as a statement of hope and these can be sponsored.'

'Daoud described vividly what his family suffer not just in terms of his land but because of the interruption of their services which most of us take for granted like road access, water, electricity and other essential needs. All

this is as a result of the illegal occupation.'

'Despite what is happening Daoud shares the attitude 'we refuse to be enemies' and he has created the Tent of Nations on his land where Christians, Muslims and Jews can come together in peace. Many people at the Oban meeting commented on what an inspiration and example Daoud is for those who believe in forgiveness and in peaceful co-existence. Without that there can be no future for our world.'

More information is available from obanconcern4palestine@gmail.com or Graeme Pagan on 01631 563737.

Striding out for cancer research

A GROUP of fitness fanatics will stride out to raise hundreds of pounds for breast cancer research next week.

Oban's Energie Club's Fit Feet walkers, along with a small group from SAMS, in Dunbeg, will take part in the Moonwalk in Edinburgh on Saturday June 11.

The event starts at midnight and each walker is hoping to complete the full marathon distance - 26 miles.

Organiser Katie Galbraith said: 'We are hoping it will take us about seven hours to do the walk, so we will finish just in time for breakfast.'

'It's not really a speed challenge - it's just a bit of fun.'

All those who are taking part get together at the gym. Some have completed the full marathon before, some the half distance, while others are trying it for the first time.

All the walkers have raised a minimum of £100 to take part in the event, but the group looks set to raise a substantial amount on top of that.

Katie said a charity day at the gym boosted their efforts by about £600, while the walkers will benefit from the Girls Night Out charity event being held at the Argyllshire Halls on June 10.

'As far as how much we will raise, we are just seeing where it goes,' added Katie, who thanked Flit vehicle hire for donating a minibus to get the group to Edinburgh for the walk.



Walking the walk - the group who will take part in the Edinburgh Moonwalk on Saturday June 11. 15_122moonwalk01

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Woman assaulted in Champions League final row

A TOURIST has admitted assaulting his partner in Oban after she failed to wake him in time for the televised Champions League final.

George Thompson, aged 42, of 54 Pennard Avenue, Hoyton, Liverpool, pled guilty to the offence after appearing from custody at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday.

The court heard how Thompson seized his partner of nine years by the hair and dragged her to the ground before repeatedly punching her on the head and body in their camper van, which they were using to travel to Skye.

Last Saturday they arrived in Oban and parked in Lochside Street before going to the pub for a couple of drinks. On their return to the camper van they both fell asleep.

Procurator Fiscal David Glancy said: 'The complainant woke at 8pm and began preparing the evening meal and sometime between 11pm and 11.30pm the accused woke and realised he had missed the Champions League final. The complainant was assumed to be at fault for that.'

After the assault the woman put a dressing gown over her clothes and fled the camper van. She was helped by two women standing outside Aulay's Bar and police and paramedics were called.

Sheriff Douglas Small described the incident as a 'particularly unpleasant assault' and deferred sentence until June 28. Bail was granted.

Road repairs planned close to beauty spot

PLANS have been drawn up to resurface 6kms of the A83 in Kintyre.

The work will involve surface dressing 37,000 square metres of the road between Westport car park and Bellochantunay.

From June 10, part of Westport car park will be used to store the aggregate needed for the work. During this time, public car parking will be restricted to allow access for delivery vehicles and storage of materials.

The surface dressing is programmed to start on Thursday June 16 and last for two days. A convoy system will be in operation to keep traffic moving.

Limited parking and access to the beach will be maintained whenever possible. However, during the work itself there will be no public access to the car park. Access from the beach to the toilet will be maintained throughout the works.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Argyll and Bute Council's spokesman for transport and infrastructure, said: 'This project is just one beneficiary of the £7million which we will spend on improving our road network this year.'

'Whilst this is a significant piece of upgrading work, we have done everything possible to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum and that public access to the car park is maintained whenever possible.'

Charities day to feature fly-past by WW2 Dakota

A FLY-past by a Second World War Dakota aircraft is set to be one of the highlights of Oban's annual charities day, carnival and street fair.

Organised by Oban and Lorn Lions Club, the event takes place on Saturday June 11.

This year's charities day also coincides with the 25th anniversary of the local Lions Club.

Secretary John Lloyd said: 'The event is hosted as a platform for schools, playgroups and charitable organisations so they can let the public be more aware of such groups in the area.'

'It also gives groups a chance to raise extra funds by setting out their stalls.'

There will be a parade which leaves the Corran Halls at 11.5pm, winding its way along George Street, through Argyll Square and into Station Square.

'As this is the 25th anniversary of the Lions Club, weather permitting, there will be a fly-past of a Second World War Dakota,' added John.



Helping out at the North Connel and District Horticultural Show plant sale were, from left: Jess Allaway, Alison MacDougall, Mairi Greer, Moira Haywood and Kate Anderson. 15_122hortisale01

Plant sale raises cash for annual show

A LARGE selection of plants was snapped up at a sale to raise funds for the annual North Connel and District Horticultural Show.

Up for grabs at the sale, which was held in the Victory Hall, Benderloch, was a selection

of perennials, herbs, shrubs, vegetables and bedding plants.

Jane Eccles, chairwoman of the show committee, said that as well as raising money, the plant sale had become something of an event in itself. 'Most of the plants on sale have been grown

by the committee members,' explained Jane. This year's show - the 52nd - will be staged at the Victory hall on Saturday August 27 when 18 trophies will be up for grabs in everything from flowers and vegetables to baking and photography.

Young couple deny neglecting their children due to poor living conditions

A YOUNG Oban couple have denied neglecting their children by failing to maintain a safe environment in their home.

Adam Brook and Michelle Keary, both aged 22, pled not guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday to allegedly exposing their children to unnecessary suffering by leaving their house at 8G Scalpay Terrace in an unsanitary and unsafe condition for children.

The charge alleges that broken glass was found next to a bed where their nine-month-old son was lying unsecured and also strewn on the living room floor and on the floor of a child's bedroom.

It was also alleged that in another bedroom there was insufficient clean bedding and sheets contaminated with urine; another bedroom's bedding was stained with urine and a mattress

in a cot was damaged to the point that its filling was exposed.

The charge also alleges that in the kitchen numerous soiled nappies were found, as well as an accumulation of dishes and cutlery around the sink and worktops and it was also found that the couple had insufficient food in the house, with many items out of date.

The case was continued until June 14.



Rosemary, centre, with Sheila Neil who will replace her in September and club convener Helen Jackson. 15_122wheell

Inner Wheel Club sale marks end of an era as president steps down

ROSEMARY MacIntyre hosted her last event as president of the Inner Wheel Club of Oban last week, a sale at Glenruthen Church Hall in aid of Alzheimer Scotland's Oban branch.

Among the members that joined her at the busy sale were Shona Neil, who will take over the role in September, and club convener Helen Jackson MBE.

Everything from household goods, clothes and even old furniture was up for grabs, with the club hoping to take the year's total to well over £1,000.

The charity was picked by the president at the start of her term.

She said: 'We've had members of the club suffer from Alzheimer's before and that was part of the reason we picked it.'

'The people that work with Alzheimer's sufferers need as much support as they can get because it's a lot of good work. While this is my last engagement, we are really lucky in that, for next year, all the office bearers have already been found.'

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Oban Index 2011 correction
Please note the telephone number for Oban Scallop Gear is **01631 564022**

Rallying to support of hospice

A CHARITY rally in Barcaldine Forest will raise cash for Oban Hospice.

The popular motor racing event is being held in honour of its founder mechanic and rally enthusiast John Allan, who passed away two years ago.

James MacDonald, one of the original organisers of the event, said: 'John was a well-known character who was devoted to the Charity Day Rally.'

'John enjoyed rallying - he even had a car that once belonged to top-class racing driver Colin McRae.'

'This event, on Saturday June 25, is held

in his memory and will be raising money for Oban Hospice.

'There will be a mixture of fully-prepared modern and classic cars including Mark II Escorts and a Subaru Impreza.'

The event is open to anyone aged 14 or over. They will experience a two-mile run in a rally car. All participants are in rally conditions including being strapped into the vehicle and racing around the track. The cost is £30 for the event with proceeds going to the charity.

To book a place call James on 07768071355, after 6pm, or email lochnell@msn.com

Falls used for rescue training

THE ROYAL National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) has been using the Falls of Lora to help train crews in flood rescue.

There are few accessible places in which fast-flowing water can be reliably predicted for training purposes and one of these is the Falls of Lora in Connel, where Loch Etive pours out and in twice a day at speeds of up to eight knots.

A spokesman for the RNLI said: 'One of the activities in which the RNLI has become increasingly involved over recent

years is flood rescue, this often many miles from the open sea.

'While big seas and breaking waves are not often encountered, fast-flowing water regularly is and swift water training has become necessary.'

Over the past three weeks teams of lifeboat volunteers and their instructors have carried out swift water training in and around the Falls of Lora, while Oban Lifeboat *Mora Edith Macdonald* assisted from time to time.

High-flying Oban Airport sees huge increase in traffic

Council looks at extending links to isles

OBAN Airport is flying high - and the future is looking equally buoyant.

With a 59 per cent increase in traffic, and runway markings to be repainted to allow bigger planes to land on the strip the airport, say councillors, is invaluable to the country.

A Freedom of Information request from Argyll and Bute Council shows the airport catered for an average of 12 flights per day in 2010.

Last year there were 2,313 landings at the airport with a higher number of total movements sitting at 4,626.

Records show there were 1,610 general flights, 382 public service flights, 51 charter flights, 126 military flights, 42 military flights, 78 air ambulance flights, eight Coastguard movements, eight police and eight Lighthouse Board operations.

An airport insider, who did not want to be named, said: 'There is a real relief that ongoing problems at the airport seem to be easing and the future looks much brighter. Already a number of aircraft are coming back into the airport and staff are hoping this upward trend will continue.'

REPORT
by LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk

Councillors at the Oban and Lorn Local Area Community Planning Group were unanimously pleased at the developments.

Seeing the airport had met its target and bettered it by 59 per cent, Councillor Mary-Jean Devon commented on how important these links were in terms of education, health and interconnectivity between islands.

'Good infrastructure with air and ferries will ensure we are supporting our rural island communities. The ongoing work of the airport is good news, she said.

"The ongoing work of the airport is good news."

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon



A sign of things to come - a charter jet takes off from Oban Airport last week.

'Councillors regularly use the airport to travel between the islands, as do council staff and health workers. The airport is invaluable.'

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'Discussions have been ongoing for several years regarding how best to maximise the opportunities presented by Oban Airport.'

'In the short term, at least, international travel is not likely. There is a real possibility of opening up the potential for

extended connectivity to our islands. Negotiations with the firefighters and the trades unions are still ongoing, with no final conclusion yet reached.'

'The aim is that staffing numbers will be reduced and that the roles of those who remain will be more flexible than at present.'

'We are waiting for the specialist company to come and re-do the runway markings to lengthen the runway, which we expect to happen within the next few weeks.'

Blaze of colour for town bicentenary

OBAN'S bicentennial could be celebrated in a blaze of colour after an offer of 200 hanging baskets was made to the town.

The 'incredible opportunity' offered by Homebase for businesses to brighten up the town centre now requires supporters to get out and about to fill baskets and get them up before the end of the month.

Councillor Roddie McCuish said: 'This is an incredible opportunity for all the businesses in the town to work together to get the town looking better than ever.'

'There are 200 baskets on offer - 100 of which have been paid for by Homebase and another 100 which will be funded by Oban Bicentennial Committee and the Oban Common Good Fund.'

Councillor Neil Mackay praised Homebase and haulage company Eddie Stobart, which delivered the first 100 baskets to the town.

He said: 'We are very pleased with the commitment of Homebase, through our branch manager Andy Spence.'

'Not only have they given the first 100 baskets but they have also offered to provide the compost for the second 100 baskets.'

'It is now up to the people of the town to get out and about to fill them.'

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre proposed a basket-filling day at the old Rockfield School in the centre of town on Saturday June 18.

'We need as many people as possible to come along at 10am on June 18 to fill baskets for distribution throughout the town.'

Councillor MacIntyre confirmed Argyll and Bute Council's Street Scene manager Callum Black and his team would undertake the watering of the baskets.

The bicentennial committee also commissioned the installation of hanging basket brackets.

Local garden centre businesses will be approached to find flowers to fund the remaining baskets.

For further information contact Councillor Neil Mackay on Neil.Mackay@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Council visitors discuss common challenges

A VISIT by representatives from the Bavarian region twinned with Argyll and Bute Council has proved the challenges of local government are not just confined to the west coast of Scotland.

Officers and councillors from the Amberg Sulzbach area of Bavaria discussed challenges and opportunities currently facing local government with their counterparts during a visit to Argyll.

Argyll and Bute has been twinned with Amberg Sulzbach since 1996.

The visit involved local government representatives, environmentalists and teachers.

Fergus Younger spoke about the work of the agricultural forum and how the council has worked with local producers to create a quality regional food and drink brand.

Argyll and Bute Council Leader Dick Walsh said: 'This visit has reinforced the strong links we have with Bavaria and has inspired a push to work more collaboratively between our regions in the future.'

Andy's blooming good job of planting bushes

A COMMUNITY gardener has been commended for his commitment to getting everything coming up roses.

Andy MacDowell, an octogenarian gardener from Oban, was so determined to take up an offer of reduced-price rose bushes for Station Square he got on with the job himself.

Mr MacDowell was praised by Andy Spence, manager of Homebase, for getting on with the planting of the rose bushes.

Mr Spence said: 'Andy has an incredible knowledge of roses and our team worked with him to get the right flowers in place for Oban in Bloom. We were delighted to do so.'

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OT

Highland Council announces taxi fare hike

HIGHLAND Council has announced an increase in the maximum amount taxi operators are allowed to charge.

The new fare scale, which follows a review by the transport, environmental and community services committee, means taxis can charge up to £3.30 for the first mile of a journey, up from the previous limit of £3.20.

The maximum cost for each subsequent mile will go up from £1.30 to £1.40.

Separate charges apply to certain public holidays, and for evenings and weekends, when operators are able to charge up to £4.40 for the first mile.

Operators are allowed to charge any fare so long as they do not exceed the maximum amount.

The council said it had taken into account increases in the costs of operating taxis, such as rising diesel, petrol and insurance premiums.

Chairman of TEC Services Committee Councillor John Laing said the council tried to strike a balance between the expectations of taxi operators to earn a living against the public expectation to be able to hire a taxi of reasonable quality at a reasonable price.



Organisers Margaret Simpson and Sarah Walker lead the walkers towards the Canal at Corpach Basin. 20_122walk01

Heather's walkers step out in style and raise £6,000

THE ANNUAL two mile sponsored 'Heather's Walk' returned to Corpach on Sunday, with about 150 people taking part.

The heavy Lochaber rain showers failed to put a dampener on the event, which is now in its fourth year.

The walkers were led by a piper from Kilmallie Hall, Corpach, at 1.30pm, and

headed for Banavie swing bridge and back again to raise money for Highland Hospice.

As well as the walk, there were also stalls, raffles, music and a bouncy castle in Kilmallie Hall.

Margaret Simpson and Sarah Walker set up the event in memory of their close friend Heather Robertson. Margaret told The Oban

Times the day had been 'brilliant'. She said: 'The whole day went really well, despite the weather. Around 150 people took part and the total is sitting at about £6,000, which is fantastic.'

'I just want to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who donated, helped out and took part.'

Rural house builders face new financial burden

Water rule could add thousands of pounds to cost of new home

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by RICHARD HADDOCK fort@obantimes.co.uk



Michael Foxley: 'Huge ramifications.'

A RULING requiring any new houses to be built within 100 metres of a public water supply could add 'several thousand pounds' to the cost of building a home in the Highlands, according to council leader Dr Michael Foxley.

A new mandatory building standard was introduced by the Scottish Government, which says every new house must be within 100 metres of a public water main, or must have a built-in water container which can hold about 45,000 litres of water.

The ruling was brought in to help the fire and rescue service, who say they need a nearby supply of water if they are to fight any potential fires. Previously domestic buildings were exempt from this standard.

Dr Foxley raised the issue of the impact on rural housing at a meeting of council leaders in Edinburgh on Thursday.

He told The Oban Times the ruling may work for urban areas, but building houses in remote Highland areas would be severely compromised by the new decree.

Dr Foxley said the required water container would need to be 'about the size of a small garage'.

He said: 'There are huge ramifications for the cost and the ability to build new houses in rural areas.'

'It could add several thousand pounds to the cost of building a house.'

'Then you need to consider health and safety issues - if you have a large water tank, you have

to ensure children won't fall in, and there would have to be a flow of water to avoid stagnation and diseases like Legionnaires' Disease.'

this could have very serious implications for the ability to build new houses in the Highlands.'

Highlands and Islands Fire and Rescue Service group manager Graham Robertson told The Oban Times the water supply was necessary, but they would be flexible with their demands.

He said: 'We need it to supplement the water supply from the fire appliances to help with fighting fires and any rescue operations.'

'It could be expensive for some developers, but we will be realistic about our standards and about what we require them to do. Each individual property is different and we will look at each of them before making a decision.'

'Some sizes of buildings will not require 45,000 litres of water; we might look at some and say it only needs 10,000 litres or 15,000 litres.'

'That is where we are willing to be flexible.'

Mr Robertson said talks were ongoing between the fire and rescue service and the Scottish Government's building standards over how to apply the ruling in remote rural areas.

Chairman of Highland Council's planning, environment and development committee, Ian Ross, said: 'There has been no consultation with local authorities over this change and while no one wants to be complacent about the risk of fire, we also need to ensure that people looking to build their homes in rural locations are not burdened with onerous costs.'

Malawi education chiefs get taste of life at Mallaig High School

MALLAIG High School had some special visitors on Monday when two heads of education from southern Africa visited the school.

Mallaig High, along with Forres Academy, has helped to build a two-classroom block at Mendulo Community Day Secondary School in Luchenza, a town in southern Malawi, over the last two years. Hazel Manda, divisional education manager for southern Malawi, and Angela Nkhoma, head teacher of the school, came to the Highlands to visit the schools and get a taste of life in the

Scottish education system. Mrs Manda and Mrs Nkhoma were piped into Mallaig High School by S5 student Callan MacBeth before being welcomed by head teacher Martin Sullivan and area education manager Rosemary Bridge.

Entertainment

The S2 health and wellbeing class provided entertainment during the day, including an excellent performance by Niamh Henderson on the clarinet.

Mallaig teacher John O'Neill and Liz Stewart from Forres visited Luchenza last June to get the building work

underway, using money raised by the communities of Mallaig and Forres.

They will be returning next month to see the work being completed.

Liz will also be establishing an enterprise project which helps orphaned pupils raise their school fees by producing textile items, and John will be installing electricity in the classroom block and an orphan feeding station run by FOMO, a charity that feeds more than 5,500 orphans every day.

Climber killed in rockfall on Cuillin hills

A FEMALE hill climber was killed in a rockfall on the Cuillin hills on the Isle of Skye on Tuesday afternoon.

The woman was hit by a boulder dislodged by her climbing partner, who was also injured in the incident on the Cioch Direct

climb at about 3pm. Two other climbers in a separate group were also injured in the incident.

Skye Mountain Rescue Team was scrambled and assisted by Stornoway Coastguard and RAF helicopters. None of the people involved have been identified.

Camusfearna home gets green light

A STRONTIAN man's plan to build a loch side home for his daughter has been given the go-ahead by councillors, despite planners recommending refusal.

Malcolm Gillespie applied for permission to build a one-and-a-half storey detached house, with a mini hydro scheme and a 15 metre-high wind turbine on land 170 metres north east of Camusfearna.

Planners argued the house would be outwith the settlement

development area, and that it would not be compatible with the local landscape.

At a meeting of Ross, Skye and Lochaber planning committee in Fort William on Tuesday, Councillor Michael Foxley moved for approval of the plans.

He told The Oban Times: 'The settlement pattern of the area is scattered anyway, and there would be only a small impact on the surrounding area.'

The three-bedroom house will

have solar panels and the wind turbine will produce up to 11kW, and the planned turbine shed would measure three metres by three metres.

Scottish Natural Heritage said they had no objections to the plans, despite the fact construction of the house will result in a small permanent loss of Western acidic oak woodland habitat in SNH's special area of conservation. There were also no objections from any local people.

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STOP PRESS In next week's Oban Times: WIN! Tickets to any National Trust for Scotland property. 40 tickets to giveaway!

Grandmother Isabel was special guest on new ferry's first cruise

AN ISLAY grandmother who missed out on seeing the launch of the MV Finlaggan in Gdansk, Poland, got a birthday treat by cruising on board the new ship last week at its naming ceremony.

Paraplegic Isabel MacAllister was chosen as the winner of a Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) competition to name its new ferry, which will serve the Islay to Kennacraig route.

However, the Port Ellen woman could not accept the prize of travelling to Gdansk because of her disability.

But her disappointment turned to joy last Wednesday when her sister May Carmichael, daughter and son-in-law, Carma and

Rodney Browne, and grandchildren Kieron and Bonnie Brown, joined her on board the MV Finlaggan, days after she celebrated her 80th birthday.

Carma and Rodney and their children had travelled from New South Wales, Australia, for the occasion.

Isabel, who worked in Port Ellen Post Office, said she had a great day on board the ship with her family.

Birthday girl Isabel MacAllister with family members, from left, Carma Browne, May Carmichael and Kieron, Bonnie and Rodney Browne. 08_122isabel01



10 Years Ago Those Were The Days The Oban Times Thursday, May 31, 2001

As cruise liners sail in, is Oban missing the boat?

OBAN Bay was looking decidedly Mediterranean as two cruise liners berthed in the harbour - but is Oban reaping the benefits from the influx of tourists.

On Saturday, the German cruise liner SS Paloma was anchored off Oban, with mainly German passengers.

The Greek registered Ocean majesty, operated by British company Page and Moy, sailed from Kirkwall round Cape Wrath and down the west coast to Oban, bound for Dublin.

The two liners brought around 600 holidaymakers into Oban but there is concern that many of the passengers arriving in the town are being whisked away on bus tours, taking trade elsewhere.

Bill Matthews, of McTavish's Kitchens, said he didn't notice an increase in numbers as a result of the cruise ships visiting Oban but said: 'Having them here is good for the town.'

Mr Matthews said that, from his experience, not every passenger gets off the ship and goes into town.

'Having the potential for a few people to come ashore and use businesses in Oban is good,' he added.

Islay distillery re-opens after take-over

ONE of Islay's most distinctive distilleries officially reopened with a live distillation as part of the ceremony.

Bruachladdich Distillery, in the village of the same name overlooking Loch Indaal, was bought in January by independent bottling company Murray McDavid Ltd, run by three malt whisky enthusiasts.

Gordon Wright, Mark Reynier and Simon Coughlin took three years to persuade Jim Beam Brands to sell the distillery to them with its maturing stock.

It has taken them and their team of Islay and Argyll workers six months to refurbish this distillery to the point where production can begin again after an eight-year break.

As a result of the distillery being mothballed, much damage was done by the salt air to pipes and equipment which has been overhauled or replaced by some dedicated Islay men with help from Kintyre's Skipness Engineering and Boiler Engineering in Annan.

Running the operation is production director, Distiller of the Year and Ileach Jim McEwan, who began as apprentice cooper at Bowmore.

Local support for wind farm plan at Glenaruel

THE small village of Glenaruel and the Cowal area could be set for a £3m boost and almost 100 jobs created during the infrastructure works on Scottish Power's multimillion pound wind farm on Cruach Mhor.

The project is still in its planning stages and representatives from Scottish Power recently visited the area to present their proposals for the site in Glenaruel and explain how a wind farm functions.

There were some concerns, but on the whole, 75 per cent of the locals supported the idea.

'We were slightly worried about the noise levels,' said Ann Craig, from Glenaruel Caravan Park.

'But we have been assured by Scottish Power that this will be so minimal it won't affect us at all.'

The wind farm will be constructed on a ridge at Cruach Mhor and will consist of 38 turbines, which will have the capacity to produce 29MW of energy, enough to power 17,000 homes per year. A representative from Scottish Power, Gordon Laidlaw, explained: 'After a year-long search throughout Scotland, Cowal was selected as an area where there was potential for a wind farm site.'

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: Across 7 Likewise (6), 8 Representative (6), 9 Jump (4), 10 Female plant? (8), 11 Mimic typing? (7), 13 Cant (5), 15 Parry (5), 17 Blast of air (7), 20 Outlet of waste (8), 21 Figure (out) (4), 23 Grade exam (1,5), 24 Lassie partner? (6). Down 1 Artifice (4), 2 Rough seas (6), 3 Submissive (7), 4 Strand (5), 5 Skilled person who brings together (6), 6 Wipeable material (8), 12 Veto (8), 14 Neat (7), 16 Hurry (6), 18 Advantages (6), 19 Spheres (5), 22 Aforementioned (4).

Last week's solution crossword grid with words: LETTER, MGRAL, XMAS, GPR, AT, M, STUD, RESEMBLE, CO, G, T, E, B, ANAGRAM, B, R, E, S, T, W, A, G, E, N, Q, U, E, S, T, I, O, N, P, O, P, U, L, A, R, I, T, Y, T, I, N, S, E, L, D, I, T, Y, I, N, S, E, R, I, B, L, E, C, E, Y, M, C, Y.

Fort man banned from driving

A FORT William man has been banned from driving for a year and fined £250 after being caught driving while one-and-a-half times over the legal alcohol limit.

Mark Gillespie, of 30 Ross Place, Upper Achintore, pled guilty to drink driving on Fassifern Road on May 7. Defence solicitor Hamish Melrose told Fort William Sheriff Court the 23-year-old joiner had a couple of beers at home and 'felt fine' when he was driving to the shop at 10.45pm. Police officers saw his car and pulled him over as they felt he was driving too fast. When they spoke to Gillespie they smelled alcohol on his breath and breathalysed him.

Sheriff Richard McFarlane told Gillespie he had taken a 'calculated risk'.

New man at helm of sports committee

LOCHABER Sports Association's grants and awards committee has a new chairman.

Stewart Sandison, also a director on the LSA's main board, was voted in at the new committee's first meeting on May 16.

First task for Mr Sandison and his committee will be to look at the grant application procedure with a view to simplifying it and making it more user-friendly.

Unique chance to buy island

AN UNINHABITED Outer Hebridean island is to be put up for sale for offers of around £2 million.

Taransay, which became famous in 2000 as the setting for the BBC series 'Castaway', is made up of two islands connected by a peninsula and has been used mainly for sheep grazing since the last family of inhabitants left in 1974.

Since gaining fame with the hit TV series, the 3,445-acre island has become a popular holiday destination and is also home to around 200 red deer. John Bound of property consultants CKD Galbraith said: 'The traditional buildings provide comfortable accommodation and coupled with sporting, farming and holiday letting enterprises, Taransay offers a unique opportunity.'



Thwarted by the weather: Keri at the end of her gruelling challenge.

Fell runner narrowly misses out on peaks honour

A GLENCOE fell runner has narrowly missed out on becoming the first woman to complete three gruelling mountain 'rounds' in Scotland, England and Wales non-stop, because of harsh Lochaber weather.

Keri Page, from Tigh Phuirst, was aiming to climb 113 peaks in 11 days between May 16 and 28.

The 'UK Big Three Challenge' covered 187 miles and 83,000 feet of ascent - the equivalent of three Mount Everests.

After completing the first 111 mountaintops and climbing 79,943 feet, Keri was left frustrated by blizzards and 60mph winds on the final two peaks, Carn Mor Dearg and Ben Nevis - falling short of completing her challenge by a mere 10 miles and 3,057 feet.

She started her challenge at Snowdon, and climbed 47 peaks in North Wales in four days. She then travelled with her family support team to the Lake

By RICHARD HADDOCK

fort@obantimes.co.uk District for another four-day slog of 42 summits. After tackling the Mamores, the hills around Corrou, Fersit and Loch Treig on day nine and ten, Keri ran into problems on Aonach Mor.

She said: 'I was blown to my knees several times and I sometimes struggled to get back up in the wind. The snow had drifted to about four inches deep in the track, which I struggled to locate in places. I staggered onwards to the summit cairn, where I fumbled out my phone and called Ben and said: 'I'm on Aonach Mor and I'm bailing!'

'It was definitely not sensible to push on in that weather, alone and fatigued.'

After some food, a cup of tea and a good night's sleep, Keri set off again the following day, taking two friends with her for safety. She said: 'I set out again,

this time in boots, with an ice axe, a rope and company. Sadly, the rain was torrential, turning to blizzards above 800metres and the wind was gusting even more strongly than the day before - 75mph, and apparently 90mph on the summit of Ben Nevis.

'Needless to say, we repeated my earlier decision and headed down instead of walking ourselves into trouble.'

Keri managed to raise more than £1,900, which will be split evenly between WaterAid and the John Muir Trust.

She said even though she was disappointed not to be able to complete the challenge, she was happy with the amount she raised. She said: 'I am obviously gutted to have failed so close to the end, but feel happy in the knowledge that I gave it my best shot. This money will make huge difference to the endeavours of WaterAid and the John Muir Trust.'

Skye and Lochalsh healthcare spotlight

PUBLIC drop-in sessions are to be held in Skye and Lochalsh to allow residents to find out more about recent healthcare developments in their area.

The events will be held at Portree Community Hall on Monday, June 20, and at Kyleakin Hall on Wednesday, June 22.

Both events will run from 1pm to 8pm and anyone interested in local healthcare is invited to attend.

As well as being able to see a wide range of displays, they will also have an opportunity to ask questions and to give their priorities for local healthcare.

Information will be available on the health needs of the community and how to get involved in the design of services.

There will also be information on the development of community services, hospital services development, transport, local treatment options and integration between health and local authority services.

Chairman of the Mid Highland Community Health Partnership Governance Committee, Okain McLennan, said: 'This is a great opportunity for everyone to find out more about the services we offer and for us to listen to their views on how we can improve these services.'

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Lochaber pupils back education campaign

PUPILS at Lochaber High School have written to their local MP Charles Kennedy and Prime Minister David Cameron to encourage them to help a campaign to get young girls around the world who are missing out on an education back into school.

The group of first year modern studies pupils have joined the Campaign for Global Education's 'Send My Sister To School' plan. An estimated 35.5 million girls across the globe do not attend school, so the Lochaber pupils have created paper characters and sent them to the members of parliament with messages written on them. Mr Kennedy was asked to forward the 'sisters' onto Mr Cameron before last week's G8 summit meeting in France.

Army veteran and son canoe 66 miles for forces charity

A FATHER and son team canoed a 66-mile route across the Highlands at the weekend to raise about £1,500 for Honour Our Troops, a charity which supports members of the Armed Forces and their families.

Army veteran Martin Dunford and his son Luke, both of Barnsley, started their journey from Corpach on Friday, travelling along the Caledonian Canal through Laggan, Fort Augustus and Invermoriston, before reaching their final destination at Inverness on Sunday afternoon.

Along the way the pair had to battle 40mph winds and 12-foot high waves, and their canoe capsized 25metres from the shore at

Invermoriston forcing them to swim to shore, dragging their vessel behind them.

Martin had planned to undertake the challenge with his friend Mick O'Neill, but after he sustained a last-minute back injury, 22-year-old Luke offered to take part.

Martin described the journey as a 'roller-coaster ride'. He said: 'I was asked if I would do it again and I replied instantly yes. I would also like to point out this was the first time in all my trip around the world that I have encountered such a high sea state as this.'

Anyone in the West Highlands wishing to donate can visit www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/martindunford.



Some of the Minis and their owners at An Aird car park in Fort William.

Minis hit the road to Fort William

MORE than 180 Minis descended on Fort William on Sunday as part of the 12th annual 'Mini Clan Thistle Run'.

All different varieties of Minis took part, from the Clubman, to the Countryman and the Mini Traveller, and they all drove from Blair Drummond Safari Park to Lochaber.

A few of the cars ran into difficulties on the

way, with poor weather and mechanical problems forcing a number to drop out of the rally before it reached Fort William.

When the survivors got to the town, they met at An Aird car park for judging.

The event raised money for the Lochaber Mountain Rescue team, and a presentation of the money is expected in September.



Kyle Sorting Office manager given grand send-off

Donald Ross, who has served as manager at Kyle Sorting Office, Plockton, was given a celebration to remember by colleagues on Saturday as he prepares to leave for his new post in Brighton. Before becoming manager, Donald was a postman for 18 years and his area manager Nikki Walker visited Plockton from Inverness to present him with presents and a cake. A large crowd attended and enjoyed the send-off.

Community council hits out at lack of loose vegetables on sale in Co-op

BALLACHULISH Community Council has hit out at Co-operative Stores after the branch in the village faced a shortage of loose vegetables.

Customers were forced to buy large multi-packs for a period, as individual vegetables were unavailable, although loose items are now available again.

Community council chairman Mel MacAskill told *The Oban Times* elderly people in the area often did not need more than one

or two items, and a lot of food was being needlessly wasted.

He said: 'There is only one shop in the village, and very little care seems to have been given to the community. A lot of people are going in to buy an onion or a carrot to make soup, and the end up having to buy a pack, most of which will not be used.'

A spokesperson for The Co-operative said: 'The range of produce we sell in our stores is kept under constant review,

and depends on a number of factors such as the size of the store, its location and customer demand. We are currently taking steps to ensure loose produce will continue to be available at Ballachulish.

'Due to changes to our stock replenishment systems, loose fresh produce was unavailable, for a time, from our store in Ballachulish. We would like to apologise to our customers for any inconvenience.'

Heritage project celebrates Skye's climbing pioneers

SCHOOL pupils on the Isle of Skye have rolled up their sleeves to start work on a heritage project which celebrates the achievements of John Mackenzie and Professor Norman Collie, two men who pioneered climbing on Skye's Black Cuillin.

Portree High School youngsters are building walls and paths at the Sligachan site, using traditional skills like dry stone walling and path building, as part of their John Muir Award.

Depute head Kenny Macdonald said: 'We are delighted to be involved in this project in partnership with the John Muir Trust and the Collie Mackenzie Sculpture Group.'

'This is just one of many exciting projects that our pupils are engaged in and it will empower our young people and give them the opportunity to learn specialist rural skills that can be used to

improve their environment and used in their own communities.'

John Muir Trust chief executive Stuart Brooks said: 'I'm delighted that local schoolchildren have had the chance to get involved with the project through their John Muir Awards.'

'Collie and Mackenzie are inspiring figures who were pioneers in the exploration of the wild landscapes of Skye.'

'It's fitting that these two men should be immortalised in bronze in sight of the Cuillin.'

The Collie Mackenzie Heritage Project was launched in 2004.

It will form a new gateway for visitors, with a bronze statue of the two climbers as the centrepiece.

The John Muir Award encourages people to connect, enjoy and care for wild places.

Social media workshop for Fort William businesses

A DAY-LONG workshop to help local companies benefit from social media is to be held in Fort William on Thursday June 9.

The seminar, which aims to show business how to grab the eye of customers and journalists, will take place at the Alexandra Hotel, The Parade, between 10am and 4pm.

Mairi Watson, of organisers Peppercorn PR, said: 'We have brought together experienced journalists, photographers and social media experts to provide an inside view on how to work with the media in all its forms.'

Numbers for the seminar are limited so anyone wishing to attend should book in advance.

Lewis-based companies take aim at huge Russian market

TWOLEWIS-based companies are taking aim at the huge Russian market by participating in a trade mission to Moscow and St Petersburg alongside other top Scottish textiles firms this week.

Shawbost-based Harris Tweed Hebrides (HTH) and Breenish Tweed, which is located in Ness, are part of the Scottish Development International mission aimed at the interiors sector where there is strong demand from wealthy Russians for international fabrics.

Speaking from Moscow, HTH chairman Brian Wilson said: 'This is a huge market but also a challenging one to get into.'

'There is not the same name recognition for Harris Tweed as you would find elsewhere, so we need to get the story across based on both quality and tradition.'

'At present, the Shawbost mill and the weavers are working to capacity and our aim

is to ensure that this is sustained year-round, every year.

'One obvious way to help achieve this is to do a bit more in interiors, where HTH has an existing track record.'

HTH have targeted the BRIC countries of rapid economic growth - Brazil, Russia, India and China. Creative director Mark Hogarth said: 'It will take time to establish ourselves in all these markets, but on any long-term view it makes sense to lay the foundations now while everything is going so well.'

Reputation Breenish Tweed managing director Iain Finlay MacLeod said: 'Scottish textiles have a well-deserved reputation around the world.'

'The most striking thing is the positive image the islands have world-wide and how people are instantly attracted by the images and by the skill used in handweaving.'

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For more information, contact the course leader Dr Donna Heddle at Centre for Nordic Studies, University of the Highlands and Islands, Kiln Corner, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1QX. Tel: 01856 569300, email CNS@orkney.uhi.ac.uk or visit www.nordic.uhi.ac.uk



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LISMORE

Fundraiser for hostel

GENEROUS fundraiser Beth Campbell has once again been giving of her time and energy, this time to help the students at Oban High School Hostel.

Moonwalk

THE WEATHER has been unseasonably cold and wet for some time and, as well as being very bad for farmers and their stock, it also managed to disrupt this year's Moonwalk for breast cancer research.

EASDALE

EILEAN Eisdale is delighted to announce a successful funding application to the Scotland's Islands Fund.



Some of the Lismore walkers who took part in the Moonwalk for breast cancer research.

Councillors believe this means Easdale will have no emergency evacuation available during darkness, as it has previously been confirmed that the ferry cannot be used by the ambulance service.

SWIFT action had to be taken when the Easdale hall floor buckled nearly beyond repair during the winter and would have left the hall unusable.

The floor has been getting steadily worse over the last few years caused by dampness seeping in from the back walls where the tanking has failed.

The message came after residents of the small island raised concerns about the evacuation of patients during an emergency.

'Funding for the arts program was confirmed last month from Creative Scotland but like all other applications has been reduced due to the recession.

BALLACHULISH

BALLACHULISH Community Council held its May meeting in the Jubilee Pavilion with 10 members present.

Community wardens from the housing and property

service have offered assistance with fly-tipping that may occur as a result of changes to refuse services.

A village enhancement grant application has been submitted to Highland Council. Office bearers to write an open letter to Royal Bank of Scotland about reduction in branch opening hours.

Bus shelter artwork - Grant funding is to be pursued. School is starting artwork competition. Road Surface in Village - everyone is encouraged to report specific road defects to Highland Council.

Scotland and supports the view of the Northern Constabulary. Kinlochleven School and Community Library representative will attend our June meeting to discuss community learning and leisure activities.

INVERGARRY

RESIDENTS of an Invergarry street have demanded the council put an end to chronic flooding problems in the street.

At a Highland Council North Ward Forum meeting at Glengarry Community Hall last week, a number of people from Garry Crescent complained about the problems caused by water cascaded down the street during bad weather, apparently due to blocked drains.

They also said the road needed resurfaced, work which had been promised after recent work on the water mains. Councillor Bill Clark said: 'There are roads like that all over Lochaber, but they will have to do some remedial work here.'

PLOCKTON

PLOCKTON Small Boat Sailing Club began their new season with their training night on May 3. Some 16 youngsters took

part and enjoyed sailing in the club's new Fevas, which the club bought last year with a lottery grant and a donation. Instructor was John Leiper, ably helped by his wife Kally.

The annual outing organised by Plockton Horticultural Society saw 14 members travel Skye to enjoy a day at Armadale Gardens on May 11.

Plockton and Kyle Free Church held their AGM in Kyle Church Hall on May 18. A presentation was made to Alastair Fraser from Kyle, on his retirement after serving 40 years as church treasurer.

Alistair is succeeded by Johnnie Nicolson from Plockton. Willie Fraser showed slides of his trip to Peru last year.

ARDFERN

ARDFERN Adventure club joined the Stramash team for an exciting gorge walking session last week.

Fourteen youths from the Ardfern area headed to Glen Lonan for an afternoon of exploration.

The adventure club will be running weekly until the summer holidays.

TORLUNDY

DESPITE winds of up to 100 mph and torrential rain, 30 S2 pupils from Kinlochleven High School visited the Rural Education Centre near Aonach Mor on Monday to take part in an activities day.

Following an interactive talk on crofting in the 1950s and memorabilia interpretation the pupils made butter in the churn. The butter making process was a totally new experience for them and they enjoyed the finished product spread on oatcakes.

They then baked fruit loaves, scones and brownies before making pasta and sauce for their lunch. The final activity was making felt with wool into bookmarks. A busy and successful day was enjoyed by all.

More than 60 children from four schools continue to take part in the Seed to Supper Project and lazy beds are full with vegetables and flowers.

The second Junior Gardening Show will be held in the centre on August 20.

Seventy pupils from Banavie Primary School will learn about farming, forestry, aquaculture, baking, cooking, gardening and crafts when they visit the centre in June.

The Lochaber Rural Education Trust provides a full day of activities both inside and outside, weather permitting, for primary and secondary schools.

BARCALDINE

BARCALDINE Primary School has begun Canoe Club sessions with Stramash again this year. Each week Stramash are delivering sessions to the club on Loch Creran, the first four weeks will be for Barcaldine Primary six and seven pupils and the next will be for primary four and five pupils.



School playground leaders rewarded

Fifteen P7 children at Kilchuimen Primary School have been rewarded with certificates after becoming playground leaders. The programme encourages older pupils in the school to lead play activities for the younger pupils at break time and lunch time to help build up their confidence and leadership skills.



Norma Young, chairman of Staffin Community Council, on the new road with Councillor John Laing, chairman of the Council's TEC Services Committee.

New improved two-way road cuts journey times between Portree and Staffin

TRAVEL on the A855 north from Portree to Staffin is safer and journey times shorter thanks to completion of the third phase of upgrading works.

Highland Council widened 4.6 km of single track and passing place road to a two-lane carriageway, following the route's existing alignment. The improvements, costing £2.3 million, stretch between the Bride's Veil waterfall, Loch Leathan and Loch Fada where spectacular views of the Old Man of Storr can be enjoyed. Two phases of the work attracted European

Regional Development Fund cash under the 'locally significant' road scheme. The council's Sconser Quarry and Drummuie Quarry provided rock and surfacing materials for the new road.

Transport, environmental and community services chairman John Laing thanked landowners and local road users for their patience and understanding when temporary closures were in place.

He said: 'This has proved an innovative design to achieve value for money improvements,

which are much appreciated in Skye and by visitors to this area of high scenic amenity. It will assist tourism and agriculture for the remote rural communities on the Trotternish Peninsula and encourage development in this part of Skye.' The A855 was originally built under the crofter county scheme in the 1960s. The council has been successful with bids for Euro funding for three other lifeline routes - Drynie Hill (Ardfarnham), Laxford Bridge (North West Sutherland), and Strathconon (Wester Ross).

Down Your Way

This week - Ardnamurchan

WEST Ardnamurchan Community Council (WACC) chairman Rosie Curtis has spoken to The Oban Times about the frustration felt by local residents regarding the lack of forward momentum in talks about replacing the area's 24-hour district nursing cover.

NHS Highland wants to replace the service with cover from the Scottish Ambulance Service, NHS 24 and local GPs, and have placed a deadline of January 2012 for a decision on the service's future to be made.

Five months have elapsed since the deadline was set, and west Ardnamurchan representatives have still not been involved in any discussions.

Ms Curtis said: 'If we are to have a district nursing service which has been thoroughly discussed and with which we are happy, we have to get on with things, as time is short.'

'WACC was extremely worried that decisions might be made at meetings which are uninformed and therefore unacceptable to us. We have written to Mr Coutts stating our position, which is this remote community will not agree to any arrangement which is a deterioration on the current provision, which we have always believed to be eminently suitable for this difficult area.'

An NHS Highland spokesman said: 'Discussions with the SAS are ongoing. We understand that they intend to come back to the community representatives and partners, including NHS Highland, in the next few weeks.'

'District nursing services to West Ardnamurchan will remain and out of hours for end of life and other nursing issues will be maintained. District nurses are not an emergency service.'

ARDNAMURCHAN Tourist Association is setting up a service in Kilchoan Community Centre to allow visitors to access information about the area.

If anyone has a computer or a wireless laptop that can be donated or loaned for this, please contact Jacqui on 01972 510337.



KILCHOAN Primary pupils have been busy planting in their own corner of the community garden. They each have their own plot and so far have planted lettuces and sunflowers, with peas and beans growing in pots at the school ready to be transplanted.

The potato crop is coming on nicely although the winds at the beginning of the week have caused some damage.

Meanwhile, the annual peninsula inter-school sports supported had to be postponed and will now take place on Tuesday June 14 in the Kilchoan sports field.

A REMOTE lifeline route in Ardnamurchan is to undergo major improvement works under Highland Council is under award a European Union grant.

The council were given £500,000 from the European Regional Development Fund to upgrade rural roads, and the A861 Drynie Hill coastal route immediately south of Kinlochmoidart will be one of the recipients of the money.

No date has yet been set for the work to start.



AN INVENTIVE great tit has found an unusual place to rear her young at Ardnamurchan Campsite in Ornsaibeg - the brain cavity of a whale.

Campsite owner Trevor Potts had started to mount the Cuvier's beaked whale skeleton along the end of his bothy when the great tit took up residence. The chicks are expected to fly the nest within days.

Local man Jonathon Haylett said: 'I was quite amazed at the way the parents continued to feed their young even though campers were to-ing and fro-ing between their tents and the toilets, right beside the skeleton.'

The Trevor's campsite has gained a high reputation, having featured in several camping guides. Photo courtesy of Jonathon Haylett.

Next week DOWN YOUR WAY visits Colonsay with Chief Reporter Euan Paterson.

You can contact him on 01631 568000 or email epaterson@obantimes.co.uk.

OBAN SWRI

OBAN SWRI met recently for their AGM and buffet supper to celebrate after their wins at the Lorn Group Rally.

At this successful show, Marie Campbell shared the Smiths Cup for Baking and Oban won the banner for the highest points per member - 344 points and 17 members - and the Wright Cup for the highest points. Over the year, Ann Malloch won the most points in the monthly institute competitions. Thanks were given to the outgoing committee and a new committee was elected with Jenny Moody as president, Margaret Devine as vice president and Kay McDonald, treasurer.

Advertisement for Scottish Field magazine featuring 'THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH FIELD...', 'READ... DISCOVERING SHETLAND', 'WIN... AN ORIGINAL PAINTING WORTH £2000', and 'www.scottishfield.co.uk'.

Mull Lines

CUIDHE Leathain Bed and Breakfast on the Isle of Mull has struck gold in the quality stakes. It is one of the most recent in Argyll to have been awarded Gold Star status through national tourism organisation VisitScotland's quality assurance scheme. Cuidhe Leathain has been awarded three Gold Stars and is amongst 111 accommodation providers in Scotland, and only 12 in Argyll, to be awarded the coveted Gold Stars by VisitScotland, in recognition of their exceptional hospitality and service. Jeannette and Alan Hodson, proprietors of Cuidhe Leathain, said: 'We have worked hard to get our bed and breakfast to this standard. It is very rewarding to know that all our hard work and effort have been recognised in such a positive manner. We are delighted with our Gold Stars and we are delighted our dedication has been recognised with this award for excellence in hospitality and customer care. We hope to continue providing our guests with the best service we can for as long as possible.' David Adams McGilp, VisitScotland's regional director for Argyll and Bute, said: 'Establishments such as Cuidhe Leathain really are the leading lights in the region when it comes to exceptional quality and service in accommodation provision. Guest houses and bed and breakfasts play a huge part in bringing millions of visitors and billions of pounds to our economy, so it is right that they are recognised in this way. The rewards of these Gold Stars will be reaped not only by this bed and breakfast, but also by their customers and by extension Scottish tourism as a whole, as we work together to encourage visitors to Scotland to stay longer and spend more.'

COUNCILLOR Mary-Jean Devon is attempting a challenge of her own on June 30 when she will attempt to walk from her home at Balliscate, Tobermory, to Aros Gate and maybe even Drumfynn.

For many the walk, in aid of Breast Cancer Support, would not be the most difficult along an almost straight, yet bumpy path. But Councillor Devon suffers from Multiple Sclerosis and finds walking difficult at the best of times.

Organisers Catherine MacCrone and Alison Dugdale are delighted Mary-Jean is joining all the women (and maybe men and children) who have already signed up.

Catherine said: 'We have delivered posters all over the north of the island and already we have given out more than 50 sponsor forms.'

'The walk will start in Ledaig car park at 10pm on Friday, June 24, Mary-Jean will join us on the route. People should come along and wear as much pink as they can.'

'We are hoping that all the businesses in the town will join in with a pink window display. There will be a walkers disco in MacGouchans Bar where there will be an award for the best dressed.'

THE MULL Cycloportive is an 85 (or 42) mile route round the Isle of Mull in aid of two deserving charities: Help for Heroes and the RNLI, specifically the Tobermory lifeboat.

The Cycloportive on June 12 is a much-anticipated event both on the island and off with more than 100 people signing up for the event.

It has been headlined as one of the 'must do' cycles of the circuit with organisers saying: 'From the moment you leave Tobermory until the return, this cycle ride will be one of the most breathtaking.'

'Heading south east along the Sound of Mull, the stretch of water that separates Mull from the mainland, the scenery is stunning; the route then heads west, circling the base of Ben More, Mull's very own 'Munro'.

'Returning up the west coast of the Island affords views to the Treshnish Isles and further out the Isles of Coll and Tiree - this is a cycle route not to be missed especially with the chance of seeing eagles, red deer, seals and much, much more.'

'Both routes will have 'feed stations' and back-up support; everyone who completes will receive their very own Mull Cycloportive memento and those who complete under a specified time will receive a medal.'

'An 8am start will ensure traffic free roads and will allow participants to treat this ride as they wish. Either chase the target time or just enjoy the most beautiful cycloportive in the UK. This is the beginning of something new and very special.'

'Cyclists will not go hungry on the way round as the feed stations will have a distinct Highland flavour and we have been supplied with fantastic biscuits from the Island Bakery amongst other energy boosting items.'

At the end of the race cyclists will be awarded a medal while sports massage will be available.

A 'Celebration Drinks Party' will be held in The Western Isles Hotel at 6.30pm.

Time standards for the race have been set as follows: for the 85-mile route, under five hours gold, under six hours and ten minutes silver and everyone else bronze. For the 42-mile route under two and a half hours gold, under three and a half hours silver and all others on completion bronze.

For more details contact info@mullcycloportive.co.uk.

AN TOBAR, the arts and craft venue in Tobermory, is planning an open submission exhibition of postcard sized works in Gallery Two during August.

There is an open invitation to submit one piece, and whether or not you live on Mull or Argyll, you are eligible to exhibit.

You must pay an admission fee of £5 with your completed application form. This will cover the costs of the blank board, its delivery to you and postage of the artwork to the buyer, or back to you if it remains unsold. Boards are now available until July 10, while stocks last.

Art work must remain within the dimensions of, and attached to the board.

Any media can be used. You can paint, draw, print or collage directly onto the board, or attach your work securely to it as you see appropriate.

Work can be three-dimensional but the work should not protrude beyond the edges of the board. All work submitted must be original artwork, no reproduction prints.

Work will be displayed propped on a shelf, so any attachments must not interfere with the ability of the piece to stand on one edge. Completed work must be delivered to An Tobar by Monday July 25. Work must be for sale and the price should either be £35, £65 or £100.

An Tobar will take commission of 33 per cent on all sales. Payment for sold work will be made in September 2011.

Any work that does not fit the criteria will be returned un-shown.

A MULL hand diver has been chosen as a winner in the Catering in Scotland (CIS) Excellence Awards.

The Ethical Shellfish Company, set up at Aros Mains on the east coast of Mull by Guy Grieve and his wife Juliet who grew up on the island, took the Sustainable Business category.

CIS organisers said this section attracted a larger number of entries every year, 'proving that businesses now have the environment at the top of their agendas.'

The awards were presented at the Glasgow Hilton Hotel before an audience of 500 guests at a gala dinner compered by BBC presenter Shereen Nanjiani.

The awards are the main competition combining Scotland's catering, hospitality and tourism industries.

South African-born Guy, who hand dives for king scallops from his own boat around the island, said: 'Our mission is to provide fresh, sustainably caught shellfish direct to top chefs throughout Britain, with two key priorities: quality and marine conservation. We are a big friend of the small boat.'

Two years ago the couple took their two young sons (now aged eight and 10) to Venezuela, bought a boat and sailed it back to Scotland via the Caribbean and North America.

'Living on a boat for over 10 months gave us a love and respect for the sea and an awareness of the fragile ecosystems that exist within it,' Guy explained.

Ian McKilligan, spokesman for the island's tourism association, Holiday Mull and Iona, added: 'This is the latest example of the magnificent supply of fresh, environmentally responsible produce available on Mull.'

'Increasingly this is being shared with the rest of the UK through companies like Guy and Juliet's, and we are very proud of them.'



Highland dancers from the Eilidh MacInnes School of Dance. 16_112dance1

Highland dancers turn on the style at annual display

THE EILIDH MacInnes School of Dance held its fifth Annual Dance Display in Glencruittin Church Hall with 40 Highland dancers entertaining the audience with a variety of Highland Dances, National Dances and the adult dancers doing choreography to modern and traditional music.

Prize winners at this year's display were Katie MacPherson, juvenile; Kirsty MacInnes, junior; and Alannah Higgins, senior. Meanwhile, 51 Scottish Dance Teachers Association exams took place at Atlantis Leisure with dancers achieving the highest pass marks. At the end of the dance

display the dancers were all presented with certificates and medals. The dance school is taking part in a Highland Dance Festival in Paris in November at Euro Disney. There are various fundraising events planned this summer to help with the expense of going to Paris.

ISLAY

THE LATEST addition to the Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) fleet, the MV Finlaggan, was formally named at a ceremony in Islay.

The ceremony, attended by around 200 invited guests, was carried out by Gina McAuslan, chairman of the Finlaggan Trust Committee, an Islay-based community organisation which looks after the archaeological site after which the ship has been named.

The £24.5 million ship is the first new large ship in the CalMac fleet for 10 years. It was built at the Remontowa shipyard in Gdansk, Poland, and will be the first new ship to serve Islay in almost 40 years. It is a 90 metre long, Ro-Ro Euro Class B passenger ferry vessel with capacity for 550 passengers and 85 cars, or the equivalent coaches and commercial vehicles. This marks a 22 per cent increase in passenger capacity and an 11 per cent increase in cars compared to the current provision.

The ferry boasts three passenger decks, an observation lounge, reclining seats and quiet lounge, restaurant, shop, children's play area, two decks of external panoramic seating and two disabled lifts accessing all decks, including the outside upper deck. She was handed over to CalMac on May 11 by Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL), which commissioned her on behalf of the Scottish Government. It is planned to put her into service as soon as practical after the naming ceremony, possibly on Thursday or Friday this week.

As pier modernisation work is considered underway at Port Ellen, MV Finlaggan will initially sail between Kennacraig and Port Askaig. Peter Timms, chairman of CalMac's parent company, David MacBrayne Ltd, said: 'This is a red-letter day for the people of Islay and everyone at CalMac who have been looking forward enormously to the arrival of this new vessel for many years. The MV Finlaggan is designed to have a working life of more than 30 years and is the most technically advanced ship in the CalMac fleet, offering the highest levels of passenger safety and comfort. I am sure that she will quickly become the envy of the west coast of Scotland and beyond.'

KILNINVER

RESIDENTS in Kilninver have been enjoying watching the house martins as they teach their young to fly in the field in front of the water.

The migratory birds laid eggs three or four weeks earlier than last year, in spite of them arriving a little later from the African plains. In one field next to Dairy Cottage the adults birds seem to be flying alongside their young before sitting on the stane dyke to watch the young as they learn to fly.

KILMELFORD

KILMELFORD and Kilninver have agreed to promote the HIV AIDS Souper Sunday with elderly services on August 14, 2011.

At Kilbrandon and Kilchattan the Kirk Session will shortly consider a proposal to support the provision, through Christian Aid, of impregnated mosquito nets in malarial areas of tropical Africa. The group planning the Netherlorn Churches Gathering are exploring the possibility of featuring a Water Aid project which could be taken forward from the Gathering. It was agreed that, while this is always important, it is particularly so at present when global tensions place some Christian communities in a very exposed position.

KILBRANDON

FAMILY, friends and church members gathered at Kilbrandon and Kilchattan Churches on May 15 for joyful services which featured the ordination of new elders Jean Alexander, John Alexander, Caroline Fothergill and Phil Moss.

SEIL

SEIL Hall has a continuing programme of events for the whole community. Some of these include the Wednesday Lunch Club, an Art Group, Badminton and Scottish Country Dancing.

The regular Wednesday Lunch Club takes place from 12.30 to 2pm in the Seil Island Hall, where you can enjoy good homemade soup and sandwiches and a speciality of the day for £2.50. If you would like to come along, just turn up. The Art Group meets in the small hall in Seil Island hall from 2-4pm on Thursdays, and anyone who fancies a dabble at art will be very welcome to join them - no previous expertise necessary. The over 50s Badminton Club is on Tuesdays between 2 and 4pm. Rackets are available - all you need are shoes, and an ability to move about a bit. Alternatively, if Strictly Come Dancing has given you itchy feet, and you fancy treading the light fantastic, the Country Dancing class in Seil Hall on Tuesday evenings from 8pm will make you most welcome.

ARDCHATTAN

AS PART OF the Argyll and Bute Council's School Consultation process there will be a public meeting held on Monday June 6.

This meeting will be held at Ardchattan Primary School from 7pm - 9pm. The council has convened the meeting and will present their reasons for bringing forward the proposal to amalgamate Ardchattan Primary School with Lochnell Primary School. There will be an opportunity for questions and comments, which will be taken note of so that they can later be summarised and considered. This is an open meeting so that everyone, whether they have children at the school or not, can hear directly from the council and be able to ask them questions regarding the closure of Ardchattan Primary and the impact on the surrounding community. The meeting starts at 7pm, however, the school will be available from 6.45pm and there will be tea and coffee available. Children are permitted at this meeting.

CRIANLARICH

A NEW river hydro scheme near Crianlarich is set to go ahead after receiving £6.15million in funding from the Co-operative Bank Ltd.

Osspower will use the cash to develop the 2MW facility at Glenfalloch. They intend to have it operational by mid 2012.

David Lowes, the chairman of Osspower, said: 'The Co-operative Bank has demonstrated its commitment to renewable energy schemes through the finance it has provided. This development will bring benefit to the local community, to the rural economy, employment and to UK manufacturing and will be an important element in helping Scotland to achieve its renewable energy targets.'

'We will now focus on the construction of this scheme and the financing of the remaining three schemes, totalling a further 4.1MW, in Osspower's portfolio of consented schemes.'

ARRAN

ARRAN'S householders have been warned by police to be vigilant after a rise of heating oil thefts from gardens.

Following reports in recent months that criminals have been stealing oil from unoccupied houses, police sergeant Bob Mackay said that Arran's residents need to be more vigilant with security. 'Due to the economic climate the force as a whole is seeing a rise in oil thefts,' he said. 'The high cost of oil makes it very attractive to thieves and as a result people should be doing all they can to keep their tanks secure.'

Last week more than 800 litres of oil was stolen from a tank at North Bank in Whiting Bay. His brother Craig and his family raised the money by running a tombola stall and prize-draw at the recent Arran Rugby Sevens tournament. Craig said: 'We're absolutely delighted to have raised all the money we needed. We managed to raise £971 at the rugby sevens; the rest has all been from donations. Duncan has been overwhelmed by the generosity of the Arran people.' Duncan is now in a stable condition in hospital but is undergoing dialysis as he awaits a kidney transplant.



Alan Cook on the cycle he will ride from John O'Groats to Lands End.

Epic cycle challenge for paralysed Arran man

AN ARRAN man is preparing to take part in an epic cycle from John O'Groats to Lands End next month.

This is a major challenge for Alan Cook from Slidery, who, following an accident six years ago is paralysed from below his rib cage. For Alan, the 950-mile nine-day journey will be truly remarkable. And he will be doing it lying down, just a couple of inches off the ground, on a specially adapted cycle.

He said: 'I'll be doing over 105 miles each day without a day off. Out of nearly 600 cyclists I'm the only hand-cyclist taking part.'

Thirty-four-year-old Alan is doing the ride to raise money for the Back-Up Trust, a national charity that aims to transform the lives of people living with a spinal cord injury and a charity that really helped change his own life.



Youngsters do their bit for spring clean week

Ballachulish Primary School kids did their bit for the local environment as part of National Spring Clean week. P1/2 collected three bags of rubbish from streets in the village, while P3/4 gathered five bags from paths and verges next Loch Leven. Pictured above is the P1/2 group at the swing park at West Laroeh.



During the recent Walk to School week all children were encouraged to walk to school. Most Achaleven children live very close to the school or travel in by car, so it was decided pupils would walk to school with a difference. A learning topic at the moment is Secret Loch Etive and pupils are visiting places of interest around the loch. They visited Bonawe Iron Works and then walked the two-mile river route, enjoying the spring sunshine and flowers.

DALMALLY

MORE than 40 children gathered with parents and parishioners in Dalmailly as Craig Lodge hosted the Argyll and the Isles Diocesan Youth Work Initiative.

The event, on May 14, was led by Denise Roberts and welcomed families from Fort William, Lochgilphead, Dunoon and Roy Bridge for an action-packed day.

The day began with a dramatised Rosary then, after a picnic lunch, the children enjoyed a treasure trail laid out around the grounds of Craig Lodge while the adults listened to talks about the key role families play in nurturing faith and holiness. There were plenty of resources on display covering subjects such as; Theology of the Body, Children's liturgy and the youth events taking place at Craig Lodge. The day ended with a joyful mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Toal, concelebrated with Canon Fraser, Fr William MacLean and Fr Ferriggi.

The finishing touch was 10-year-old Harry Adair piping Bishop Toal from the chapel. Craig Lodge Community is now looking ahead to a Summer Festival for 12-16 year olds on June 24 - 26.

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The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Outdoor adventure centre, Vertical Descents, based in Inchree by Fort William, offers exhilarating land and water based activities including canyoning, white water rafting, fun yakking, bridge swing, paintball and mountain biking.



The centre has just launched Segway tours in Ballachulish and Tralee Bay, a fun and unique way to witness some beautiful scenery on a modern two-wheeled self-balancing vehicle. Also on offer in and around the Oban area is coastering, a combination of rock climbing, canyoning and cliff jumping along an exciting stretch of coastline. A regular sight on the River Awe is fun yakking, an exciting way of going down this spectacular river in a two person inflatable, highly manoeuvrability open canoe.

For more information on all the activities on offer visit www.verticaldescents.com.

The Oban Times has teamed up with Vertical Descents to offer one lucky reader and three of their friends an unforgettable experience. The winner will get to choose two exciting activities to do on a fantastic day out. Choose from either coastering along the coastlines by Easdale, funyacking on the River Awe or a Segway tour at Ballachulish or Tralee Bay. No experience necessary.

Plus, the group of four will each take home a Vertical Descents T-shirt worth £20.

To enter, simply answer the question below and fill in your details along with your answer and post to Competitions, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB. Entries must be submitted by Monday June 13 2011.

Question:

How many wheels does a Segway have?

Fill in your details along with your answer below and post to Competitions, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB.

Entries must be submitted by Monday June 13 2011

Answer

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

Tick here to receive information on special offers and promotions from The Oban Times.

Tick here to receive information from Vertical Descents.

Terms & Conditions: Over 18s only. Lunch, snacks, travel and insurance is not included in the prize. No cash alternative. Activities may be cancelled due to weather conditions. Bookings subject to availability and must be made in advance. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. Winners will be chosen at random. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and their name may appear in the newspaper.

Fundraisers answer charity call with quiz night success

HERE'S a starter for ten: what is a good way to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust?

Answer: Organise a quiz, of course. And that's exactly what staff of the Homebase store in Oban did. Such was the event's popularity, extra tables had to be found for all those who turned up at the Argyllshire Gathering Hall wanting to take part. Carol Bain, who helped organise the quiz, explained that the Teenage Cancer Trust was the charity Homebase nationally had chosen to support. 'We normally do smaller events throughout the year but this time we decided to go for a bigger one,' she said.

The event raised £3,000 and delighted organisers are already planning something similar next year.

Quizmaster for the night was another member of the Homebase team, John Robinson, and he was ably assisted by Doug Craig. Top prize was a hamper and commemorative medals, while a booby prize for the evening's dunces included a plunger and toilet seat.

To further boost funds, an auction was organised, with Councillor Neil Mackay persuading those present to part with their cash.

'The generosity of the town has been amazing. On behalf of Homebase we would like to thank them very much for their support,' said Carol.



Standing room only at the Homebase quiz. From left: organiser Carol Bain, auctioneer Councillor Neil Mackay, Doug Craig and John Robinson, who staged the quiz, Homebase store manager Andy Spence and organiser Christina McTaggart.

Weekly 'Singing for the Brain' sessions hit the right note

A WEEKLY singing, activity and exercise group for people with dementia, Parkinson's Disease or the after-effects of a stroke is hitting the right note.

Run by volunteers for carers and sufferers, the group is going from strength to strength with more than 20 people taking part some weeks.

But there is always room for more people, say organisers, as an open invitation has been extended to the come along session on Wednesdays from 1.30pm to 3pm in Glencruitten Church Hall.

Volunteer leader Elizabeth Little said: 'All the research points to the fact that singing is beneficial for everyone and in particular for people with these conditions to stimulate the whole of their brain.'

'Some people who come along to the group have lost speech, yet they are still able to sing and take part. Singing can also provide a way for people with dementia to express themselves and socialise with others in a fun and supportive group.'

'Even when many memories are hard to retrieve, music is especially easy to recall. There are no rules really - other than the ability to sit for about an hour and you definitely do not have to be able to sing to be part of the group.'



The Singing for the Brain group enjoy songs with group leader Elizabeth Little, standing. 16_t22singin1

Take a trip to...
The Royal Burgh of
Inveraray



OFTEN deemed the gateway to the Highlands and Islands, the Royal Burgh of Inveraray, has plenty to offer both visitors and locals.

Nestled on the edge of Loch Fyne, Inveraray is the ancestral home of the Duke of Argyll, who founded the burgh in 1745.

The castle of Inveraray attracts visitors from across the world, each looking to discover a little bit of Scotland's history.

In fact, much of the burgh was built between 1772 and 1800 by Edinburgh-born architect Robert Mylne.

Unlike some Scottish towns, modestly sized Inveraray is a hub of activity throughout the year.

The castle, being a huge draw for people, is open from April 1 until October 31. Visitors can enjoy a guided tour of the home of the Duke and Duchess, or a leisurely walk around the spectacular gardens. And why not stop for tea and cakes in the castle's traditional tearoom.

For anyone still looking to soak in the burgh's history, a trip to Inveraray Jail is a must.

A live, interactive experience, the Jail, which dates back to the 18th Century, is a must see attraction, suitable for all the family.

Inveraray is also home to a range of shops.

The Christmas Dove sits to the top of Inveraray's Main Street. An emporium of beautiful festive gifts, this



shop will appeal to visitors all-year-round.

And for anyone looking to take home a bit of Scotland: Redshank Designers and Kitmakers is perfect.

Branded as 'celebrating the cornucopia of design', Redshank designs and produces a range of highland clothing using only the finest tweeds and tartans.

For those wishing to get 'toggled-up' to explore the great outdoors, Dewar's Bootstore in Inveraray's Main Street, is must.

From a wide range of outdoor clothing, to walking boots and outdoor equipment, Dewar's can kit-out all members of the family.

And after all that shopping and sight-seeing, Inveraray offers a broad range of eateries. The Royal Burgh cafe offers diners a quality, freshly prepared fish and chips, pizzas, pastas and risottos served in stylish surroundings or take away. A licensed Italian restaurant, set in the heart of the town, The Royal Burgh Cafe offers lunch and dinner menus. Brambles Bistro with Rooms offers its diners

fresh, local produce, and take pride in what it deems 'the best coffee in town'. A relaxed dining atmosphere, Brambles serves light lunches, modern classic or hearty Scottish fayre, as well as delicious home-baking. On Quay Close sits Ban-Diuc: a recently opened Indian Restaurant. Open seven-days-a-week, Ban-Diuc offers diners a range of traditional Indian food in relaxed, dining surroundings. And for those looking for some tasty treats on the go, why not pop into David's. From hot takeaway food

such as breakfast rolls and toasted sandwiches, to fresh cakes, ice cream and hot and cold drinks. So whether it's a day, weekend or weeklong holiday, Inveraray has something for everyone: whether you're far-flung visitors, or simply stay a few miles up the road.

HOW TO GET THERE:

By Car
From the south, travel up the M8 taking junction 30 for the Erskine Bridge, and join the A82 to Dumbarton and Loch Lomond. At Tarbet, near the head of picturesque Loch Lomond, bear left onto the A83 signposted for Inveraray.

By Bus
Scottish Citylink provide a regular bus service to Inveraray from Glasgow City Centre: Travel time is approximately 1hr 40 minutes.

FURTHER INFORMATION:
Holiday West magazine
The Argyllshire Advertiser weekly newspaper

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Watch your pizza being cooked in a genuine stone pizza oven imported from Italy. A la carte menu offering a fusion of Italian / Scottish flavours to suit everyone.

3 Main Street West, Inveraray Tel: 01499 302323

Inveraray Castle
Castle and Garden open 1st April - 31st October
10.00am - 5.45 pm last admission 5.00pm.
Tea Room and Gift Shop also open to the general public (you don't have to visit castle to gain entrance).
Event enquiries contact Jane Young - manager@inveraray-castle.com
Tel: 01499 302551

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Amy Craig examines the model lifeboat and simulated air sea rescue created by George Berry, chairman of the RNLI fundraising committee in Oban and a member of the Diecast Model Association. 15_122modelshow01

Model behaviour raises £670 for RNLI

THE OBAN fundraising committee of the RNLI sailed away with hundreds of pounds thanks to the annual Diecast Model Association show.

The two-day event was staged at the Regent Hotel last weekend and attracted a host of enthusiasts who showed off their models.

Everything from a running railway to a large selection of trucks, buses and even a mini raceway

was on view. Oban Diecast Model Association chairman Alan Brander said many of the models had been carefully crafted by those showing them.

'For a lot of people, it is a kickback to their childhood - we are just big boys with toys,' he said.

'This is a chance for everyone to get everything out and we always do it for a good cause.'

In all, the event raised £672.10. Mr Brander thanked all supporters for their efforts.

In addition to staging their own show, association members take their models to other shows throughout the year.

Alan said the association was always keen to attract new members. Anyone interested can contact him on 01631 566545 in the evening.

Skye's pipers celebrate 50th anniversary

Eight bands will play in Portree

EIGHT pipe bands from the Highlands and Islands will head to Portree this weekend to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Isle of Skye Pipe Band.

They will perform together and individually in the village throughout Saturday afternoon. A number of bands from the islands will already have played through Portree's streets on Friday evening so this weekend promises to be a great musical treat for visitors and locals.

Although there had been a Portree Pipe Band, formed in the late 1920s, it went into abeyance during the Second World War.

However, a local pipe band was re-formed in 1961, largely at the initiative of local man Ewen MacKenzie, a former Cameron Highlander who had returned to work in Portree.

And because the new band now drew its membership from throughout Skye, the Isle of Skye Pipe Band replaced its original name.

In the half-century since the

band was reformed there have been a number of overseas trips but the principal role for the band has always been to perform and entertain in its native island.

The band unfailingly turns out to play for the thousands attending the annual Skye Games. It continues to support agricultural shows, gala days and half-marathons and in the past, the band was a regular feature of the anti-bridge tolls SKAT demonstrations.

On Tuesday evenings throughout the summer, weather and midgets permitting, the band plays for about an hour and a half in Portree's Somerled Square - a hugely popular event for visitors and locals.

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the Isle of Skye Pipe Band will be joined by those from Uist, Lewis, Na h-Eileanan Siar and the band of the Army Cadet Force.

Of special significance, particularly given the continuing need to bring on young players in Skye, will be the appearance of the Skye Schools' Pipe Band

along with others on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon.

Drum Major Peter MacDonald said: 'We can't think of a better way to celebrate our 50 years than to put on a veritable feast of music.'

'After all, entertaining the public is our main objective and this event will do exactly that. Also it will give something back to the island in return for all the help and support we have received over the years.'

'We have been privileged over the years to be invited to play in places like Lewis, Uist and Na h-Eileanan Siar and so it is entirely appropriate that bands from these areas will join us for our celebrations this weekend.'

The event, which will also feature performances by local Highland dancers, has received generous financial support from Scotland's Islands.

Massed bands will kick things off at 8pm on Friday evening and at noon on Saturday June 3 and Sunday June 4. Check local posters for further details.

Will return of raft race be all plain sailing?

A RAFT race being organised for Oban's bi-centennial celebrations is all set to bring out the competitive nature of revellers.

On July 10, the town's first raft race for a number of years will be part of a fun day being held at Ganavan Sands.

It is hoped representatives from families, clans, groups and individuals will start making their rafts along the theme of '200 years'.

Prizes will be awarded for fastest raft, best decorated raft and, of course, that sinking feeling raft. Anyone who would like to sponsor an award at the raft race or register their intentions of taking part should contact oban200@gmail.com or send a letter to the Oban 200 committee via The Corran Halls, Oban.

Dr Lachlan Grant of Ballachulish, c.1870-c.1945: a one-day history workshop in Ballachulish

Are you interested in the local history of Ballachulish? Would you like to know more about the modern history of Argyll and the western Highlands?

A one day history workshop is taking place at the Shinty Pavilion, Ballachulish on Saturday 10 September, 1pm-6.30pm and ALL ARE WELCOME.

Prominent historians will lead the first part of the day, giving short papers on the history of the modern Highlands, including aspects of medicine and welfare, Highland development, migration and land reform. The second part of the day will be devoted to community workshops, where you can have your say. If you have any memories of this time, or any pictures, documents or artefacts, bring them along - we would love to see them!

If you would like to attend could you please register with: Dr Annie Tindley at: Annemarie.tindley@gcu.ac.uk or 0141 331 8434

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1 mile along the Tralee road
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CD review

Mairi Campbell
Debut solo album of songs penned by Mairi Campbell and David Francis.
A delightful mix of rhythm and song that will be a loved favourite of any collection of music.
Mairi was the Scots singer of the Year at the traditional music awards in 2008.
Mairi Campbell (vocals, violin, viola), Tia Files (guitar, bass), Mhairi Hall (piano, keyboard), Donald Hay (drums), Ada Grace Francis (clarsach, backing vocals).

Calum Kennedy
- Lovely Stornoway and other vintage tracks
This compilation features recordings made in the early years between 1958 and 1960 and are digitally enhanced.
Calum was simply one of the most famous and talented Gaelic and Scottish singers of all time and his place in history is assured. Known as the King of the Highlands, Calum won the Mod Gold Medal in 1955 and the World Ballad Championship in 1957.
His television series included Calum's Ceilidh, Round At Calum's and Meet The Kennedys.

Hugh Marwick And Stuart Mackintosh - The Grit That Makes The Pearl
Lively tunes mainly composed by Hugh and Stuart, plus some traditional ones and two Gaelic songs from Eilidh MacKenzie.
Hugh Marwick (whistle), Stuart Mackintosh (accordion), Gavin Marwick (fiddle), Ewan Hemingway (keyboard), Sean Cousins (percussion), Callum MacGillivray (pipes), Eilidh MacKenzie (vocals).

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Thursday night > Ceilidh Night
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 9pm - 11pm

Saturday night > Club Night with DJ's
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 11pm - 2am

Thursday 2 June > CHRIS SUCKLE
Markie Dans @ 9.30PM

Friday 3 June > CHRIS SUCKLE
Markie Dans @ 9.30PM

Saturday 4 June > NORTH STAR
Markie Dans @ 9.30PM

Thursday 9 June > SANDRA MACBETH
Markie Dans @ 9.30PM

Friday 10 June > SANDRA MACBETH
Markie Dans @ 9.30PM

Saturday 11 June > Chunks + DJ's
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 11pm-2am, £6 entry

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DECLAN NERNEY AND BAND

In Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Oban
On Sat 2nd July - Doors Open 8.00pm
Tickets £13 on sale from Argyllshire Halls and Oban Music Shop or Tel 01463 221268

Chef Gary cooks up a healthy feast



Taynuilt Nursery children were delighted when Ardanaiseig Hotel head chef Gary Goldie came to prepare a healthy snack using a variety of locally produced fruit and vegetables. Gary, whose daughter Isabelle attends the nursery, was recently voted Scotland's Chef of the Year 2011. The children enjoyed sampling the beautiful fruit and vegetable platters.

WIN A MOUNTAIN BIKE WITH MONSTER ENERGY!

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

With Monster Energy supporting the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup in Fort William this weekend (Saturday June 4 and Sunday June 5), The Oban Times has teamed up with the energy drink to offer one lucky reader the chance to win a Muddyfox rebel 26 inch men's mountain bike worth £150! Plus, 10 runners up will win a Monster T-Shirt and two Monster baseball caps each.

Monster Energy supports the scene, their riders, their bands and their fans. They back athletes so they can make a career out of their passion. They promote concert tours and celebrate with their fans and riders by throwing parties and making the coolest events they can think of a reality.

Stop by and see Monster on the hill where they will be hosting riders' signing sessions in their split level hospitality unit and getting the party started.

For another chance to win with Monster, please visit any of the following shops: Lochaber Café, SanJays Convenience Store, Nevis Bakery, Onich Filling Station, Well of the 7 heads (Mace), Ben Service Station (Esso), Londis (Caol), Londis (Fort Augustus), SPAR (Spean Bridge, Claggan Road and Grange Road).

To enter the competition, simply answer the question and fill in your details along with your answer and post to Competitions, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB. Entries must be submitted by Monday June 13 2011.

Question:
In which town will the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup take place?

Fill in your details along with your answer below and post to Competitions, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB.

Entries must be submitted by Monday June 13 2011

Answer

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

Tick here to receive information on special offers and promotions from The Oban Times.

Terms & Conditions: The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. Winners will be chosen at random. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and their name may appear in the newspaper.

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Four out of five adults use their local paper to find out what's on

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OBAN PIPE BAND FAMILY CEILIDH/ DANCE
The Argyllshire Gathering Halls
SATURDAY 11th JUNE 2011
Music By
The Michael Garvin Scottish Dance Band
The Peat Moss Ceilidh Band
Also featuring Mary Catherine MacNeill
And Oban Pipe Band
Tickets: Adults: £7.50
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Family: £20
Available from Oban Music
Tel No 01631 571066 or at the door

Argyll Youth Theatre presents
THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ

3rd & 4th June at 7.30pm
Corran Halls
Tickets £6 and £4

Sponsored by West Highland Housing Association - Oban & Lorn Lions - MacQueen's Charitable Trust

H2O Pop-Up Cafe
Tue 7th June, 7-9pm
at the Chocolate Factory
Find out about H2O
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ALL WELCOME!

GIANT Charity Car Boot Sale
Scottish SEA LIFE Sanctuary, Barcaldine
Sunday 5th June
10.30am - 2pm
Sellers £5 a car
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Lochaber Art Club Annual Exhibition
Starting Saturday 21 May until Saturday 4th June
Excluding Sundays
10am to 6pm
Ben Nevis Distillery, Fort William

Eileen Eisdale are delighted to present
KAD
Brian Finnegan (Lau) and Aidan O'Rourke (Flock) join forces with guitarist Ian Stephenson and drummer Jim Goodwin.
"Terrifically tight... intensely lyrical... heavyweight rhythmic attack"
The Scotsman
Easdale Island Community Hall
Saturday 4th June
8.00pm - 10.00pm
Tickets £10/£13, accompanied under 16s free 11pm. Sorry. For further details see www.easdaleislandhall.org

OBAN U3A
Tuesday, 7th June, 2011 at 10.30am
Caledonian Hotel, Station Square, Oban
A warm welcome to members new and old for our Monthly coffee and chat meeting.

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The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Airport at a crossroads

IF THE development of Oban generally and the harbour in particular, (see McCaig elsewhere on this page) stands at something of a crossroads, the same can be said of the airport.

Love it or loathe it, there is no doubt air travel is the preferred choice of many and given the chance, Oban Airport could develop into a busy hub for the west coast.

Leaving aside for one moment the question of who runs the airport, why shouldn't Oban have a thriving airport similar to, say Kirkwall, in Orkney, or Stornoway, or any of the others throughout the north of Scotland which enjoy good links to city airports such as Aberdeen, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Figures obtained by The Oban Times and published this week certainly seem to indicate there are operators out there willing to use our air strip.

It seems a strange anomaly, therefore, that while an increase in traffic through the airport is reported and the trend nationally is for airport expansion, the aim in Oban appears to be the opposite.

Happy birthday

CONGRATULATIONS to the Isle of Skye Pipe band, which this weekend celebrates the 50th anniversary since it was established.

To many, a visit to the island wouldn't be complete without hearing the band, either at one of the many shows, galas or other events at which it performs, or in Portree on a summer Tuesday evening.

GLASGOW LETTER

West End Festival

THIS weekend sees the start of the West End Festival which is in its 16th year and will feature more than 600 events.

Last year more than 160,000 people attended the wide range of events and this year the organisers are sure even more will attend. All tastes are catered for, whether it is the programme of chamber music in the 23 early evening concerts to be held in the refurbished Cottier Theatre or during this weekend alone a fun run at 2pm on Saturday in Kelvingrove Park, whisky tasting in the Queen Margaret Union at 8pm on the same day or barbecues at either the Bothy on Ruthven Lane, the Butchershop and Grill at 1055 Sauchiehall Street or Firebrand a few doors along at number 1321.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays will feature Gaelic learning events at Mansfield Street, as I outlined a few weeks ago, and then on Friday June 10 there will be a Gaelic Concert in St Peter's Church on Hyndland Street starting at 7.30pm. It will feature Sineag MacIntyre, Alasdair Whyte and Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir, amongst others.

The full festival programme can be downloaded at www.westendfestival.com or can be picked up at various locations within the area. I have listed some other concerts in the Diary Dates.

Gaelic Summer Camp

FOR THE many brought up in Glasgow of island parentage in years gone by, the first Saturday of the school holidays will always be associated with a very early rise to catch a train for a trip that would only end when it was time to return to school.

There would be a similar migration a few hours later when trains would take Glasgow school pupils to their annual camps at locations throughout the Highlands.

For each of my years at secondary school, and indeed for many years after that as a member of staff, I was privileged to take part in these camps. Most schools in the city ran these camps which gave city youngsters the opportunity to experience a totally different way of life in locations they had not previously had the chance to visit.

Much is currently written about Curriculum for Excellence and the various skills to be achieved but I am sure school camps went some way to achieving these skills all these years ago!

Why am I writing about this? The answer is that it gives me great pleasure to advertise a camp for Gaelic speaking boys and girls who are in or are just about to enter secondary school. This will be a traditional camp through the medium of Gaelic and will take place from Monday, August 1, to Friday, August 5, at Struan in Perthshire not far from Blair Atholl. Just as we had many years ago, there will be plenty of activities which are not readily available in the city

so this is an opportunity not to be missed. More information is available from CnaG, telephone 01463 234138, www.cna.org.uk or if you are in Glasgow from the office on Mansfield Street.

Joy Dunlop

JOY, LAST year's ladies Mòd Gold Medalist, will be showcasing her range of talents at St Andrew's in the Square on Friday June 17.

She will be joined by Patsy Reid (Braebach and The Unusual Suspects) on strings and jazz guitarist Paul Tracey a combination which should produce a beautiful blend of vocals and imaginative arrangements. For tickets for the concert which starts at 8pm tel 0844 4818898 or www.ticketsoup.com.

Diary dates

Thursday June 2: Glasgow Islay Association AGM, Partick Burgh Halls, 7.30pm. Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Katy Moffat.
Friday June 3: Glasgow Skye Association, end of season social, Redhurst Hotel, Giffnock, Scottish Music Concert, Junior Academy of Music, Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, 7pm. First evening of East Kilbride Mod. Start of West End Festival - see above.
Saturday June 4: East Kilbride Mod. Mairi Hedderwick in Hillhead Library at 11.15am and 2.30pm.
Sunday June 5: Piping Live Pre-party - see Pub Scene, West End Festival Sunday with main focus on Ashton Lane.

Monday June 6: Clann Gaidhlig AGM and Quiz Night, Wynd Centre, Paisley, 7.30pm.
Wednesday June 8: Kris Drever and Eamonn Coyne, Oran Mor, 8pm.
Thursday June 9: Scottish Music Concert, Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama first year students, 7.30pm.
Friday June 10: Gaelic Concert, St Peter's Church - see West End Festival above. Karine Polwart, Oran Mor, 7pm.
Sunday June 12: Skerryvore, Oran Mor, 7pm.

Pub scene

DURING the past few months the Islay Inn has struck up a link with the National Piping Centre and this will continue this coming Sunday when it will host a pre-party for Piping Live, the week-long festival which takes place in the city in the week beginning Monday August 8.

Lorne MacDougall, who has played with the Red Hot Chili Pipers and has been a finalist in the BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year on three occasions, and friends will be playing with much of their material coming from Lorne's CD 'Hello World'.

This will start at 8pm and is part of the West End Festival programme.
On Friday evening music in the Islay Inn will be provided by Broomilan and on Saturday by the Keelies. In the Park Bar it will be Deoch 'n Dorus on Friday, Simon Moran/David MacDonald/Martin Pottinger on Saturday with Sunday still to be confirmed.

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



Mystery of Ballymeanoch House photo

J G Mathieson of Arbroath sent us this week's flashback photograph, which is a bit of a mystery. His letter, which accompanied the photograph, read: 'I was born and brought up in Argyll. My late father of the same name was Estate Factor for the Malcolm family at Poltalloch, Mid Argyll. He was convener of Argyll County Council for very many years and was well known throughout the county. He died in 1975. The above family photo of my late mother was taken, I believe, in 1930/31 at Ballymeanoch House where the family then lived. I would very much like to identify the other lady - possibly, by her dress, a governess - and the young teenage boy. The photo is well taken, possibly by a professional photographer, as family photos were not common then. They were obviously well known to each other by their relaxed postures.' Can anyone help? We invite readers to send in flashback photographs. Please send prints to *The Oban Times*, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

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

www.obantimes.co.uk

Telephone: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001

Elderly tenants deserve better

Sir,
It would seem Argyll and Bute Council, after much consideration, is going to withdraw funding for staff at a sheltered housing complex on the Isle of Mull.

The majority of tenants here are elderly and/or disabled. They have already taken away funding for our tenant support workers, which is for help in the house and shopping.

This now means we will have no staff on duty in the evenings from 4.30pm to 9am and from Friday at 3.30pm to Monday at 9am. Our only contact would be through Care Line, which I believe is in Herefordshire?

Does the council's 'consideration' take into account the vulnerability of the tenants. No it does not.

A few years ago we had an incident where a lady had fallen and severed an artery. It was only the quick reaction of a staff member that saved this lady's life.

Argyll and Bute Council need to re-think its duty of care towards its elderly residents. Part of the attraction of living here is having peace of mind, that someone will come when we need help. How can you put a price on that?

Name and address supplied.

Neighbourhood Networks seeks answers from council

Sir,
I read in *The Oban Times* of May 26 that a council spokeswoman made the following statement: 'During 2010-11, there were a number of meetings between the council and Neighbourhood Networks to discuss the requirements of the council. Neighbourhood Networks did not come forward with proposals which met the council's needs.'

This statement having been made, I would be grateful if the council would answer the following questions:

Our records show that at most two meetings took place between the council and Neighbourhood Networks - April 20 and August 24, 2010 - to share thoughts about how the concept and practice of the networks concept might be developed going forward, and none subsequently. What then is the meaning of the statement that 'during 2010-11 there were a number of meetings between the council and Neighbourhood Networks, to discuss the requirements of the council?'

Church of Scotland at a crossroads

Sir,
Three cheers for McCaig, Church of Scotland at a Crossroads, *The Oban Times*, May 26.

He expresses well what many people feel. Fundamentalists and extremists are a danger to any religion whether it be Judaism, Islam, Christianity or any other.

Jesus, a Jew, was clearly aware of the danger of fundamentalism and extremism in his own religion.

Our knowledge of human physical and psychological make up is now streets ahead of what it was 2,000 years ago. This is progress.

Baden Powell, who founded the Scout Movement more than 100 years ago, wrote a promise and laws for boys joining the association.

One law reads: 'A Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout no matter what country, class or creed the other belongs'. This was thinking way ahead of its time.

Today we should perhaps say: 'A Christian is a friend to all and a brother or sister to every other person no matter what sexual orientation or lifestyle the other may practice.'

That should certainly include those who choose, in love, to lead the Christian church.
John V Roberts, 25 Heatherlee Court, Kinlochleven.

Search for ancestors

Sir,
I am trying to find relatives on my mum's side.
My great grandmother and all her ancestors seem to have come from Ballachulish, according to records.

Her name was Mary McGillivray born 1874 in Ballachulish.
Her father was James McGillivray mother Mary McGillivray, nee Livingston.
She married my great grandfather who came to work in Ballachulish from Eire. His name was Patrick Tierney.

They left and went to live in Glasgow. She died, aged 70, in 1945.
I would be most grateful to hear from anyone related still living in Ballachulish or Kinlochleven where I believe the McGillivrays may have moved to. Thank you.
Patricia Tierney-Tate, Greenfield, 80 High Street, Swayfield, near Grantham, NG33 4LL.

Volunteer collectors sought

Sir,
Tesco has allowed Help for Heroes to have a bucket collection outside many of their stores.
I am trying to organise volunteers to help out in the Oban

and Fort William branches of Tesco between 9am and 6pm on Friday July 1 and Saturday July 2.

If anyone could volunteer a few hours on either day I can be contacted on 07900 983440 or you can log onto h4h and click on the we need your help link. Ideally it would be good to have someone who would be prepared to do the organising in Fort William. It doesn't really involve a lot just to organise any volunteers you have and to count and bank any money you collect.

This is a really good cause and any help anyone can give would be gratefully received.

I look forward to hearing from anyone that can help, especially in Fort William. Many thanks.
Margaret Menassa.

Oban marina mania

I'M SORRY no-one has seen fit to mount a photographic exhibition of Oban as part of the celebrations of the burgh's bicentenary.

Not only would we have seen McCaig's Tower in various stages of erection but we would also have seen the iconic photographs of Oban Bay at the end of the 19th century when it was populated by massive sailing yachts with large crews and of steam yachts with even bigger ones.

This was the wealthier end of the populace, not of Oban but of industrial Central Scotland and the north of England. But these pictures give a false impression.

They suggest that Oban Bay is a vast watery space that could provide safe anchorage for these luxurious floating palaces which brought good business to the privately owned small shops, catering for the town's much smaller population during the bulk of the year.

There were a few boat owners who lived in or around Oban all year round and they didn't derive their wealth from local businesses as they either had inherited wealth or had made a fortune abroad before returning to build their own palatial home and a few others that they could let to those who wanted to day-sail their sizable vessels but didn't want to stay aboard.

Today, those who have reasons for wanting to develop Oban harbour all too often forget that it is not vast and its entrances need a knowledgeable pilot if they are to be absolutely safe. We already have some cruising traffic but most of the passengers head away in the fleet of buses laid on for them to other parts of Scotland.
Compare the income generated from these transitory tourists with the capital costs that would be incurred in the erection of the harbour facilities proposed in this latest attempt at making the town a Mecca for yachtsmen, cruise line passengers and a growing variety of commercial traffic.

Not a great revenue

YACHTING and cruising are six month activities at best.
Although it may feel like it the winter temperatures are not such that would attract those who go to the far north or south for the magnificence of icebergs and penguins.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not against the development of a marina in Oban Bay if a suitable site can be found.
I have been involved in three different consortia which wanted to develop marina facilities; and don't forget it is not the berth space that makes a marina viable.

It is all the shore-based services yachtsmen are looking for as well as berth space: sail makers and repairers, engineers, licensed restaurants, good shops and, if away from town

Read Alan Cochrane's column in Scottish Field each month.

Alan Cochrane

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S SCOTTISH EDITOR



End of days

After fifteen years of happiness in the rural idyll of the Angus glens, it's time to hang up the tweeds.

ALL GOOD things must come to an end but even so I had a mind to ask the editor to put a black border round this page. There is a simple reason for my black mood at present: By the time you read this we will have given up our dacha in the Angus glens.

Fifteen years is a reasonably long time in anyone's life and as I look back, the last decade-and-a-half has been one of the most momentous in my life. And much of it was connected with that wee stone house 1,000 feet up a hillside, ten miles from the nearest town. For a start we got married and had two daughters, the elder of whom spent her first ten months in that house.

My wife and I lived there permanently for nearly two years - 22 months when we decided that we could put up with each other (well, at least I did; my wife is still thinking things over). It was a time when I never thought I'd live in a city again and during which we made some of the closest and firmest friendships we've ever likely to make.

We also discovered a new way of living - country living. And you know what? It's a great way of life. That's partly to do with having an existence amidst beautiful scenery. There may well be better and more spectacular vistas elsewhere in Scotland but none of them will ever match, to my mind at least, that which greeted me every morning from my front door - rain or shine.

However, it's much more than scenery. As much as anything it's learning how the countryside works, and as people with only limited experience of rural matters it was a real eye-opener to see the difference between what we'd expected and what we got. The first was getting a glimpse of how a Highland estate, on which I lived as a tenant, works. A second was seeing how a hill farm, whose fields were all around us, operates. And the third was watching a shooting syndicate doing its business.

I suppose you could add that a fourth was seeing how all of the above interacted and influenced the other. For instance, are too many sheep bad for grouse numbers or do they act as 'tick mops' and actually benefit the 'bag'? And why should hill walkers assume that they can leave their cars wherever they like just because they want to go for a stroll?

The list of 'do's' and 'don'ts' in the country is pretty limitless but the overall effect is positive.

There are perfectly good reasons for leaving gates as you find them and for not allowing your dog to run free when there are sheep about and for checking, before you go for a walk, to see if there is any stalking or shooting going on.

But whilst I don't want all my memories to be tied up with arguments about field sports it is remarkable and frustrating how little Scotland's urban majority know or care about the vital contribution such activities make to the viability of so much of this country. And seeing the often blind prejudice exhibited towards rural ways by a majority in what is supposed to be our national parliament is also a fairly depressing experience.

But on the bright side I have two daughters who know that rabbits can be a bloody pest rather than the 'fluffy bunnies' their pals think they are and that they're likely to be found dead of things like 'mixie' or, more frequently, from being run over. They've also watched lambs being born and know that their favourite 'glenner' - the gamekeeper - depends for his continued existence on the success of the shooting syndicate.

So, if I loved the dacha so much, why are we giving it up? It is a matter of simple economics. Our time there was getting less frequent, with the attractions, as well as the necessities, of city life making the 'Glen', as we called it, too much of a luxury. One of the on-costs we could have done without was the doubling of council tax a few years back, which Holyrood approved and Angus, as well as other councils, rushed to implement, supposedly to discourage second-home dwellers.

Sad to say, here's one family for whom that brilliant bit of the politics of envy worked.

Read Alan Cochrane's column in Scottish Field each month.

A view from the tower

by McCaig

centres, entertainment as well as winter storage and protection for boats if they are going to leave them unattended when they are at home hundreds of miles away.

The problem with Oban Bay is it is too small for anything other than Oban Bay Marina's proposals which would even have found it difficult to cope with the ferocity of recent gales.

To those who have argued that even this should be based on the north side of the north pier I say: 'Did you study the seas that built up very quickly on the north side of the north pier on that occasion? Can you imagine the nightmare journey you would have had to seek shelter in the lee of Kerrera?'

To spend the millions of pounds required to construct the local authority's latest proposals is sheer madness as the financial return is never going to bring the cash involved to make lending anything other than 'very risky'.

Bid4Oban has the right idea

ALTHOUGH the revival of Oban and Lorn Chamber failed to get off the ground, another very active and imaginative body has come to the fore in a relatively short time to show positive signs that it can be a major force to give the town a brighter and more prosperous future: BID4Oban.

If you are in business, no matter how small it is, you can become a member and can have your say. Last week, members and potential members were invited to breakfast at the Rowantree Hotel for a discussion on how those present - and there is no joining fee - saw the town's future developing.

There was no lack of ideas. Two things have generated this: the realisation that Oban stands at a crossroads and new ideas need to be explored quickly.

Everyone who is in business, and that term covers everything from selling shoes, bed nights and quality food to giving Oban a brighter image and increasing the length of the season, had ideas and discovered that friends and rivals also have the desire to do similar things, but perhaps in a slightly different way.

One of the first things the group's steering committee did was to appoint a Town Centre Manager who would collect and correlate the contents of the surveys.

Well known former Councillor Campbell Cameron has been chosen for the task in which he is revelling.

McCaig

PRESS POLICY

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

FORT WILLIAM

ON MAY 27, Dingwall and Highland Marts sold 337 store cattle, 27 breeding cattle, 45 OTM cattle and 273 sheep. Bullocks (173) averaged 176.8p and sold to 216.1p per kilo for 192kg Shorthorns from Tigh Airigh, Fort William, and £770 gross for a pair of Aberdeen Angus crosses from Ardornish Farms.

Heifers (163) averaged 171.7p and sold to 235p per kilo and £940 gross for a 400kg Limousin cross from National Trust for Scotland, Isle of Canna. Breeding cattle (27) sold to £1,000 gross for a Highland cross cow with Limousin cross heifer calf at foot from Auchvaich, Kiltarlity.

OTM cows (42) averaged 99.9p and sold to 136.1p per kilo and £905 gross for a Limousin cross from Dhivach Farm, Drumadrochit. OTM bulls (3) averaged 92.6p and sold to 106.4p per kilo and £985 gross for a Charolais from Strathlinne, Fort William.

Store lambs (84) sold to £70 gross for Blackfaces from Fersit, Roy Bridge. Ewes with lambs at foot (23) sold to £125 gross for Cheviot ewes with twin Cheviot lambs from Drumbuie, Drumadrochit. Feeding ewes (114) sold to £62 gross for Mules from Balmaglasser, Spean Bridge.

Feeding rams & widders (52) sold to £81 gross for Cheviot rams from Strone Farm, Banavie. A mixed show of cattle on offer met a hesitant demand.

STIRLING

ON MAY 26, United Auctions sold 1960 prime sheep including 558 spring lambs averaging 243.5p (-17.4p) and 1011 hogs averaging 202.4p/kg (-21p) and 391 ewes and rams. Lambs (558) Longyester

and Little Raith (Tex) £125; Longyester (Suf) £123; Southfield (Cha) £120; Aytan (Btex) £117. Lambs (558) Elmscleugh and Penston (Tex) 273p; Penston (Suf) 270p; Low Tirlfergus (Cha) 246p.

Hoggs (1011) Snawdon (Tex) and Pitkevy (BF) £100; West Quarter (Btex) £97; Higham (Suf) £96; Over Kellie (Che) £94.50; Coulshill (Mul) £92.50.

Hoggs (1011) West Quarter (btx) £227; Over Kellie (Che) £225; Torbanehill (BF) 219p; Coulshill (mul) 206p/ Ewes and rams (391) Cochran (Suf) £113.50; High Tirlfergus (Che) £104.50; Dalchalloch (BFL) £103.50; Dalchalloch (X) £101.50; Cochran and Oatfield (Tex) £98.50; Coulshill (Mul) £97.50; Bunskeid (BF) £77.50; Upper Auchenslay (Btex) £69.50. Rams; Coulshill (BFL) £108.50; Auchenviroch (Tex) £106.50.

DINGWALL

ON MAY 31, Dingwall & Highland Marts Ltd sold 69 prime cattle.

Prime bullocks (45) averaged 180.1p (+3.4p) and sold to 200p per kg and £1,292.70 gross.

Prime heifers (24) averaged 176.8p (-1.3p) and sold to 188p per kg and £1,145.60 gross.

Some 69 prime cattle were also sold.

Prime bullocks (45) averaged 180.1p (+3.4p) and sold to 200p per kg for a 610kg Limousin cross from Wester Cullicudden, Conon Bridge, and £1,292.70 gross for a 695kg Limousin cross from Ankerville, Tain.

Prime heifers (24) averaged 176.8p (-1.3p) and sold to 188p per kg for a 600kg Charolais from Mountrich Farm, Dingwall, and £1,145.60 gross for a 640kg Charolais also from Mountrich Farm.

Other leading prices per kg: Bullocks; Wester Cullicudden, (LimX), 197p; Findon Mains,

Culbokie, (LimX), 195p; Easter Hardmuir, Nairn, (LimX), and Findon Mains, (CharX), 188p. Heifers: Shoreton Farms, Culbokie, (CharX), 186p; Kindeace, Ainess, (CharX), Lower Milton Farm, Drumadrochit, and Easter Hardmuir, (LimX), 183p; Lower Milton Farm, and Udale, Poyntzfield, (LimX), 182p.

Other leading prices per head: Bullocks: Findon Mains, (LimX), £1,279.85; Tore Farm, Culbokie, (LimX), £1,249.50; Wester Cullicudden, and Findon Mains, (LimX), £1,228.50. Heifers: Mountrich Farm, (Char), £1,128.00; Shoreton Farms, (CharX), £1,050.90; Lower Milton Farm, (LimX), £1,029.60.

On May 31, 191 prime sheep were sold. New season lambs (12) averaged 253.2p (+0.4p) and sold to 255.3p per kg and £108.50 gross.

Old season lambs (168) averaged 216.7p (+19.0p) and sold to 238.5p per kg and £110.00 gross. SOQ (NSL) 36.5kg to 45.5kg (12) averaged 253.2p (+7.9p) per kg.

DINGWALL

ON MAY 25, Dingwall & Highland Marts, sold 797 store, breeding and feeding sheep.

Lambs (168) averaged £63.90 and sold to £93 gross for Cheviots from Kilbreck, Helmsdale.

New season lambs (5) sold to £51 gross for Jacobs from Bogallan, North Kessock.

Ewes (443) averaged £62.28 and sold to £124 gross for a Texel from Greenlands Farm, Arabella.

Feeding sheep (43) averaged £56.84 and sold to £89 gross for a Cheviot ram from 148 West Helmsdale, Helmsdale.

Ewes and gimmers with lambs at foot (131) averaged £104.37 and sold to £158 gross for Mule gimmers with twin Suffolk cross lambs at foot from 20 Ruisaurie, Beauty.

Top prices paid for Luing bulling heifers

LUING bulling heifers achieved their highest average for more than a year at a spring sale in Dingwall last month with 36 animals selling to average £1,494.

A degree of confidence on the back of a strengthening beef trade was evident amongst the buyers at a busy ringside with 15 yearling heifers also selling well to average £980.

Cross-bred heifers also proved popular with five forward selling to average £1,020. These averages contributed to a total clearance of the 58-head of pedigree and cross-bred Luings forward.

The top price of 1,750gns in the bulling heifer section went to Messrs A.L. & A.C. McCall for a pair of red heifers sired by two different Benhar bulls.

They were purchased by Philip Simmers of Backmuir Trading, Keith, who had earlier judged the pairs competitors and picked this pair out as his champions. Backmuir Trading went on to buy a further 15

heifers at the sale. Having won the competition for the best pair of pedigree bulling heifers, the Culmally pair collected the Lady Anne Memorial Cup courtesy of Welbeck Scottish Farms as well as prize money generously sponsored by Harbro and W.A. Geddes of Wick.

Messrs A.L. & A.C. McCall had a memorable day also hitting the top price in the cross-bred section of £1,365 as well as achieving the joint highest average of £1,785 for four sold, together with M.J. McCall of Inverbrora, who sold two heifers to also average £1,785.

Other notable averages from the sale included F.S. Renwick from Lochbroom who sold eight to average £1,581; Welbeck Scottish Farms from Ousdale who sold six to average £1,550 and J.J. & R. Cameron from Blair Atholl who sold seven for an average of £1,432. The overall average was up £20/head on the year for six fewer sold. Yearling heifers also sold very

well with Cadzow Bros. Ltd. from Luing selling 13 to average £993 including the top price of £1,150gns in the section for a roan polled heifer.

The Cadzow Bros. consignment included both prize winning pairs in the yearling heifer competition. Welbeck Scottish Farms also sold two heifers in this section to average £892 as well as the only bull forward, Welbeck Lancelot, for 2,800gns to J&K MacKenzie of Borne, Skye, who were setting up a new Luing herd.

Commenting on the trade, Luing Society chairman Steven Murray said: 'Buyers have obviously been feeling more confident than at last year's sales with such a strong trade.'

'We are delighted with how our breeders have performed with such good stock coming forward.'

'It was particularly pleasing to see half of the buyers today were getting into pedigree Luings for the first time.'

Q1 profits top £6.6m for Scottish Salmon

THE SCOTTISH Salmon Company has reported a strong start to the year with net revenue exceeding expectations.

Net operating revenue for Q1 totalled £25.4m, achieved on sales of 5,954 tonnes of harvested salmon. Profits were £6.6m for the quarter, similar to the same quarter in 2010 but on lower volume.

Good biological performance in Q1 means The Scottish Salmon Company is expecting to exceed predicted harvest volumes this year. It is now estimated that the harvest for 2011 will be between three and five per cent above the 22,000 tonnes target.

The successful Q1 follows a record year in 2010 that saw turnover reach



The Scottish Salmon Company has reported good first quarter results.

£92.4m. Chief executive Bill Hazelden, said: 'Our new generation of stock currently being harvested has performed exceptionally well. We have secured new long term contracts and we are opening up

export markets.'

The company currently produces more than 20,000 tonnes of salmon per year and is responsible for about 20 per cent of Scottish salmon production.

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Bargemaster
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AGGREGATE INDUSTRIES

The Scottish Salmon Company
Companaidh Bhradan na h-Alba

The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading producer of high quality Scottish salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy. We are looking for a Marine Site(s) Manager to join our farming team on the Isle of Arran.

Marine Site(s) Manager (Ref MSM/Arran/11/V/1)
(Salary: Grade 3 - £32,960 - £36,050 depending on experience)

The ideal candidate will be highly experienced in marine fish farming with practical knowledge and management experience within fish husbandry. They will be an enthusiastic, self motivated individual with excellent proven leadership and management skills. The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate a sound understanding of required industry husbandry practices including automated feeding systems, feed management, biological, welfare and containment, all aspects of general fish health and environmental awareness. They should have strong skills in stock management, personnel management, support staff development and the promotion of health and safety within the workplace. In addition, the candidate should have strong planning, organisational and communication skills with an understanding of associated software systems.

Working Hours: Full time 40hrs per week, Monday to Friday, with weekend work required on occasions.
Boat handling and forklift certificates would be desirable.
A full, clean driving licence is also essential for this position.
In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package.

For an application form and job description, please contact:
The Scottish Salmon Company, HR Department, Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH. Tel. No. 01499 600 435 / 600 415
Email: cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com
Closing date for applications: 5.00pm Friday, 17 June, 2011
Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com

Clerical Assistant (Temporary)
£14,307 pro rata
17.5 hrs per week
01546 604742
Campbeltown Ref: CMA00611

Clerical Assistant/Receptionist (Temporary)
£14,307 pro rata
17.5 hrs per week
01546 604742
MACHICC Lochgilphead Ref: CMA00612

Receptionist (Temporary)
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35 hrs per week
Temporary post for 3 months
01546 604742
Willowview, Oban Ref: CMA00826

Janitor/Cleaner (Permanent)
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20 hrs per week
37 hrs per week
£13,427 - £14,662 pro rata
15 hrs per week
9 hrs per week
9 hrs per week
9 hrs per week
9.75 hrs per week
7.5 hrs per week
9 hrs per week
10 hrs per week
Term time Monday - Friday
Dalmally Primary School Ref: CTF00487
Ardrihaig Primary School Ref: CTF00288
Bunessan Primary School Ref: CTF00616
Kilchattan Primary School Ref: CTF00576
Luing Primary School Ref: CTF00527
Ardchattan Primary School Ref: CTF00570
Ashfield Primary School Ref: CTF00260
Skipness Primary School Ref: CTF00444
Craignish Primary School Ref: CTF00358
Southend Primary School Ref: CTF00251

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Ardrihaig Ref: CMA00567

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Successful candidates will work as part of a team supporting adults with learning disabilities to live independently. Experience of working with people with a learning disability is preferred but not essential as training will be provided. Possession of SVQ 2 would be advantageous.
For an application pack please contact Karen McKenzie on 01631 567650 or apply on line at www.choicescare.com
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DUNOLLIE Sales Manager (part-time)
An experienced person is sought for a new tartan/retail online business at Dunollie House. Dealing with orders, customer queries, stock, and website.
With scope for initiative, this post will suit someone willing to work flexible and varied hours keeping pace with demand as the business grows. £10 per hour, working partly from home. Mobile telephone and laptop provided.
See www.dunollie.org for job description. Cover letter and CV to info@dunollie.org by 16 June 2011.

MacPhee and Partners
FORT WILLIAM
Legal Secretary
Must be computer literate.
Training will be given on in-house computer-based system.
Knowledge of legal conveyancing and/or crofting would be helpful but not essential.
Competitive salary. email CV to duncanmacphee@macphee.co.uk

SCOTTISH SPCA
Scotland's Animal Welfare Charity
AUXILIARY INSPECTORS
The Scottish SPCA, Scotland's animal charity wishes to recruit two Auxiliary Inspectors, one based in the Argyll area and the other in the Fort William area.
An Auxiliary Inspector is a volunteer, recompensed through an allowance scale, who will assist the local Inspector on a call-out basis. Practical experience of working with animals and a keen interest in animal welfare are essential. You will require excellent customer care skills.
A full, preferably clean, Driving Licence is essential as is your own car. This position is subject to a Standard Disclosure Scotland check.
To apply please send a CV and covering letter to Laura Stenhouse, Administration Assistant on 01383 841033 or e-mail to Careers@scottishspca.org. The closing date is Monday 13 June 2011. If you have not received a response by Monday 27 June 2011, unfortunately you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.
Scottish Charity No SCO06467
The Scottish SPCA is an Equal Opportunities Employer

Catering Assistant (Permanent)
£13,427 - £14,662 pro rata
32.5 hrs per week
£12,270 - £13,022 pro rata
10 hrs per week
Term time Monday - Friday
01546 604742
Dalintober Primary School Ref: CTF00290
Craignish Primary School Ref: CTF00275

Unit Catering Manager (Permanent)
£15,125 - £16,031 pro rata
30 hrs per week
Term time Monday - Friday
01546 604742
Dalmally Primary School Ref: CTF00575

School Crossing Patroller (Permanent)
£6.36 an hour
10.5 hrs per week
01546 604742
Campbeltown Ref: DVR00264

Closing date unless otherwise stated: 17 June 2011.
To apply visit our website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

Argyll Bute COUNCIL

Loch Duart Ltd
The Sustainable Salmon Company
ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT
We have a full time vacancy for an Administration Assistant at our Lochmaddy office, North Uist.
The successful applicant must be flexible, should have good organisation skills, be fully computer literate, have good numerology and communication skills and have a valid driving licence.
Please apply in writing or by email with your cv to:
Alan Anderson
Hebrides Office, The Pier, Lochmaddy, Isle of North Uist, HS6 5AA
Alan.Anderson@lochduart.com
Closing Date - 14th June 2011

Oban Times RECRUITMENT
Archaeology Scotland Project Manager Musselburgh
Full time, Fixed Term (£26,500)
Archaeology Scotland is seeking to appoint a Project Manager for its Adopt-a-Monument scheme, working with community groups on archaeological projects across Scotland.
For an application pack please contact Archaeology Scotland, Suite 1a, Stuart House, Station Road, Musselburgh, EH21 7PB. Tel: 0845 872 3333; e-mail info@archaeologyscotland.org.uk
Closing date for applications is 20th June and interviews will take place in Musselburgh during the last week in June.
Part financed by the European Community Highland LEADER 2007-2013 Programme

Oban Times RECRUITMENT
House-keeper required
Responsible person for house-keeping duties in a country estate house in Southend.
Full-time position, part time considered. Flexible working hours. Own transport essential. References required. For further details call 01586 830 352

J.M. BRECKENRIDGE
Driver/Storeperson
Oban Depot - Apply to Mr C McDonald
Telephone 01631 563 711
Permanent full time position
Full clean driving licence required
• Good rates of pay

Oban Times RECRUITMENT
Oban Times RECRUITMENT

SUBARU IMPREZA WRX



57 reg, 26k miles, 9 months mot, 6 months tax, new tyres and brakes, subaru service history, 6 disks cd player, cruise control, xenon headlights, a/c.

Telephone: 07825076790

£9,750

BMW 1100R



W reg 2000 25000miles, tax + MOT Aug 11 with full set off panniers.

Telephone: 01631 710378
Mobile: 07909 918038

£2500 BMW service 24k

1997 CAPRI 31 2 BEDROOM STATIC CARAVAN



Good condition, must remove from site.

Tel: 01631 566618
Mob: 077151 72949

Bargain £995 ono

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Reg. Nov 2004, grey, two owners, 54500 miles manual/ diesel, service record, new tyres, excellent condition MOT Nov. 2011 Cat 1 Security system.

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S17 GTS
Excellent Condition

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94 L reg, 2 owners from new, 41,000 miles with all previous MOTs, FSH to date, recently had new tyres, battery and front fork seals, MOT and tax, very good condition.

For more information contact: 07747 808592 or 01583 431502

£1200 o.n.o.

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2003
Alloys, CD, 60mpg
£30 tax
Good condition.

Telephone: 01369 820222

£2950 o.n.o.

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59 Renault Clio Exp. Dci Sport Tourer, silver, 14,000 miles.....	£10,795
59 Renault Clio Dyn, 1.5 DCI, 5Dr, Silver, 20,000 miles.....	£9,500
09 Renault Koleos Dyn Dci 4WD, black, 13,000 miles.....	£14,995
09 Ford C-Max Style. 1.6, 5Dr, Blue, 12,650 Miles	£8,500
08 Renault Scenic Dyn 7 DCI 106 silver, 25,000 miles.....	£8,750
08 Renault Twingo Dyn 1.2, 3dr, black, 17,500 miles.....	£6,550
08 Renault Clio Ext, 3Dr HB, White, 13,500 miles.....	£6,250
08 Renault Clio Freeway, 3Dr HB, Blue, 8300 miles.....	£5,950
07 Renault Megane Extreme 1.4, 5Dr, Hatchback, Silver, 18000, ...	£5,650
55 Renault Laguna Dyn, 2.0, Red, 38500 miles	£4,950
54 Renault Kangoo, 1.6 Auto, Green, 50,000 miles.....	£4,250
54 Renault Clio Dyn 1.4, 3Dr, cherry red, 53,000 miles.....	£3,250
54 Rover 45 1.8 auto, grey, 31,000 miles.....	£3,350
04 Ford Focus Flight, 1.6, 5Dr, Grey, 70,000 miles.....	£3,250

COMMERCIALS

09 Renault Kangoo, new shape, white	£6750 + vat
57 Renault Kangoo, ML19DCi-70	£5500 + vat
57 Renault Traffic SL27+, DCI 115, Silver.....	£8,000 + vat
54 Ford Transit, 2.0 Diesel, SWB HR, 49,000 miles.....	£4,000 + vat
54 Ford transit Connect L200 TD, 55,000 miles, White.....	£3,850 + vat
54 Renault Traffic, diesel.....	£3000 + vat
06 Renault Kangoo, 1.5 DCI, 58,000 miles	£3,500 + vat

SELECTION OF LOW PRICE CARS UNDER £2000 TO CLEAR CAR AND VAN HIRE FROM BOTH BRANCHES

2003 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB 1 LTR

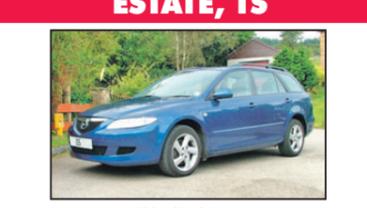


37,000 miles, one years Mot. Very reliable, excellent condition.

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£2100

MAZDA 6 ESTATE, TS



136bhp diesel, '05 reg, MOT April 2012, Service history, 109,000 miles

Tel: 01546 606276

£3450

MITSUBISHI L200 D+D 4X4 WARRIOR



New shape full years Mot & Tax just had full service, all leather interior PAS CD electric Windows remote locking, parrot hands free mob kit, 17" alloys very smart 4x4 drives like new any inspection welcome

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2004 / f4 model, black ,2 good tyres , mot + tax , 14000 miles excellent condition.

Telephone: 07771 778078

£3100

CAMPER VAN FOR SALE



Ford Frendee, R registered, gas cooker, fridge, sink, double bunk, new tyres, 130,000 miles

Telephone: 01586 553804

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Pacific Blue, Grey Leather, 240 hp, 5-Speed sport-manual (7.3s 146 mph), Luxurious cruise, vivid overtaking, quick journeys if needed, Many extras (plus others if wanted) Below average mileage, well-maintained, excellent condition

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Excellent runner, CD Player

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7490 Kg Gross, 1996 Reg, Existing MOT, Can also be used for livestock

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www.wdsemple.com

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Lochgilphead - Highbank Park. Tel: 01546 606767



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2 berth Caravan, 1997, very good condition, separate bathroom, shower cubicle, fridge/freezer, gas cooker and gas heating

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ISUZU TROOPER



1996 model, MOT March 2012, 201,000 miles

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£750 ono

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2002 Vauxhall Corsa Comfort 1.0Ltr Petrol 3Dr Blue 62,000 Miles New MOT at time of purchase.....£2,275
2002 Ford KA 1.3Ltr Petrol 3Dr Silver 39,000 Miles New MOT at time of purchase.....£1,360

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1996 Mercedes C220 2.2Ltr Diesel 5Dr Silver High mileage runs well MOT - February 2012, Taxed - October 2011.....£995
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CNOC BAN, SOUTHEND, CAMPBELTOWN
SUPERB opportunity to purchase this SELDOM available and attractively priced DETACHED CEDAR WOOD BUNGALOW enjoying an idyllic peaceful setting a short distance from the village of Southend.

Occupying large gardens with a double entry driveway the property offers accommodation of reception hall, large lounge with access to decking, dining sized kitchen, three double bedrooms (master with shower to the side) and modern shower room. UPVC double glazing throughout and electric heating with a combination of convector and storage heaters. EARLY INTERNAL VIEWING IS ESSENTIAL.

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22 The Glebe, Kilmelford

Well presented, modern detached house in a popular and picturesque village location. In excellent decorative order and close to village amenities. Hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, rear vestibule, 4 bedrooms

(Master en suite), bathroom and shower room
Double glazing.
Night storage heating.
Easily maintained garden.
Off street parking. Space for garage and garden shed

Offers in the region of £190,000

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GLENMORE ROAD, OBAN
A charming traditional Detached Cottage with lovely views towards Cardingmill Bay and the islands beyond.

Well appointed accommodation comprising Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility Room, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Shower Room. Double glazing and mains gas central heating. Established garden with timber Store.

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1000 sq.m, partly serviced, one mile from Campbeltown.

To view phone Peter on **01586 551413 (evenings)** or **07821 330862 (mobile)**

PUBLIC NOTICES

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

The applications listed below together with all other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 67/69 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
10/02132/PP	Change of Use of car park to mobile snack bar (fast generics) and four removable tables with chairs	Mobile Snack Bar Kiosk Car Park Garavan Road Oban Argyll And Bute	Oban Area Office
11/00720/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land South Of Ardtonish Crannaig A Mhinistir Oban Argyll	Oban Area Office
11/00740/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse with stables and riding arena	Land East Of Arle Farmhouse Aros Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
11/00768/PPP	Site for the erection of 4 dwellinghouses	Land North Of Arle Farmhouse Aros Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
11/00796/PP	Demolition of extension and porch and erection of replacement rear extension and sun room	Rose Cottage Airds Taynuilt Argyll And Bute PA35 1JW	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
11/00832/PP	Erection of extension	Tigh Beag Vaal Isle Of Tiree Argyll And Bute PA77 6TP	Tiree Area Office

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below together with all other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 67/69 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/00692/LIB	Installation of replacement internal support beams	Kilcheran Farmhouse Isle Of Lismore Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5UQ	Sub Post Office Lismore
11/00806/PP	Erection of 2 dwellinghouses (amended design to application ref. 11/00032/PP)	Land North Of The Surgery Rickfield Road Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Tobermory Area Office

The applications listed below together with all other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 67/69 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/00845/PP	Erection of first floor rear extension and installation of replacement windows	14 Shore Street Portnahaven Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA47 7SH	Sub Post Office Portnahaven

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (QUEENS PARK PLACE AND STATION ROAD, OBAN) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2011

On Monday 30th May 2011 Argyll and Bute Council, made the above named Order under Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any vehicle, with the exception of emergency services vehicles, through the entire lengths of Queens Park Place and Station Road, Oban in order to permit the holding of Charities Day on or near those roads.

The Order, which shall be effective when indicated by signs, will be in operation between 0600 hours and 1800 hours on Saturday 11th June 2011.

Alternative Route: There is no alternative route.

THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (B882 ARGYLL TERRACE, TOBERMORY) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2011

On Monday 30th May 2011, Argyll and Bute Council made the above named Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any motor vehicle on that length of Argyll Terrace, Tobermory extending from its junction with Victoria Street in a northerly direction to a point 24 metres or thereby south of its junction with Back Brae, a distance of 45 metres or thereby. This restriction is required whilst repair work is being carried out to the retaining wall.

This Order, which will be effective when indicated by signs, will come into operation from 0001 hours on 3rd June 2011 and will remain in operation until 2400 hours on 31st July 2011 or until the work is complete, whichever is the earliest.

Alternative Routes will be via adjacent streets and will be signed in an appropriate manner.

Sandy MacTaggart, Executive Director, Development & Infrastructure Services, Manse Brae, LOCHGILPHEAD, Argyll PA31 8RD.

COUNCILLOR SURGERIES

Councillor Mary Jean Devon (E.W 4 Oban South and the Isles)
Constituents can contact Councillor Devon on Tel: 01688 301215 or e-mail - mary-jean.devon@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Councillor Gordon Chalmers (E.W. 4 Oban South and the Isles) Constituents can contact Councillor Chalmers on Tel 01688 302689 or e-mail - gordon.chalmers@argyll-bute.gov.uk or gordon.chalmers@btinternet.com

Councillor Donald McIntosh (E.W 4 Oban South and the Isles)
Councillor McIntosh's constituents can contact him on Tel: 07788 882200 or by e-mail - donald.mcintosh@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Councillor Donald Macdonald (E.W.5 Oban North and Lorn)
Councillor Macdonald's constituents can contact him on Tel: 01631 566367 or by e-mail - donald.macdonald@argyll-bute.gov.uk

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 1999

PROPOSED RUN OF RIVER SCHEME, WESTER ALLTBEITHE GLEN QUOICH LOCHABER HIGHLAND

The Council has received an Environmental Statement (ES) submitted in support of a planning application from Glen Quoich Hydro Limited for the development of a 0.935MW run of river hydro-scheme.

The development proposes construction of three intake weirs built on the River Quoich, the Allt a' Choire Chaorainn and the Allt a' Coire Bhuirich. Buried pipelines will be constructed from the intake weirs to a powerhouse and tail race, which will be located at the confluence of the River Quoich and the Easter Glen Quoich Burn. The application also includes construction of new access tracks including a new bridge, temporary construction compounds and three borrow pits.

The application (Reference 11/00287/FUL), plans and the accompanying Environmental Statement are available on the Council's ePlanning portal (www.highland.gov.uk) or for public inspection at the Highland Council, Planning and Building Standards Offices at Gordon Square Fort William and Glenurquhart Road Inverness.

Copies of the Environmental Statement may be purchased for £200.00 per hard copy or £20 for CD-ROM from HYDROPLAN, Unit 12, Riverside Park, Station Road, Wimborne, NH21 1QU. The Environmental Statement Non Technical Summary is available free of charge.

Any person who wishes to make a representation or submit additional comments on the application, plans and Environmental Statement should make them in writing to The Head of Planning and Building Standard, ePlanning@Highland 1, PO Box 5740, Inverness, IV1 9DH by 30 June 2011.

Comments will only be taken into consideration if they are received on time and relate to planning matters. Please note that we are unable to respond individually to points or questions raised and that your comments will be published on-line. Please quote the application reference number in your correspondence.

R. Hartland
Head of Planning and Building Standards

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; online at www.highland.gov.uk and, where given, the alternative location(s).

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	Alternative locations where application may be inspected
11/01643/FUL	Kilmalie Hall Corrach Fort William PH33 7JH	Re-roofing and minor alterations	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

Benderloch and North Connel Drama Club

AGM

Thursday 16 June 2011
7.30pm
Club Hut, Keil Farm, Benderloch

Ian Campbell is applying to divide the croft at Brolas - Muckairn into 2 New Crofts.

The purpose of the application is to assign a new croft extending to 1.25 ha, to Sofie Corns of Willowbank, Kilchrean, Argyll, PA35 1HD, and to assign a new croft extending to 1.1 ha to Ewan MacDonald, The Cottage, Taynuilt, Argyll, PA35 1JE

If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township or if the Commission consider that you have a direct interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW (e-mail: info@crofterscommission.org.uk) within 28 days from the date of publication of the advert.

Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry. Frivolous, vexatious or unreasonable comments cannot be accepted.

AN COMUNN GAIBHEALACH
Meur Chruachain (Cruachan Branch)

A.G.M.
TAYNUILT VILLAGE HALL
Committee Room

To be followed by a Committee Meeting
Friday 10 June, 2011 at 7.30pm
All Welcome
To enter please use back door

CROFTERS COMMISSION
COIMISEAN NAN CROITEARAN
DECROFTING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Applicant, Croft, Case number	Extent & Purpose
Mr R Niemeyer & Mr D Mackay 6 Onich, Kilmallie, 4.86.30364	0.024 ha - for amenity ground
Mrs C MacSwen & Mr M MacInnes Achnacroish, Kilbrandon & Kilchattan 4.86.31789	0.039 ha - for the site of a dwellinghouse

Within 14 days of the date of this newspaper - Comments can be made to the Crofters Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land.
Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW [info@crofterscommission.org.uk](http://crofterscommission.org.uk)

DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

Name, Croft, Case Number	Extent, reason, conditions
Mrs H M A Ferguson 75.76 & 77 Achosnich, Ardnamurchan & Sunart, 4.86.30428.	0.067 ha - Conditions: 1, 2, 3
Mr G M Currie 1, 2 & 3 Port Ellen, Kildalton & Oa 4.86.29682	0.299 ha - Conditions: 1, 2 & 3

Conditions
(1) to provide a site for a dwellinghouse
(2) complete enclosure of the land with a stockproof fence within 4 months of
(b) the proposed development completion
(3) That fence shall be maintained in good order and repair by each successive owner or occupier of the land.
Within 42 days of the date of this newspaper any person with an interest in the application may appeal the decision to the Scottish Land Court.

69%
of the business community read the regional press

NORTH BALLACHULISH GRAZING COMMITTEE AGM

To be held in Loch Leven Hotel, North Ballachulish on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 7.30pm
The purpose of the meeting is to elect a new committee.

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES
Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES
Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

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Advertise your unwanted items in either The Oban Times, Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk.

LOCAL services

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

BRASS HORSE large very heavy brass carthorse over 30lbs in weight. Approx 10" long x 7" high. £30 Telephone 01631 720369.

BABY EQUIPMENT

BATH SEAT yellow, suckers to bath, for babies that can seat unaided. Bargain, £5 Telephone 01631 720305.

BUGGY 3 wheeler buggy all terrain, foot brake, rain cover and foot muff included, £45 Telephone 01546 602185.

CARRY SEAT child's, metal frame, virtually new, £20 Telephone 01546 602185.

CHILD'S COT with mattress, £49.99 Telephone 01546 602185.

COT plain natural wood. Good condition, £10 Telephone 01546 886300.

FISHER PRICE TAKE-ALONG PROJECT, lullabies and music. Projects on to ceiling. Portable light show. Similar to Argos Cat-348/6968, £10 Telephone 01631 720305.

FISHER PRICE RAINFOREST Jumperoo, excellent condition, £45 Telephone 01586 553058.

MAMAS AND PAPAS PRAM black, suitable from birth with play tray, foot muff and rain cover. In good used condition, £30 Telephone 01631 720305.

MOSES BASKET wicker, with wooden stand, excellent condition, £20 Telephone 01546 602185.

NATURAL WICKER MOSES BASKET with cream interior, white wooden stand also included. Excellent condition, £35 Telephone 01631 567315.

PINK BUMBO SEAT with tray, hardly used, still in box, £20 Telephone 01586 553058.

UNISEX ADULTS BIKE silver townie bike, hardly used, £80 Telephone 07828730964.

BUILDING / DIY

ENGINEERED OAK FLOORING brand new, still in box, 3 packs of 1.39m². 6 panels in each pack, each one measures 1220mm x 190mm 13.5mm, £15 Telephone 07872 986164.

POLISHED BLACK PORCELAIN FLOOR high gloss black granite effect. Large format, 600mm x 600mm, 3 packs of 3 tiles each. Total coverage 3.24m². Retail for £50, £20 Telephone 07872 986164.

UPVC WINDOW white, double glazed, top opening panel. Good condition, 884 wide x 1043mm high, £10 Telephone 07872 986164.

WEST HIGHLAND SLATE good condition and good sizes, approx 2000 in crates. Telephone 01631 730522.

CAR ACCESSORIES

CAR COOL BOX 12-volt. Size approx H45, W40, D29cm, good condition, £10 Telephone 01546 886300.

GOODMAN CAR CD PLAYER including plugs, buyer collects, £35 Telephone 07928 109381.

MOTORCYCLE HYDRAULIC

WORKSHOP Scissor Lift, 390kg capacity, wheel clamp, ramp, £85 Telephone 01586 554160 after 6pm.

THULE 946 BIKE CARRIER Thule 946 Euroway 3-bike towball carrier, brand new, never used, £115 Telephone 01397 713999.

CARS AND CAR PARTS UNDER £250

ALFA ROMEO Spider/GTV 3.0 set of alloy wheels with decent tyres, one slight ding £100. Exhaust rear box and tail pipe for same £80. Telephone 01586 554160 after 6pm.

CD'S, DVD'S AND VIDEOS

NEW TRICKS Series 1, Series 2 and Series 3. 3 box sets, £5 each or, £15 Telephone 01631 720305.

COMPUTERS AND GAMES

NINTENDO WII GAME Super Smash Bros, never used, still in packaging, £25 Telephone 01546 606219.

CREELS

PRAWN CREELS FOR SALE three prawn creels, netting and bound, £18.50 each Telephone 07717 336315.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

HAND BLENDER Phillips Viva Collection HR1366. Turbo. 600W, metal bar with beaker, whisk, chopper. Hardly used, in excellent condition, £20 Telephone 01631 720305.

HOTPOINT FRIDGE white, Iced Diamond under work top fridge with small top freezer drawer. Very good condition, Mid Argyll area, £45 Telephone 07771 712298.

DOMESTIC PETS

LABRADOR PUPPIES colour fox red, ideal pets or working, both parents fox red and working, dogs available, vaccinated. Telephone 01369 820251 email breagh08@btinternet.com.

SPRINGER SPANIEL PUPS 3 black and white, 2 liver and white, all boys, KC Reg. Ready early July, £350 Telephone 07799 022425.

EQUESTRIAN

PALOMINA MARE 13.2, 13 year old, needs confident rider, not a first pony, 100% in traffic, loads and is easy to handle, can offer loan with view to buy, comes with bridle, saddle and rugs. Telephone 01688 302941 or 07748 352 168 email info@fallslodges.co.uk.

FURNITURE

HOUSE CONTENTS SALE, 6th June, 28 Barochan Place, everything from furniture to beds. From 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 6pm. Offers only, no set prices.

BEAUTIFUL PINE WOOD DRESSER unit, vgc, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720284.

BEDSIDE CABINETS pair of white 3 drawer bedside cabinets with glass top, £20 Telephone 01546 602185.

BEDSIDE CHESTS pair of oak finish 3 drawer bedside chests 74cm (h) x 46cm (w) x 44cm (d). Can deliver in Mid Argyll, £40 Telephone 01546 603474.

BUNK BED wooden single bunk bed. Dimensions:

170cm high, 200cm long, 100cm wide. Good condition. Assembly instructions included, £25 Telephone 01631 710394.

CABINET 75cm x 175cm with smoked glass sliding doors at top, shelves in middle and 2 wooden doors at bottom, £20 Telephone 01546 886660.

CHEST OF DRAWERS matching white, 5 drawers with glass top, £15 Telephone 01546 602185.

CIRCULAR TABLE wooden, extending with four matching chairs, £49.99 Telephone 01631 566001.

DOUBLE BED 4-drawer divan with Backcare Posture Pocket mattress. Buyer must collect, £49.99 Telephone 01631 569984.

DOUBLE SOFA BED with matching chair, blue pattern. Will deliver, £300 Telephone 01852 300273 or 01852 300320(evenings)?.

DRESSING TABLE STOOL brand new, still in packaging. Pine frame with thick padded seat, £15 Telephone 01631 565655.

FREE STANDING PACKING SHELVES 9 shelves, 70 x 33, £25 Telephone 01631 563935.

GLASS TV STAND good quality glass TV stand with 3 glass shelves and silver legs. Great condition, cost £140 new, £25 Telephone 07989 931322.

GREEN EASYCHAIR hardly used, £40.99 Telephone 01631 720284.

HEADBOARD Padded grey velour headboard for double bed, £15 Telephone 01631 569984.

KING SIZE MATTRESS Restus Orthopaedic, firm, excellent, very clean condition, £49.95 Telephone 07500 716262.

PINE DOUBLE BED with Silent Night Mattress. Hardly used, very clean, excellent condition. Mid Argyll area, may deliver, £49.99 Telephone 07771 712298.

PINE DRAWERS 2 x pine bedside cabinets with drawers & 1 x pine chest of drawers, very good condition. Mid Argyll area, may deliver local, £49.99 Telephone 07771 712298.

PINE WARDROBE full size double pine wardrobe, very good & tidy condition. Mid Argyll area, may deliver locally, £40 Telephone 07771 712298.

SINGLE BED one pine slatted single bed with mattress, in new condition, hardly ever used, £25 Telephone 01546 886660.

SOLID SINGLE BED with/without mattress, £25 Telephone 01631 563935.

THREE SEAT SETTEE large in pink leather, vgc, £45 Telephone 01631 564479.

TV UNIT silver colour base and legs with two glass shelves. Excellent condition, £20 Telephone 01631 562133.

GARDEN POND LINER high quality butyl pond liner, cost £5 m², surplus to requirements, 9 x 4 m approx, can deliver within 20 mile radius of Oban, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720601.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

REEBOK MINI SIDE STEPPER with resistant tubes and electronic display, £20 Telephone 07748 469775.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

IKEA BATHROOM CABINET large new bathroom cabinet 15% "wide x 23 1/2" long, boxed. Mirrored front with all fittings still packed. Bargain, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720369.

NEW KNIFE SET 6 steak knives and forks, plus 12 piece carving set presented in brief case. German quality, £25 Telephone 01397 713999.

STAINLESS STEEL HOBS SPLASHBACK 70 cm x 90 cm. Brand new in box, £49.95 Telephone 07500 716262.

LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE

4 PERSON TENT new and unused, 4 person, 2 room tent, 225x420x140cm, still in original sealed packaging, £45 Telephone 01631 562339.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

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HEALTH AND FITNESS REEBOK MINI SIDE STEPPER with resistant tubes and electronic display, £20 Telephone 07748 469775.

POWER TOOLS

WELDING UNIT electric, Model Manta 901 140A, hardly used, £12 Telephone 01546 886300.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

P R O M O T I O N A L MATERIAL Market your business effectively with professionally designed leaflets, posters and flyers from Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

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VICTORIAN DOORS with associated architraves x 3 (Painted white)

VICTORIAN PINE SHUTTERS with original handles (painted white) All suitable for restoration old house.

CHURCH PEWS (1 part restored) Could be downsized. Suit house or garden.

OFFERS Contact 07769 586109.

TICKETS FOR SALE

TWO CONCERT TICKETS Journey, Foreigner and Stix at SECC on June 9, £80.00 Telephone 07828 730964.

WANTED

KINGSPAN INSULATION or similar. Telephone 07789 034352.

SCRAP METAL all types of scrap metal, we uplift scrap cars, call Mr Cook, West Coast Scrap Metals. Telephone 01499 500638 or 07787 991636.

WANTED ALL TYPES OF OUTBOARD Motors, Yamaha, Seagulls, Anzainis etc. Also ones needing attention, also parts, also small tender wanted. Telephone 01852 314009.

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PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE MONDAY 4.00pm

TO ADVERTISERS - No trade advertisements in private sales - All boats, cars & trailers must appear in Drive Times (see coupon on motor page for details)

YOUR LOCAL WEST HIGHLAND OFFICES: OBAN - The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB FORT WILLIAM - The Oban Times, Mariner House, The Parade, Fort William PH33 6BA CAMPBELTOWN - The Campbeltown Courier, Central Centre, Main St, Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE LOCHILHEAD - Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochilhead, Argyll PA31 6NE

PERSONALS

"How can we know the way?" Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way"

Are you offended by the Lord Jesus Christ and occupied with selfish interests rather than Gods glory?

www.WordsbytheWaySide.co.uk

Happy 50th Birthday Mairi

Lots of Love Keith, Scott, Amanda, Keith, Cheryl and Toby xxx

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CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

1. Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

2. The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3. The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4. An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

5. Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.

6. The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

7. The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

8. Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or consecutive advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.

9. The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

10. Advertisers under the value of £75 must pay on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

11. Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the amount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

12. Request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

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ON SITE CARAVANS from £8,950

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On-Site Sales 2005 37 x 12 Caravan £17,000 (3 bed, double glazed, gas central heating)

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The Oban Times PREPAID ADVERTISING RATES

Private Classifieds Lineage Rates Minimum charge £12.85 (+VAT up to 25 words) thereafter £2.70 per line

Box Number Fee £5.50 (+VAT) Births, Engagements, Marriages, Deaths and Acknowledgments Minimum charge £12.80 (+VAT) thereafter £2.50 per line (+VAT)

In Memoriam: Minimum charge £9.45 (+VAT) thereafter £2.00 per line (+VAT) Trade Classifieds: See Trade Classifieds Page for Rates

Trade Display: £9.65 per single column centimetre

Resortment: £16.55 per single column centimetre

Public Notices: £10.90 per single column centimetre

Properties: £10.50 per single column centimetre

BIRTHS
CAMERON - Donald and Ann-Marie (née Devine), are delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Aimee, born on 12 May 2011. Second grandchild for Gwen and Archie and Audrey and Kevin. Oban. Special thanks to all at Oban Maternity Unit and RAH Paisley.

MARRIAGE
MURRAY - MACLEAN - On Saturday, May 14, 2011 at Tarbert Parish Church, Hayley, daughter of Fiona and Don Murray, Tarbert to Jonathan, son of Cathy and Calum MacLean, Clachan. A very happy day.

DEATHS
BARR - Peacefully, at The Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, aged 72 years, John Alexander, (Johnny), St. Valery Place, Oban, loving dad to Peter, Ann and Gordon, father-in-law to Joan, much loved Papa to DJ, Stewart, James and Ross and brother to Joe and James, will be sadly missed. Funeral will take place from The Church of Scotland, Glencruitten Road, Oban, on Monday, June 6, 2011 at 1.30 p.m., thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only. Retrial collection/donations will be taken for Cruchan Ward Equipment Fund.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
MACDONALD - Martin would like to thank all family, friends and work colleagues for their many kind expressions of sympathy, cards, flowers and phone calls received following the recent sad loss of Karoline. Grateful thanks to doctors and nursing staff for their care and attention to Karoline. Thanks also to Rev Cliff Acklam for a comforting service; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for caring and efficient services; and to the Argyll Arms Hotel, Ardrishaig for fine purvey. Finally, thank you to all who paid their respects at church and graveside, especially those travelling a distance. The generous donations to date have raised over £500 for SSPCA.

MACLENNAN - Sarah and family of the late John MacLennan, would sincerely like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy and cards. Thanks also to Fr MacKinnon, J. MacLellan & Co, Funeral Directors, BA Club for catering and to all who paid their last respects at the funeral service and graveside. The sum of £660 generously donated will be shared between Mosspar Nursing Home and The Montrose Centre.

IN MEMORIAM
BRYARS - Craig, November 1978 - June 2003. Our love for you was special. And something we all shared. We will always love you, Craig. From everyone who cared, Mum, Dad, Darren and Family.

CURRIE - In loving memory of our dad Archie, who passed away June 1, 1998. Deep in our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered everyday. Mairi Allan, Gillian and family.

DOUGLAS - John F (Makarios), died June 2, 2001. Ten years have now passed since you left and many fond memories remain with us. The song has ended but the melody lingers on. - Irene, Andrew and all the family at home and away. Also remembering 'Auntie Frances' King, died May 31, 2010. Sadly missed.

DOWNIE - In loving memory of our dear dad and granpa George, who died on May 28, 1968 and our dear mam and nana, Aggie, who died on June 7, 2001. Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us everyday. Unseen, unheard, but always near. So loved, so missed and so very dear.

GILLIES - In loving memory of our mum and daughter Tina, who was suddenly taken from us on June 1, 2000. If roses grow in heaven Lord please pick a bunch for us. Place them in our mother's arm. And tell her they're from us. Tell her we love and miss her and when she turns to smile. Place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while. Always in our hearts. John and Charlene. Gentle Jesus above please give my daughter all my love. Thoughts today, memories forever. Love Mum. Treasured memories of a dear wife, who passed away June 1, 2000. To me you were special. What more is there to say. - Alistair

OLIVER - Peacefully after a short illness on Tuesday May 31, 2011 at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban in her 87th year, Maisie, beloved wife of John, mother of Christine, Suzan, Russell and Giles, grandmother of Maud, Henry and Alexandra. Funeral service, to which all family and friends are

respectfully invited, to be held at Holy Cross Portnacrois, Appin on Tuesday June 7 at 2.30. Family flowers only, donations to the Oban Hospice.

WALLACE - Suddenly, but peacefully, at Mid Argyll Hospital on Wednesday May 25, 2011, Archie M. Wallace, aged 82 years, of Ardfenaig Residential Home, Ardrishaig, and formerly of 60 Glenfyne Park, Ardrishaig. Beloved husband of the late Cathy, and loving father of Derek and Neil, a much respected father-in-law of Ann. Dear uncle and cousin to all the family and a good friend and dear neighbour to many. Funeral service was held in Ardrishaig Parish Church on Tuesday May 31, 2011, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Forever in our thoughts.

MEMORIALS
OBAN MEMORIALS
Alistair MacLean
Master Sculptor
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Design and prices on request
LETTERING AND RENOVATING
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TEL: 01631 563123 / 565269

HUNTER - To the memory of my brave, wonderful daughter, Linda. No daughter was ever loved more. I miss you so much. - Love Ma xxx.

KIRKPATRICK - Cherished memories of Catherine, a devoted wife, mother, gran and sister who passed away on May 31, 2001. Remembering you is easy. We do it every day. Missing you is the heart-ache. That never goes away. - Angus and sons, Allan and Gary, and the rest of the family.

LAMONT - Effie. Precious memories of our beloved mother, Effie, who passed away June 2, 2001, also remembering with love, our dear father, Archie, who died January 5, 1987 and loved ones gone before and since.

MACINTYRE - In loving memory of Annette, died June 6, 1991, 20 years anniversary. We miss you. We love you. - Donna, Andrew and Iain.

MACINTYRE - Angus, died May 26, 1986 and Kenny, died May 30, 1999, are always in the memory of the growing family and their values matter more than ever to us. - Angus, Lorn, Eric and us all.

MACINTYRE - Kenny, who died May 30, 1999. You are missed and talked about everyday. Your energy and personality still an inspiration to us all. Elizabeth, Kenny, Colin and families.

MACCORQUODALE - Everlasting memories of our mum, daughter, sister and auntie, Fiona taken from us on May 30, 2000, aged 34 years. Also remembering our loving family gone before. We can't have the old days back. When we were all together. But secret tears and loving thoughts. Will be with us forever. Remembered today and everyday your boys Ewan and Kenneth xxx. Love from Mum, Iain and Diane, Iain and Rowan xx.

RECKORD - 10th Anniversary. In memory of a dear mother and grandmother Mary Flora, who died June 4, 2001 aged 68 years. No special day is needed. For us to think of you. For you were very special. And we thought the world of you. Our Lady Star of the Sea Pray for Her. - From Lorna, James and Lesley, David and Joanna and grandchildren, Jade, James and Molly.

SMILLIE - Treasured memories of my beloved husband Bill who passed away on May 20, 2010. Loved and remembered everyday. - Ina xxx.

SMILLIE - Loving memories of a great step-father. So dearly missed. - John and Liz xx.

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Campbell Street Church
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Phone-In 'Worship Link' available
Rev. Archie McPhail
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(01631) 567076
All welcome

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION
Thursday 2 June 2011
Ascension Day
St John's Cathedral, Oban
Sung Eucharist..... 19.30
Haydn's Nelson Mass
(Oban Bach Choir & Orchestra)
St Columba, Gruline, Mull
Holy Eucharist..... 19.00

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION
Thursday 2 June 2011
Ascension Day
St John's Cathedral, Oban
Holy Communion..... 08.00
Sung Eucharist..... 10.15
Sunday School and Creche
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Bishop braves the wind with message of hope

THE BISHOP of Argyll and the Isles of the Scottish Episcopal Church is making a sterling effort to get out and about - even in all the windy weather.

Bishop Kevin, who was consecrated as Bishop in February this year has so far been to both his Cathedrals - St John's in Oban and the Cathedral of the Isles in Cumbrae - alongside making visits to parishes from Kintyre, through Mid Argyll, Fort William, Iona and up to the Western Isles. *The Oban Times* caught up with him shortly before he took the ferry to Stormovay.

The Bishop is finding all is well. 'However large or small the congregations are, they are looking for God and continuing to tell the story of our faith and that is cause for celebration.'

Originally from Sunderland and born Kevin Pearson, the Bishop says he was content in life to be a parish minister in Horden, a pit town on the east coast. However, throughout his ministry he has been presented with opportunities that he wasn't always aware he was up to, but following his faith he was unable to refuse.

Bishop Kevin said: 'I always knew I wanted to be a priest in the church. I have never wanted to do anything else.'

'At one point I tried to be an accountant but after a few weeks I realised it wasn't for me.'

Bishop Kevin first came to Scotland to study in Edinburgh, choosing that university for the depth of subjects he was able to study at one time.

His first parish as a Canon was in Horden, County Durham in the late

1970s and early 1980s - a time of poverty amongst miners.

Bishop Kevin said: 'One day as I was burying an old miner it struck me that his funeral may have been the only time in life he was shown the accord of his fellow people.'

He explains that religion is about marking the uniqueness of life and death not only in ourselves but importantly in the story of Christ.

Bishop Kevin has seen a number of different changes in his career, such as a University Chaplain in Leeds and at Napier, ministry in Edinburgh as Canon, Rector and Dean - and through his work in discernment for ministry he has been no stranger to Argyll and the Isles, a place he is settled to live in for a long time.

As a former director of Ordinands and with his involvement in training, means he, more than most, can make an assessment on the state of the church.

He says: 'There is no shortage of people who want to be involved in ministry. It is not a problem.'

'People have gifts and through a process of discernment we are able to work out how best those gifts can be used.'

With his warm, approachable and understanding care, Bishop Kevin, has made a real impression with his joyful message of hope and hopefulness. This message will no doubt bring a continued rejuvenation to the Episcopal Church in Argyll.

Bishop Kevin is married to Dr Elspeth Atkinson who is the Director of Macmillan Cancer Support in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.



Bishop Kevin.

Don't be fooled, warn police

BE CAREFUL who you give your information to, warn Strathclyde Police.

As another scam to get money out of unsuspecting victims has been brought to the attention of officers they are warning of a high tech scam that may fool those less technically minded. The scam involves a telephone call from an operator saying they have noticed a fault on your computer, or computer software. When the operator tries to fix the problem, the scammer says, it is necessary to add an update to the computer.

It is at that point that people from all over the west coast are being asked for bank details to pay for the software.

Argyll and Bute Council said: 'Strathclyde Police have received several reports of a fraud being carried out across the whole Argyll and Bute area. This takes the format of the public receiving a cold telephone call from an individual claiming to represent Microsoft, or other companies such as AOL, and that the individual's computer has reported a fault and that they require remote access to solve the problem. After access is given it is explained that the relevant upgrades will cost money at which point bank details or credit card details are obtained and monies taken.'

'If you receive such a call, decline the offer and hang up. There is no requirement to contact the police.'

If you have been the victim of such an incident, contact your bank or credit card company immediately and report the incident and contact your local police office. If you do this, please keep any emails or you may have.

It is advisable to run any anti-virus and spyware software and change any security passwords or usernames, especially if these are used for several features or sites.

Oban Canon meets London Gaels

IN LONDON, one of the joys that the month of May brings is the celebration of the annual Gaelic Mass.

It would probably be more accurate to say the celebration of Mass in Gaelic as it is the language of the prayers, sacred rituals and hymns that marks it as different, but it is always affectionately referred to as the 'Gaelic Mass'.

Over the years, there have been several priests who have managed to find time to visit the Gaels exiled - geographically but not culturally - in London. Among recent celebrants have been Fr Calum MacLellan of St Michael's, Eriskay and Fr Ross Crichton of St Mary's, Benbecula, but this year on Sunday May 22, it was the turn of Canon Donald MacKay to make the journey. He was warmly welcomed and he enjoyed chatting to people he had not met up with for many years.

A native of South Uist - both his parents were teachers on the island, his mother at Daliburgh and his father as headteacher at Garrynamonie - he has been serving at Oban Cathedral for the past several years, but is now due to return to St Peter's, Daliburgh.

The singing at Mass was

beautifully led by Anna MacCrae - originally Anne Gray of Barra - and readings were given by Mrs Nan MacQueen (now over 90 years) - and originally from Eilean Ron, one of the last Gaelic speaking islands off the far north coast of Scotland and by Roderick Cannon, a fluent Gaelic learner (and piper) from Norwich. Billy MacCormick of Eriskay and Roddy Walker of Daliburgh were also there to help.

The late Mary Carlin, of the Eriskay MacInnis family was remembered in our prayers. She had been a stalwart presence at the annual Gaelic Mass since its inception 40 years ago and will be sorely missed.

Of the 60 or so people who attended, there were many steadfast friends from the Gaidhealtachd in London including from the Crown Court Gaelic Church Service - among them the indefatigable Tommy MacAskill of Dunvegian in Skye. Tommy had hoped to say a poem, but had to rush off (I did say 'indefatigable') to be present at another event run by Iain MacLeod of Lewis but he promised to say it next year, so watch this space!

As always, the ceilidh that followed was a charming mixture of entertainment provided by children and adults. The MacRury and Smith children danced a Highland Fling and there was one rather special singer, the four year old grandson of Katie Ann MacRury who sang 'Wind the Bobbin up' - not perhaps old Gaelic song but bravely performed! Katie Ann herself gave a few superb tunes on the accordion and Anna MacCrae sang a number of favourite songs to delight the company. Morag Traynor who teaches Gaelic at the City Lit College in London also sang a port-a-beul. Donald Smith who had already played the pipes for the dancers later gave a glorious selection of Gaelic airs. We could have listened to much more. We were privileged too to listen once again to Kathy Kennedy from Roy Bridge sing a number of well-known songs.

It is however the organiser of the event, Cathy Robertson, that the most thanks must go for bringing together people from many parts to celebrate Mass in the Gaelic language. She does an amazing job each year and she should know how much we appreciate it.

Frances Nic Eachainn.

Smarties youngsters get the Smile Factor

HAVE you got the smile factor? As National Smile Month gets underway, dental health workers got out and about to visit Smarties Nursery.

NHS Highland's Yvonne Sloss, oral health improvement practitioner, and Clare Marren, dental hygienist, recently held an event at Smarties Nursery for National Smile Month.

Yvonne said: 'We re-created the dental surgery in the nursery with our blow-up dental chair and screen.

'The children were able to dress up as dentist's/nurses and act out what would happen at a dental visit.'

'We are very pleased that the event was successful, and all involved had a fun day.'

Children were given advice on brushing twice-a-day with fluoride toothpaste, cutting down on how often you have sugary foods and drinks and visit the dentist regularly as often as they recommend.



Children at Smarties Nursery were keen to get involved with the Smile Factor.

Newsdesk - 01631 568000



Forest fun in Glencruitten Woods for Happy House children

Children from Happy House Christian Pre School, Oban, enjoyed some forest adventures with Stramash at Glencruitten Woods. The children took part in a variety of activities using their senses to follow trails, find out about plants and creatures and be creative with natural materials.

Newtonmore out for revenge against Fort

Teams concentrate on Camanachd Cup

NEWTONMORE will be out for revenge when they take on Fort William at The Eilan in the Camanachd Cup this weekend. Fort ran out 3-1 victors when the two sides met in the MacTavish Cup last month, and 'More manager Norman MacArthur will be hoping for a different outcome on Saturday.

He told *The Oban Times* he expects to have a full strength squad to choose from. He said: 'We're looking forward to it. We won't be doing anything different from last time - we just didn't play well. A few of our big players had an off day last time so hopefully they will perform a bit better this time out.'

Newtonmore go into the game after completing a comfortable win 3-0 over Glenorchy at Mart Park last weekend. Steven MacDonald's two first half goals were followed by a second half strike from Paul MacArthur to give the away side both points. Newtonmore fielded a young side, with seven players under the age of 21.

MacArthur said: 'It was a pretty one sided game. It wasn't good conditions - it was very windy. But their keeper made some good saves.' For his part, FORT WILLIAM manager Peter MacIntyre will be hoping to use his side's 3-0 win away to Inveraray to kick start their season.

Fort took an early lead when Daniel Stewart scored after 10 minutes. Bryan Simpson then scored twice in two minutes before half time to ease his side to a comfortable victory. MacIntyre said: 'It was a good performance. We're just trying to do the best we can at the moment. We were short of three players again so it was good to get the win.'

Fort face Newtonmore on Saturday with the knowledge they recently defeated the reigning Premier Division champions 3-1 at the Eilan in the MacTavish Cup. MacIntyre said he hopes to have a fully fit squad to choose from for the first team this year. He said: 'It's a massive boost - because of injuries, suspensions

and work commitments, we've missed a lot of players this season. We've missed that experience and hopefully we'll have that back this weekend. 'It's a wee psychological boost to have already gone up there and beaten them.'

Winless in the league, GLENORCHY coach Allan MacKechnie said he would be disappointed if his team did not progress in the Camanachd Cup this weekend. The Dalmailly men welcome Lovat to Argyll but have been buoyed by the return of two players from injury.

Duncan MacDougall has recovered from a foot injury and Alex MacPherson, who has been out with a broken jaw, should be among the substitutes on Saturday. Allan said: 'It sounds strange because we have not won a game yet, but I will be disappointed if we don't win on Saturday. 'It is as good a draw as we could have hoped for because there are a lot of good teams in the draw. It is a fixture you look at and think it is winnable.'

Glenorchy were missing six key players when Lovat beat them 6-0 earlier this season. Last week's 3-0 defeat to Newtonmore was an improvement on the previous week's 11-0 hammering by Kyles Athletic. Allan said: 'The boys just seemed to give up in that game (Kyles) and a few harsh words were said before the Newtonmore game. We got a good battling performance out of them but we are still struggling to get a settled team.'

LOVAT had a weekend to forget, with a 2-1 home defeat to Kilmallie compounded by the news that full back James Grieve will miss the rest of the season with a dislocated shoulder. Grieve is the fourth Lovat player to have picked up a season-ending injury already this year. Saturday's game was played with a very strong wind at Balgate Park, but Lovat took the lead through Greg Matheson after half an hour. Kilmallie fought back and took

the win thanks to two late goals from John Stewart. Lovat manager John MacRitchie told *The Oban Times* the game could have gone either way. He said: 'Both sides missed an awful lot of chances. I think both sides would have been happy with a draw, but to lose was very disappointing.'

MacRitchie will have six players missing when his side take on Glenorchy this weekend, but the manager is still confident his side can get a good result. He said: 'The squad is extremely stretched just now. But we just need to pick things up and go down there and give it a go. They are a reasonable team, but we would hope to get a good result.'

INVERARAY have become known as a mid-table premier league side that thrives on cup runs. This season, their priorities have had to change as they focus on league survival. While this weekend's Camanachd Cup match against Lochaber will be a welcome relief from the struggles of the league, manager John Smylie is aware of his more immediate task.

It would be nice to get a run in the Camanachd Cup but we need to avoid relegation. 'We have the same squad as last season but they don't seem to be gelling and are not taking their chances. 'We have now lost three games in a row. I can't remember the last time that happened.'

However, there is hope for John this weekend with a full squad to pick from and the return of forward Gary MacPherson. Last weekend's defeat to Fort William did not reflect the run of play, according to John, who said his team had the majority of the play. LOCHABER meanwhile, are looking to improve on recent visits which have ended in defeat. Lochaber manager Michael Delaney explained that his side had been drawn against Inveraray in the cup for the last three years. He said: 'The last three seasons we've played them down there in the Scottish Cup and we've lost

every time. We won't be doing much different this time, just hopefully we can come away with a better result.' Delaney said injuries were hampering his side's preparations. 'It's the same old story,' he said. 'If we had another two or three weeks we could have got some of the boys back and we would have had a much better chance.'

Don MacRae will miss the weekend's game, the fifth game in a row he has missed, due to work commitments. Neil MacDonald's ankle injury, which he picked up at the beginning of March, will keep him out as well, but he is expected to return to the starting line up soon. Lochaber's Balliemore Cup semi final against Bute was due to be played last weekend, but was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch at Spean Bridge.

LOCHCARRON will take on Kilmallie in the Camanachd Cup this weekend without a manager after Murdo John Fraser resigned due to work commitments. Fraser has missed a number of games so far this season due to his work, with player Kenny Ross standing in for him. Ross is expected to take control of team matters this weekend as the club have not started the search for a new boss yet.

Lochcarron, whose first team haven't played a game since the middle of May, should have a full squad to choose from for the match at Battery Park. Club President Henry Dalgety told *The Oban Times*: 'Kilmallie will be tough, they are going really well at the moment. 'It will be a big step up for us, and it's a shame we haven't had a first team game for the past couple of weeks so we might be a bit rusty. But we always seem to play our best shinty at home.'

KILMALLIE manager Johnnie Morrison said Murdo John's departure from the Lochcarron hot seat might make the game even more difficult, if the home side band together. Morrison said: 'He made a big impression up there, he really turned them around last season. But there's a lot of big players up well and, whilst he will encourage the Taynuilt players to enjoy the game, he has a warning about the opposition. 'Kingussie will bring a professional attitude to the game on Saturday and the boys will have to realise that,' he said. 'There's no showboating with this team, they will work us out quickly and try to devise a way of scoring as many goals as possible. 'We need to counter that by being organised, committed and disciplined. Kingussie don't tend to slip up against smaller teams because they take each game as seriously as the last one.'

GLENURQUHART tackle Division One high-flyers Kinlochsheil at Kirtirk Park in a tricky-looking Camanachd Cup tie. The Drumadrochit side had a free weekend last weekend and should have a full squad for Saturday's match. Keeper Stewart Mackintosh told *The Oban Times* he was expecting a difficult game against Kinlochsheil. He said: 'It will be very tough, especially up there. But we're going to be going into it fairly confident. Last time we played them we were in the first division, but we know a fair bit about them and how they play.'

Mackintosh said the key for his side was taking chances when they are created. He said: 'We've been creating quite a few chances in the last few games, it's just a matter of us putting them away. If we do that, I think we'll be okay.' OBAN CAMANACHD are the next premier division team



Kingussie's Ronald Ross is chased by Kyles Athletic's Fraser MacDonald during the teams' 2-2 draw last Saturday. The result preserves Kyles' five point lead at the top of the Premier Division. Picture: John MacTavish

Kings manager Steven Borthwick said: 'We're disappointed with the result after being 2-0 up. We had loads of chances to put the game to bed, but Kyles fought back very well and the draw was probably the fair result.' Kings take on Taynuilt in the Camanachd Cup second round this Saturday, and Borthwick will not be leaving anything to chance. 'We played them in a preseason friendly and they looked like a good side. We're confident we can get through but it's certainly not a foregone conclusion.'

TAYNUILT coach Fraser Inglis said he is looking forward to the 'occasion' of a home Camanachd Cup tie against Kingussie. The South Division One team has had two weeks off due to cancelled matches, a welcome break from what has been a hectic season so far. 'We needed a rest after big games against Inverness and Oban Camanachd but everyone is looking forward to the visit of an iconic team like Kingussie and the opportunity to play against the best player there has ever been in Ronald Ross,' said Fraser.

Having played with Kingussie towards the end of his playing career, Fraser knows the team well and, whilst he will encourage the Taynuilt players to enjoy the game, he has a warning about the opposition. 'Kingussie will bring a professional attitude to the game on Saturday and the boys will have to realise that,' he said. 'There's no showboating with this team, they will work us out quickly and try to devise a way of scoring as many goals as possible. 'We need to counter that by being organised, committed and disciplined. Kingussie don't tend to slip up against smaller teams because they take each game as seriously as the last one.'

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to try to stop the Kyles Athletic juggernaut rolling on when they host the premier division table-toppers at Mossfield in the Camanachd Cup. Co-manager Diarmid MacMillan said: 'This is a very big match this Saturday and we are looking forward to it. 'The boys are not worried about Kyles' form one little bit, they are looking forward to the challenge of playing against the top team in shinty right now. 'We have always had close games with Kyles and the games have been entertaining. 'They will be favourites going into the match and being at home isn't a real advantage against Kyles, as they like the big space Mossfield has to offer.'

Last weekend's one-sided defeat of Kilmory in the Macaulay served only to be shooting practice, when Ian 'Scally' MacMillan scored after one minute and Aidan MacIntyre added a sucker punch minutes later. With the shackles off, Camanachd put on some exhibition shinty and a second half hat-trick from Scott MacMillan finished the scoring. Diarmid said he was particularly impressed with stand-in half back Andrew McCuish and young winger Gary Lord.

KYLES ATHLETIC have been on top form in every competition this season, topping the Scottish Hydro Premier Division and reaching the final of the Celtic Cup. But according to trainer James Perlich, the Tighnabruich side would sacrifice all that for victory in the Camanachd Cup. This weekend they play Oban Camanachd in the competition in what will be a rehearsal for the Celtic Cup final in a matter of weeks. James said: 'Oban Camanachd away from home is a game the boys all look forward to because the big pitch at Mossfield allows the forwards to stretch their legs a bit. But we are under no illusion that this will be an easy game.'

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Fort William's James Clark and Inveraray's Grant Griffin battle for possession.

Oban have a young and mobile side and will be tough opponents on Saturday. 'The Camanachd Cup is the one the boys all talk about at the start of the season and as a Kyles player it's the one you want to win.' Prospect Zak Coley is out with a thumb injury but Peter Currie and Donald Niven return to the line-up. Last weekend's draw with Kingussie was only the second time Kyles had failed to win this season but having fielded a makeshift team, the Tighnabruich men were happy to return home with a point after being two goals down. James explained: 'We had to have a major reshuffle last Saturday and if you look at the scorers we had Rupert Williamson, who is usually a half back for the second team, and Colin MacColl who was a last minute replacement. 'The team just kept digging in and we managed to pull the two goals back. That seems to be a trait of this team. 'If we had been in that position [two goals down at The Dell] last season, I think we would have struggled to come back.'

Switching competitions, LOCHSIDE Rovers will play Kilmory in their rescheduled Bullough Cup match this weekend. Having beaten the Mid Argyll side's first team already this season, the young Lochside will be favourites going into the game. However, they will be without Josh Rippon and Craig 'Winky' MacDougall. The injured Daniel MacKinnon looks doubtful. Last weekend Lochside put in one of their best performances of the season, holding Glasgow Mid Argyll to a draw in the city. After a goalless first half, in which the Oban side could have been ahead, GMA took advantage of having the wind at their backs and opened the scoring on 55 minutes through Fulton Ross. With GMA piling on the pressure, things seemed to be getting worse for Lochside when Daniel MacKinnon had to leave the pitch injured. However, his replacement, Malcolm Clark, scored the equaliser on 85 minutes. Late goals have been a theme of Lochside's season so far. Lochside co-manager David McInnes explained: 'We tell the boys to battle for 90 minutes and they believe in that. 'That was a great result to get in Glasgow because they are one of the better teams in this league.'

Oban Celtic are well turned out this season thanks to a new set of strips courtesy of sponsors Clark Thomson independent insurance brokers. Oban branch manager Strly Turnbull presented the club with the new strips.



Oban Celtic are well turned out this season thanks to a new set of strips courtesy of sponsors Clark Thomson independent insurance brokers. Oban branch manager Strly Turnbull presented the club with the new strips.



We've won the cup! The victorious MacKay Cup winners Kingussie. 15. 122mackay02

Kingussie lift the silverware

KINGUSSIE were crowned the 2011 MacKay Cup champions after an entertaining final at Oban's Mossfield stadium on Saturday. In a closely fought game, Kingussie ran out 3-1 winners, against Banavie thanks to two goals from Roddy Young and one from Ruairidh Anderson. With a strong breeze blowing down the pitch, the teams went in level 1-1 at the interval. Kingussie then dominated play for much of the second half and ran out

worthy winners. Presenting the victorious captain, Rachael Borthwick, with the cup, Donny MacLean, vice president of the Schools Camanachd Association, paid tribute to the efforts and skills of both sets of players for entertaining the crowd to such a good game. Kingussie's Alexander Michie was crowned man of the match, and he received his trophy from Catherine Ann McGregor, daughter of St Columba and schools shinty stalwart Ann Cameron.



Man of the match Alexander Michie receives his award from Catherine Ann McGregor. 15. 122mackay01

Shinty results, fixtures and league tables

Camanachd Association Results may 28, 2011		Marine Harvest North Division 1		Marine Harvest South Division 1		Marine Harvest North Division 2		Marine Harvest South Division 2		Marine Harvest North Division 3		Marine Harvest South Division 3																																																																					
Balliemore Cup Semi Final	Lochaber P - P Bute	Lochaber P - P Inverness	Unplayable Field	Beaulieu 1, Strathglass 1.	Marine Harvest South Division 1	Oban Celtic 3, Ballachulish 3.	Glasgow MA 1, Lochside 1.	Marine Harvest North Division 2	Kilmallie P - P Glengarry	Unplayable Field	Marine Harvest South Division 2	Aberdour 2, Col Glen 4.	Strachur 6, Glasgow MA 0.	Marine Harvest North Division 3	Boleskine P - P Ardnamurchan	Ardnamurchan unable to field a team points to Boleskine	Caberfeidh P - P Inverness																																																																
Aberdein Considine	Sutherland Cup Quarter Final	Kyles Athletic 5, Lochaber 0.	Skye 8, Lovat 3.	Aberdeen Uni 1, 5 Kingussie.	Glenurquhart 3, Tayforth 0.	Strathglass v Kingussie, Ted MacDonald;	Oban Camanachd v Kyles Athletic, Deek Cameron;	Lochcarron v Kilmallie, Graeme MacMillan;	Inveraray v Lochaber (3pm), Billy Wotherspoon;	Glenorchy v Lovat, Colin MacDonald;	Bute v Glasgow Mid Argyll (3pm), David Mitchell;	Newtonmore v Fort William (3pm), Evan MacRae;	Kinlochsheil v Glenurquhart, Graham Irving.	Inverness unable to field a team points to Caberfeidh	Lochbroom 1, Beaulieu 10.	Lewis 0, Lochbroom 9.	Strathdearn Cup 2nd Round	Fort William v Kinlochsheil, John Angus Gillies.	Bullough Cup 1st Round	Lochside Rovers v Kilmory, (Noon) TBA.	Marine Harvest North Division 1	Strathglass v Inverness, Ronnie Campbell;	Skye v Beaulieu, Innes Wood.	Marine Harvest South Division 1	Aberdour v Ballachulish, Dougie Cameron;	Oban Celtic v Kilmory, Euan Pearson.	Marine Harvest North Division 2	Glenurquhart v Skye, Jock Matheson;	Kingussie v Lochaber, Robert Morrison;	Lovt v Kilmallie, Iain Kennedy;	Newtonmore v Glengarry (Noon) John MacLeod																																																		
Marine Harvest South Division 2	Bute v Col Glen (Noon), George O'Rourke	Glasgow Mid Argyll v Strachur, Ewan MacDonald;	Inveraray v Aberdour (Noon) Dunkie Kerr.	Marine Harvest North Division 3	Inverness v Ardnamurchan	John Stoggie;	Lewis v Boleskine, Charles Young;	Lochbroom v Caberfeidh, Laurie Skuodas;	Lochcarron v Beaulieu, Kevin Cheeseman;	Strathglass v Aberdeen University, Neil Ferguson.	Marine Harvest North Division One	Kinlochsheil	Caberfeidh	Beaulieu	Lochaber	Lochcarron	Inverness	Kinlochsheil	Skye	Strathglass	Marine Harvest South Division One	Bute	Glasgow MA	Lochside Rvrs	Taynuilt	Ballachulish	Kyles Athletic	Oban Celtic	Kilmory	Aberdour	Marine Harvest North Division Two	Newtonmore	Glengarry	Kingussie	Fort William	Lovt	Glenurquhart	Lochaber	Kinlochsheil	Skye	Kilmallie	Marine Harvest South Division Two	Strachur	Tayforth	Bute	ColGlen	Glasgow MA	Ballachulish	Inveraray	Aberdour	Marine Harvest North Division Three	Aberdeen U	Beaulieu	Boleskine	Lochbroom	Caberfeidh	Lochcarron	Inverness	Ardnamurchan	Strathglass	Lewis	P W D L Pts	9 8 0 1 16	7 5 1 1 11	8 4 2 2 10	8 5 0 3 10	9 3 1 5 7	8 3 0 5 6	7 2 0 5 4	10 1 0 9 2	P W D L Pts	9 9 0 0 18	9 6 1 2 13	9 6 1 2 13	10 4 3 2 11	7 5 0 2 10	9 4 1 4 9	8 2 0 6 4	9 2 0 7 4	8 1 1 6 3	8 0 1 7 1

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Phoenix gear up for end of season show

'The quality of boxers being produced is becoming of a higher and higher standard'

LOCHABER Phoenix Boxing Club is gearing up for its end of season show this Saturday at the Nevis Centre.

The club hope to have at least 10 bouts taking place on the night, the majority featuring as part of a North of Scotland versus North of England competition.

There will be an end of season awards ceremony after the bouts, with current world featherweight champion Ricky Burns expected to be in attendance.

The club, which is the most travelled in Scotland, has had a very busy season and the boxers have picked up Northern District, Scottish Novice and full Scottish titles along the way.

Their will be two clubs from Bolton attending - Gloves ABC which is Amir Khan's own club, and Bolton Elite, whose head coach Tommy Battel is Amir Khan's first ever boxing coach.

Club official Steve Docherty said: 'As the club has grown in

REPORT
by **RICHARD HADDOCK**

rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

stature over the last three seasons the quality of boxers being produced is becoming of a higher and higher standard.

'Scottish champions Chris Bradley and James Aitchison have reached such a high level that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find matches for them.

Willing
'We have had to find opponents from England for them as the only other boxers willing to face them are fellow Scottish champions.

'Because of this Chris will box an English opponent on Saturday whilst James will move up a weight division to box Scottish champion Billy Stewart of Byron ABC.'

He continued: 'North of Scotland champion Denver Small will engage in a rematch of his final which is sure to provide fireworks.

BOXING

Artom Jevstijejeik reached the final of the Scottish Novice championship only to fall ill and have to pull out so he will be determined to continue his long winning run this weekend.

'The bouts our seniors are to appear in have been arranged to virtually guarantee excitement as they should provide an excellent clash of styles in each bout. One thing the club is very proud of is the level of boxing that the boxers are now boxing at. Even our novices are trying to box with a certain amount of style rather than just ploughing forward and that is one of the most pleasing aspects of our season so far.'

Some tickets are still available from the Nevis Centre (700707), Steve Docherty (07767 069532), Vince Lopez (07979 321025) and Niall Clark (07887 711457). Doors open at 6pm and the boxing commences at 8:30pm.



And they're off! The Laggan 10km run gets underway.

Wind and rain fails to deter Laggan runners

IN SPITE of the rain, wind and hail, 70 runners completed the 10th annual Laggan 10K race on Saturday, with Keith man Steve Reeve crossing the line in first place.

Reeve completed the undulating course in a time of 37m 14s, just over a minute ahead of second-placed Nick Sedgwick, of Fort William. Michael Hurst came in third place, 25 seconds behind Sedgwick.

Lochaber Athletic Club had a 1-2-3 finish in the ladies race, with Susan-Jane Ross taking the win in 46m 17s. Laura Barbour was second and Kirsty Ross finished third.

The fun-run also brought out a healthy number of runners of all

ATHLETICS

ages, with Aaron and Madison Air winning the secondary age group and James Slimon and Robyn Blackhall the primary.

Also running and adding some glamour to the event were a group of Disney princesses from Gergask Primary School who were raising money for the SSPCA.

Over £700 was raised for Gergask Primary School, and the Parent Council would like to thank everyone who helped, not forgetting Laggan Kirk who organised the after-race teas.

Fort William stumped by Nairn's fast bowlers

DESPITE less than perfect weather conditions, Fort William Cricket Club took on Forres at the BA Club on Saturday afternoon, with the home side losing by 97 runs.

The game's champagne moment was Davie Duncan's slip catch to dismiss Farr, but 37 extras helped Forres close on 180 from their 45 overs. Farrell (3-46 from 10 overs) and Spencer (0-26 from 12) were the pick of the bowlers.

Some great performances for Fort as well, with Gerrard carrying his bat (35 not out), McGrath hitting a rapid 39 and Farr opening with a bright 26.

Fort began slowly, but a second wicket stand between Lewis Fyfe and Davie Duncan took Fort to 40 before a collapse.

Tail Enders
In the gloomy weather, the tail enders hit out to great effect, Ali Ferguson hitting a big 6 in his 13 and Sean Fraser and Ronnie Maclean both finding the boundary.

CRICKET

But neither they nor the poor light could save Fort, and they were all out for 83. Forres' fast bowling was sharp throughout with F Merricks (3-23), A Roberts (2-10) and I Roberts (2-27) all contributing.

Proud
Paul Farrell (Captain) was proud of the way both teams approached the game. He said: 'It was cricket played in difficult weather but with a great spirit. We lost to a good team but our ground fielding was good and we battled to the end.'

The reserves game at Northern Counties and the seniors cup tie against Keith were both lost to rain.

Next weekend the senior side travel to Elgin and the reserves play Fochabers at the Abbey Ground, Fort Augustus at 2pm on Saturday.

Erskine Charity Trophy at Isle of Skye GC

ON A WEEKEND of persistent showers at Isle of Skye Golf Club, members of competed for the Erskine Charity Trophy, a medal competition.

Murdo Beaton showed the way home with an excellent 69 net score in the difficult wet conditions. Alasdair Grant and Murdo Gordon were runners up one shot behind, both shooting rounds of net 70.

GOLF

The re-scheduled Sligachan Scramble team event will take place this Saturday June 4 with a 9.15am shotgun start.

Charity
Erskine Charity Trophy results - 1, Murdo Beaton 83-14=69; 2, Alasdair Grant 75-5=70 (BIH); 3, Murdo Gordon 79-9=70



Winners at the Rotary Club of Lochaber's annual Am-Am golf tournament.

Am-Am raises £3,500

THE ROTARY Club of Lochaber held its 11th annual Am-Am competition at Fort William Golf Club on Sunday and raised more than £3,500 for local charities.

A total of 32 teams of four took part in the competition despite driving rain and winds making conditions far from ideal for golf.

Local team 'Happy Hackers' comfortably won the tournament with a score of 120.

Rotary President Angus Nicolson remarked that over £34,000 had been raised for local charities over the previous ten years. As for the disappointing weather, Angus assured members that normal service would be resumed for next year's event.

Results - 1, Happy Hackers (Neil Feggins, David Martin, Joe Sweeney and Brian Gillespie)

GOLF

120; 2, Young Ones (Alasdair Ross, John Ross, Michael Lawrie and Graeme Wordsall) 126; 3, Steward's Inquiry (James Duncan, Rusty Duncan, Martin Duncan and David McDonald) 127.

Ladies competition - 1, Two Celts and Two Kiwis (Iona Cameron, Kim Topping, Helen Brian, Shelley Johnstone) - 139.

Yellow ball - The OAPs (John Doherty, Keith Sangster, Ken Jerram, Ian Livingstone)

Longest Drive - Gents: Duncan Rodger; Ladies: Gail Anderson
Best visiting team - Visitors (Gordon Hamilton, Ali Kennedy, Raymond Munro and Ronnie Hawkins, of Newtonmore Golf Club) - 134.

Final league game

FOOTBALL

FORT WILLIAM took on Nairn County at Claggan Park in their re-arranged final league game of the season on Tuesday evening.

Fort went into the game knowing a win would take them off the bottom of the table in manager Calum MacLean's last game in charge.

The game had been scheduled for Saturday afternoon but was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

See www.obantimes.co.uk for the result and details of the game.

Archery at Kinloch

ARCHERY

SECOND year pupils at Kinlochleven High School were recently given the chance to try their hand at archery, thanks to a visit from the South Lochaber Bowmen.

As part of the school's activities week, six club coaches visited the school to help the 33 kids learn the basics, and the club is hopeful the day might encourage a few of the youngsters to sign up as junior members of the club.

Mountain Bike World Cup

MOUNTAIN BIKING

FORT WILLIAM is gearing up to hold the 10th UCI Mountain Bike World Cup this weekend.

As well as thousands of spectators, an elite international field of riders will descend on Nevis Range over the two days, and among the field will be local riders Joe Barnes and Ben Cathro.

Benderloch ace Ben will be looking to match last year's impressive performance, when he cruelly was denied a top 10 finish following a problem with his chain in the final 600 yards.

Fort William rider Joe will be looking to use his experience last year to challenge near the top of what is a very tough group of competitors.

The two days of competition are a huge celebration of mountain biking, and the World Cup village creates a family friendly festival atmosphere with loads of activities and entertainment to keep everyone captivated the whole weekend. All the World Cup events will take place in or around the Nevis Range and Leanachan Forest.

An estimated crowd of more than 11,000 people lined the spectacular Nevis Range course last year, and organiser will be hoping the forecast of a dry weekend will bring out the crowds again this year.



Fort William's Joe Barnes will again be taking part in the World Cup. f22world01



Bill and Anges win Scott Brady pairs

Bill Clark and Agnes Boyle with the Silver Salver after winning the Scott Brady Pairs at the BA Club on Saturday. Twenty-four people took part in the competition on Saturday despite the weather providing sun, rain, hail, and wind all in one day. Tina Abberly and Keith Brannigan finished runners-up.

Lochaber Rugby Club announce changes

LOCHABER Rugby Club has announced Kenny Turnbull will be the new club captain next season, with former captain Blair MacRaidl taking over as manager.

The announcement was made at the club's annual general meeting on Saturday, where Craig

MacPherson was named as vice captain. Both Turnbull and MacPherson joined the club as youngsters and are proof of the requirement of a healthy Youth Section in the club.

MacRaidl said he was very happy to be handing the reins over to Turnbull and wished him

RUGBY

and the team all the best for the new season. MacRaidl had to give up playing rugby last year after a serious head injury, but he will still be very involved in the week to week running of the team as manager.

Spot the SHINTY BALL Competition



WIN £600

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

All you have to do

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



I enclose £1 (note) for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules.

How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel No. _____

Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
E Gilchrist, Garry Crescent, Invergarry and J Matheson, Taynuilt, Argyll

Rotary Club of Oban Am-Am

GOLF

THIS Sunday, 6th June, the Rotary Club of Oban Am-Am takes place at Glencruitten Golf Club. A total of 50 teams will compete in the event.

The Bank of Scotland are the main sponsors of the competition, and last year's winning team, Martin's Marauders, led by Martin Tait, will be defending the Bank of Scotland trophy.

The event is well supported by sponsorship from local businesses and is expected to raise approximately £6,000 from sponsorship and team entries. Most of the teams are local, and a number of teams travel from various parts of Scotland to play in the competition.

Now in its 26th year, the Am-Am is one of the most popular events in the local golfing calendar, and since inception has raised over £120,000, with local charities benefiting from this event.

Dunny wins the Wilson Cup

GOLF

DUNCAN Niven won the Wilson Cup and leads the Seniors championship at Glencruitten with a net score of 81 - 19 = 62 on Saturday.

Scott Jordan leads the George Smith Trophy with a score of 75 - 19 = 56, followed by Graham MacColl with a score of 63 - 4 = 59.

Michael Fraser came in with a score of 65 - 5 = 60 and Neil Carmichael scored 68 - 5 = 63.

This Saturday the George Huntly Trophy is to be played for.

Oban Saints youth results and fixtures

YOUTH FOOTBALL

ALL THE Saints youth teams have now finished their league fixtures apart from the Under 15s who travel away to take on Ardencaple this weekend.



Abigail Evans wears her new racing swimsuit, bought with a grant from the Dickie Bird Foundation. 15_t22swim01

Abigail sets her sights on representing Scotland...

... but hasn't decided at which sport

A YOUNG Oban sportswoman has set her sights on representing Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in 2014 - but he hasn't decided which sport yet.

All-rounder Abigail Evans has excelled at both athletics and swimming and by moving to Strathallan School in Perthshire has upped her time in the pool each week from just four to 14 hours.

And the 15-year-old's swimming season is shaping up for success after being given a grant to buy a new racing swimsuit. She was granted £176 to buy the swimsuit from The Dickie Bird Foundation.

Personal Best

In her last swimming event two weeks ago in Aberdeen she set five new personal best times out of six events, one of which was

an improvement of 10 seconds on her 400m freestyle.

Her performance was all the more pleasing, as she had just recovered from a shoulder injury and illness.

Abigail, who also swims for Dundee City Aquatics Club, said: 'I was really pleased with my personal bests and I think my training is really paying off.'

'It was hard being away from home but I have settled into it now. The extra training has obviously been tough but I just need to get on with it if I want to improve.'

I have exams coming up but that shouldn't alter my training.'

Next up for Abigail is the Scottish Long Course Championships at Tollcross, beginning on June 28.

Asked how far she wanted to

go in the sport, she replied: 'I will always stick with swimming and I am aiming for the Commonwealth Games in 2014, in swimming or athletics.'

Hampered

Her progress, however, has been hampered by cost, as most of her competitions require an entry fee and overnight accommodation, as well as travel costs. Abigail is now seeking a sponsor to help take her swimming to the next level.

On the athletics front, the young sprinter is attending the Scottish Schools Relay Championships this weekend and the Scottish Schools Athletics Championships the following weekend.

The Dickie Bird Foundation, founded by the former cricket umpire in 2004, exists to help budding sports stars.

League title goes down to the wire

FOOTBALL

THE Scottish Amateur League Premier Division title race is now down to a two horse race between Oban Saints and Aikenhead Thistle.

The Oban side have finished their league programme and Aikenhead have two games left, at home to Cambria and away to Thorn Athletic. Aikenhead must win both these games to pip Saints on goal difference.

Aikenhead lost 4-2 at Inverclyde on Monday and they were due to play Cambria on Wednesday.

Cambria, have a number of former Saints players in their ranks and the Oban side will be hoping that Cambria can get a win to secure their place in the premier division which would also give Saints the league championship.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oban Saints	18	9	6	3	38	22	33
Kilpatrick	18	10	2	6	30	27	32
Greenock	18	8	4	6	31	30	28
Aikenhead Th	16	8	3	5	38	23	27
Thorn Athletic	17	7	3	6	29	30	24
Castlemilk	18	7	2	9	34	35	23
Inverclyde	18	6	5	7	33	34	23
St Joseph's	18	7	2	9	29	44	23
Cambria	17	6	2	9	21	23	20
Arkleston	18	4	3	11	25	40	15

Killin Golf Club Mixed Open

GOLF

THE Killin Golf Club Mixed Open took place on Saturday 28 May.

Results: Scratch - 1 Gordon Aitken (Killin) and Caroline Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 76; 2 Andy Cousins (Killin) and Jackie Crossan (Killin) 79; 3 Joe Kennedy (Harburn) and Aileen Kennedy (Harburn) 79.

Handicap - 1 - Donny Nicholson (Helensburgh) and Sheena Chisholm (Killin) 63; 2 - Andrew Dunlop (Grangemouth) and Moira Dunlop (Lillichgow) 66; 3 - Allan McHenry (Killin) and Liz Stevens (Killin) 67.

Best Killin (Bill Mitchell Salver): Andy Cousins and Jackie Crossan 64.

Nearest Pin - Ladies (5h) - Susan McRobbie (Killin) 2.10m Gents (8th) - Ian Douglas (Lochwinnoch) 8' 8".

Magic Twos - Gordon Aitken (Killin) and Caroline Dunbar (Aberfeldy); Edward Walker (Bishopscroft) and Morag Walker (Dunning); Billy and Lily McKay (Dalmally); John Freeman and Una Woodburn (Crief); Simon Johnson and Louise Trippleton (Bridge of Allan); Jim Ronald and Laura Aitken (Killin); Douglas and Susan McRobbie (Killin).

Oban Bowling Club

BOWLS

ON Monday May 23 the ladies triples team had a fruitless journey to Dalmuir for the next leg of the Scottish competition. The dreadful weather made a game impossible.

On Thursday May 26 the men's teams taking part in the Scottish were all in competition.

Junior Singles: Duncan Mac Alpine - win; Singles: Angus MacGillivray - defeat; Pairs: Neil MacDougall and Sean Hay - win; Triples: Donald Maclean, Jimmy MacGregor and Andrew Forbes - win; Sen Fours: Mike Kelly, Sandy Carr, D Douglas and G Cruickshanks - win.

On May 27 Helen MacLean was defeated in the Scottish singles competition.

The following day, Oban again hit a winning streak.

The ladies teams in the West Argyll League played at Tarbert winning 6 points to 3. This means that Oban have won the league.

Oban men played Tarbert men at home and had a resounding win 12 points to nil. The men have one more round to go.

Retired teacher and her daughters set qualifying time for London Marathon

A RETIRED school teacher and her two daughters ran the Edinburgh Marathon together at the weekend, setting times that qualify them for next year's London Marathon.

Former Taynuilt Primary School head teacher Doreen Henderson was joined by her daughters Alison Chong, aged 39, who now lives in Glasgow, and Jenny, 32, who lives in Nottinghamshire.

The 63 year old, who lives in North Connel, surpassed her expectation by posting a time of three hours, 56 minutes and 12 seconds.

Qualified

Alison and Jenny posted times of 3:27 and 3:01 and as a result all three have qualified for a place on next year's London Marathon.

Doreen has run the London Marathon once before in 2009, posting a time of 4:33.

She told The Oban Times: 'I was amazed with my time and it was a lot better than I had hoped for.'

'It was lovely to be with my girls on the starting line, although

MARATHON



Doreen Henderson with her daughters Alison, left, and Jenny.

I was nowhere near them during the race!

'There is a stretch in the race when the course doubles back on itself and they ran past me in the opposite direction shouting encouragement.'

Teams confirmed for AMP Tournament

YOUTH FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints FC, organisers of the annual youth football tournament to be held on Saturday 18 June have confirmed the teams taking part.

They are Scottish Pro Youth Performance League teams - Hamilton Accies, last year's winners, Kilmarnock, St Mirren and Queens Park. Scottish Pro Youth League teams Clyde and

Dumbarton along with Development Teams Lochgilphead Soccer Centre and hosts Oban Saints make up the eight club's taking part.

The competition, sponsored by AMP Electrical Services takes place at Mosfield Stadium and kicks off at 10.30am.

David wins Argyll Golf Union's Spring Meeting

GOLF

DAVID Graham, of Machrihanish Golf Club, overcame gale force winds and heavy rain to win the 2011 Spring Meeting by the narrowest of margins from Tobermory's Graham Davidson.

Both players had scored 30 stableford points over the exposed Machrihanish Dunes links, but David prevailed on count back for the last six holes to pip the veteran Davidson.

In third place was Greg Watson with 27 points.

In the scratch event, Darren Grant of Machrihanish's 26 points was enough for a two point

victory over Glencruitten's Allan McKie. In third place was Port Bannatyne's Donald Standalet.

The area executive would like to thank Machrihanish Dunes for hosting the event, in particular head greenkeeper Keith Martin and also Greg Sherwood Principal and President of Southworth Golf for their continued support of Argyll & Bute Golf.

The next county action will be the Team Trophy to be held at Tobermory on Saturday, June 25.

Superset tennis played in abysmal conditions

OBAN Tennis Club hosted a Superset Competition in tough conditions on Sunday and competitors were praised for turning out despite the weather.

Kenny Drummond won the

gents' singles final, beating Fraser Brydon.

In the doubles final youth triumphed over experience as Robeel Arshad and Willie Gemmell beat Bob McCulloch and

TENNIS

Billy Thomson.

Junior boys winner was Stewart Mobey and junior girls winner was Grace Thompson.



Oban Saints Under 14s don't seem too down hearted as they face the camera with their runners-up medals after Saturday's League Cup final in Dumbarton.

Under 14s lose out in cup final

YOUTH FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints Under 14s travelled to Strathclyde Homes Stadium, Dumbarton, to take on Renton Craigandro in the final of the League Cup, but the Oban youngsters lost out to a much bigger and stronger Renton side in an enthralling match played in very windy conditions which made good football almost impossible.

Credit to both teams though they turned in an excellent display for the large crowd of spectators.

Jamie Easton gave the Oban side the lead in the 11th minute, but Renton equalised in the second minute of added on time at the end of the first half.

Saints never really got going in the second half and as the game wore on the strength of the opposition started to show and they took the lead midway through the second half and another goal near the end made the final score 3-1.

Saints Under 14s head coach

Alan MacLeod said: 'We can have no complaints, we were beaten by the better team on the day, but our boys can take a great deal of credit for the excellent football they played in the difficult conditions. We would like to thank the large number of supporters who travelled down from Oban to cheer on the team.'

Weather

Thursday Light rain.
Winds moderate west, south westerly.
Temperatures 11°C to 13°C

Friday Cloudy.
Winds light, south westerly,
Temperatures 11°C to 17°C.

Weekend Sunny Intervals.

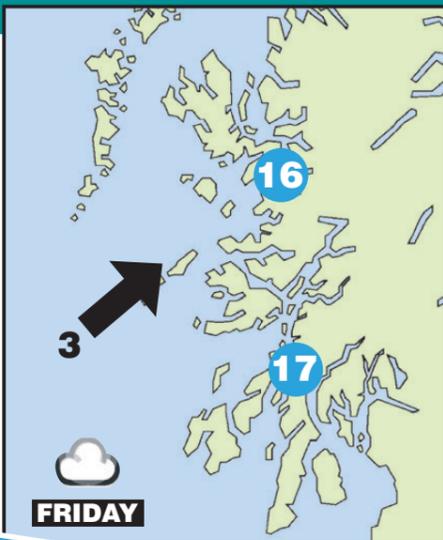
Outlook Winds moderate, northerly.
Temperatures 8°C to 17°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate

Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate

Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, June 2, 2011** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	***	**	pm
Thur	05.57	3.7	12.01	0.9
Fri	00.28	1.1	06.32	3.7
Sat	01.08	1.1	07.07	3.6
Sun	01.47	1.1	07.43	3.5
Mon	02.30	1.2	08.24	3.4
Tues	03.18	1.3	09.11	3.2
Wed	04.14	1.4	10.05	3.1

Port	Difference
Ardrishaig	-5.35
Campbeltown	-5.30
Crinan	-0.47
Islay Port Ellen	2.00
Lochboisdale	+0.30
Mallaig	+0.25
Portree	+0.55
Tobermory	+0.16
Dover	+5.30

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