

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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TMF attracts record crowd

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Top sports coverage

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Sailing Olympic silver medalist Luke Patience age 26 (middle) returned to his family home on Tiree last weekend for the sold-out Tiree Music Festival and took time out to give cousins Sarah Whiteside, age two of Glasgow and Jack McCaskill, age seven, of Tiree some tips on Crossapol beach along with Sarah's dad Mark. Festival highlights included Capercaillie, Skerryvore, Manran, Roddy Hart and Lonesome Fire, Washington Irving and Blazin' Fiddles. Tiree Music Festival 2014 will take place from July 18 to 20 and interest is already building, check www.tireemusicfestival.co.uk for details. Picture - Iain McDonagh.

Online anger at Vodafone service faults

Mobile phone company says it is working to fix problems

ONGOING disruption to the Vodafone signal in many parts of Argyll and the west Highlands has caused outrage among *Oban Times* readers who have flocked to Facebook to vent their anger.

Vodafone has this week admitted its coverage in parts of the area was 'intermittent' because of a fault, which the company is in the process of resolving.

It also said it had no coverage within the PA78 postcode (Coll) and accepted its coverage in general throughout Argyll remained 'variable'.

But for many customers the problems have gone on too long and, at the time of going to press, 69 comments had been placed regarding the loss of service in the past week.

Morven Cook said last Tuesday: 'Phoned Vodafone again today (third time) and they have finally agreed that the problem is in our area and it's with the mast at Glenshellach [Oban] which they know about and it will be fixed but they don't know when!'

Lorna Wylie and Kerry McClymont identified the Vodafone signal had been dropping in and

"No signal isn't much good for first responders."

Julie Williamson, Craobh Haven

or moving to another network once their current deals had finished.

Ross Stewart said: 'There is absolutely no point calling Vodafone to complain.'

'All that will happen is they will tell you there are no problems with the signal within our area. Vodafone will never, ever take responsibility for anything! Absolutely farcical.'

A spokeswoman for Vodafone said: 'We are always working towards improvements on the Vodafone network.'

'We've increased investment in our UK network by around 50 per cent this year, to more than £900m. We've also joined forces with Telefonica to share our networks across the country, which will improve overall network performance for both companies.'

'Inevitably, areas where there is a greater population density and more infrastructure are likely to have more robust coverage. Our aim is that 98 per cent of the UK population will have good 2G, 3G and 4G coverage both indoors and outdoors by 2015.'

Tiree Music Festival goes 'traditionally tropical'

TRADITIONAL tunes alongside tropical weather made Tiree Music Festival (TMF) 2013 an event to remember, as organisers announced next year's event would last for an extra day.

The island's population trebled as a record 1,500 festival-goers flocked to Crossapol beach, with the party atmosphere and scorching sunshine earning the island the adopted title of 'Hawaii of the North'.

The third annual festival took place last Saturday and Sunday and featured the best in Scottish traditional and folk music, with bands including Capercaillie, Skerryvore, Manran, Roddy Hart and Lonesome Fire, Washington Irving and Blazin' Fiddles.

Organisers had increased the festival capacity to cope with demand, as tickets holders came from nine countries worldwide, including America, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Germany, France and Canada.

This week organisers have announced 2014 will be even bigger with a three-day event set to take place on July 18, 19 and 20.

Festival director, Skerryvore member and Tiree native Daniel Gillespie said: 'TMF 2013 has been terrific. The weather has been on our side and the crowd have had a blast.'

Iona and Mull coop group gains funding

A NEW marketing body for the Isles of Mull and Iona Ltd does not seek to replace or supersede any existing bodies, but instead will create a strong umbrella brand which will create a better road to market, and under which many other organisations and businesses can collaborate and flourish.

The company encourages everyone to become members so together we can all promote Scotland's most fantastic islands to the rest of the world.

Cyclist crashes through rear windscreen of car on Tiree

A TEENAGE cyclist who injured himself by crashing into the back of a car and flying through the rear windscreen is the subject of an unusual criminal charge.

The 16 year old, who sustained minor facial injuries as a result of the incident near Scarnish on Tiree, has been charged with dangerous cycling, section 28 of the Road Traffic Act.

around 3.30pm on Sunday after the vehicle had stopped to let traffic pass.

The youngster, who is from the Fort William area, was taken to hospital by helicopter to be treated for facial injuries.



Full ferries leave revellers in Tiree

AROUND 50 revellers were left stranded after Tiree Music Festival (TMF) last weekend when the extra ferry sailings couldn't cope.

Those stuck included TMF performers Manran who got off the island on Monday evening thanks to the efforts of festival organisers.

Manran's Gary Innes said: 'We all had our ferry tickets booked and paid for but still never got on the boat.'

'We got off the island on Monday night, TMF organisers sorted it all out and hired RIBs for those who couldn't get off. They stumped up even although it was CalMac's problem and we can't thank them highly enough.'

A CalMac spokesman said: 'Anticipating the number of foot passengers who are planning to travel by ferry when big events are on is a challenge and we regret any inconvenience caused.'

'We will be working with organisers to see how we can address these issues in future.'

Cooperative model

The Isles of Mull and Iona Ltd, incorporated as a cooperative consortium on July 19, aims to promote the islands worldwide.

The inaugural directors of the group represent a cross section of the island life, including food producers, farming, traders,

tourism, construction and transport. Mike Story, chief executive of Argyll and the Isles Tourism, and a director of the new Mull and Iona company said: 'The cooperative model will work well for Mull and Iona.'

It has been used with great success at Heart of Argyll, Visit Kintyre and Argyll and the Isles, and it is a very inclusive model, which encourages collaboration between members.

Screen Machine Scotland's Mobile Cinema

Brodick Fri 26 - Mon 29 July
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World War Z (15)
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Now You See Me (12A)
Four illusionists use their magic to rob banks

Despicable Me 2 (U)
Gru and the Minions are back, and they are hilarious!

Good Vibrations (15)
"Rousing tale of rock'n'roll rebellion" Empire

Village at the End of the World (12A)
A year in the life of a remote village in the north of Greenland

Girl Walk/All Day (12A)
Innovative street dance music film set in New York

Brodick on Film (U)
Rarely seen archive footage stretching back to 1927

Book in advance at: www.screenmachine.co.uk or phone 0871 902 5750. Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. £7.00 Adults. Concessions £5.50. 3D +£1.50



Taynuilt Games 'Godfather' honoured

ATAYNUILT man nicknamed 'Godfather of the Games' by the local Highland games committee has been honoured for giving 40 years service to the event.

Leslie Servant has been a committee member with the Taynuilt Highland Games for 40 years, during which time he has served as president and treasurer.

And to mark the occasion the games committee surprised him with an inscribed quich for his long service. The gift was presented to Leslie by Carol Thomson, the wife of current president Davy Thomson.

On receiving the award, a shocked and emotional Leslie said: 'When they called me to the field I was busy in the secretary's tent; I nearly didn't come out!'

'I help at the games because I love it. I think it is great to carry on the traditions of the Highland games in the village.'

'I wasn't born in Taynuilt but I have lived here since 1971 and I feel I owe something to the village because it has given me a wonderful life.'

Games chairman Ewan MacDonald said the award was well deserved, adding: 'We call him the Godfather of the Games because he has done everything.'



Leslie Servant, centre, receives his quich from Taynuilt Highland Games president Davy Thomson and Davy's wife, Carol. 15_130taynuilt08

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Mull meets about broadband tonight

RESIDENTS on Mull who struggle for broadband connection are being invited to a public meeting tonight (Thursday) in Craignure Village Hall.

The Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT) are progressing a plan for a community broadband service on the island and would like residents to share their views at tonight's meeting at 7.30pm.

MICT could take advantage of a £5 million fund set up by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) to help communities which will not be covered by BT's planned £146 million roll-out of high speed broadband across the Highlands and Islands.

Following presentations, ideas will be shared about how the project might move forward and there will be time for general discussion and questions.

Teenagers to walk across Iceland for Mary's Meals

TWO TEENAGERS are trying to become the youngest people ever to cross Iceland on foot to raise money for Dalmally-based Mary's Meals.

William White and James Hobbs, both 17 and from Somerset, started their 700-mile journey from Iceland's southernmost point on July 3 and intend to complete their challenge for the charity in the north of the country on August 1.

'The wonderful ways they find to support Mary's Meals never ceases to amaze us,' said Daniel Adams, head of fundraising at the charity.

'Two 17-year-olds taking on the challenge of a full crossing of Iceland is incredibly impressive and inspiring.'

Student advice helpline ahead of exam results

A HELPLINE has been set up for students throughout the west coast who are expecting their exam results at the start of August.

Skills Development Scotland's (SDS) free exam results helpline on 0808 100 8000 offers advice help and support. SDS's Facebook page also has answers to common questions.

The helpline will be open 8am to 8pm from Tuesday August 6.

Award for Sabhal Mòr Ostaig tutor

A LECTURER at Skye's Sabhal Mòr Ostaig has been honoured at the fourth annual University of the Highlands and Islands teaching awards.

Catriona Johnston, a course leader for the Gaelic media diploma, won the best preparation for the workplace category after being nominated by her students. Ms Johnston grew up on Grimsay, North Uist, but now lives in Drumfearn, Sleat. She said: 'We run a fantastic course here and I am privileged to work year in and year out with a great bunch of tutors and students.'



Jessie Colquhoun MBE, ninth from right, back row, with her emergency services, care and medical colleagues after the presentation.

Dismay at Barra conservation rule

Marine Special Area of Conservation may boost eco-tourism in Outer Hebrides

CAMPAIGNERS in the Outer Hebrides have reacted with dismay after the Scottish Government announced the designation of the Sound of Barra as a marine Special Area of Conservation (mSAC).

The ruling by environment minister Paul Wheelhouse will result in the sea and sandbanks between the Isle of Barra and South Uist going forward to the European Commission for inclusion in plans for an EU-wide network of SACs.

'The government's own report has recognised that designation will hit the economy to the value of £1m per annum.'

Chairman of SHAMED Angus MacLeod

The move follows a recommendation for designation from Scottish Natural Heritage last November - despite local concerns about restrictions on traditional livelihoods, such as fishing, and lack of accountability.

Action group Southern Hebrides Against Marine Environmental Designations (SHAMED), doubted whether eco-tourism would compensate for reduced fishing revenues.

Chairman Angus MacLeod spoke to The Oban Times from his prawn boat in the south

Minch: 'We have lost all faith in the government and their promises and assurances.'

'The minister has stated it will be of benefit to tourism - but Barra already has a very good tourism industry as it is.'

'The government's own report has recognised that designation will hit the economy to the value of £1 million per annum.'

'There is no way tourism will make up that kind of balance and even if it did Barra does not have the infrastructure to deal with that.'

He added: 'We have always said if the government was serious about local management for a marine designated area they should start with Mingulay reef [already an SAC] before progressing with any decision on the Sound of Barra.'

'Now the minister has rubber stamped the designation it is under European control - and I can't see how any local management plan will work.'

After meeting islanders earlier this year, Mr Wheelhouse, removed Traigh Mhor beach airport on Barra from the mSAC and vowed strong local input.

He said: 'The concerns of the local community have been taken into consideration and we will be implementing a new bottom-up approach to the management structure to ensure as much local involvement as possible.'

'I hope that they will be reassured by my decision to focus the SAC on only relevant habitats and reduce down the overall size.'

'I also believe that a viable



Oban representatives meet with cruise ship operators

Members of Oban and Lorn Tourism Association, BID4Oban, Oban Community Council, Visit Scotland, Graham MacQueen and Argyll and Bute Councillors Elaine Robertson and Louise Glen-Lee held a weekend event with cruise ship managers representing the whole of the UK. The event was very successful and the working group will now move forward plans to build stronger relationships with visiting cruise ships into the town.

Hebridean tagged basking sharks to be tracked online

SHARKS in the Inner Hebrides can now be followed online as a tagging project returns for a second year.

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the University of Exeter (UoE) have attached satellite-tracking tags to 27 basking sharks in the area.

Of those, 15 sharks will be trackable online.

The launch of the project last year saw tags being placed on 20 sharks, all of which have since detached.

Dr Suzanne Henderson of SNH said the additional tagging would further develop on the

experiment, examining shark behaviour trends in the area.

'We're tagging more sharks this year to increase the confidence we have in the results and so we can look more closely at how behaviour differs among individuals,' she said.

'Last year half of the tags

stayed on the sharks for over 90 days, with one detaching from its shark - tagged in Elgol, Isle of Skye - after 326 days to the south west of Portugal.

'We hope this year is just as successful.'

Results gathered from the project, part of research by

SNH and Marine Scotland, will be given to the Scottish Government to help it decide whether a marine protected area should be created in the waters around the Hebrides.

Dr Matthew Witt of the UoE also said the project would 'help improve knowledge of basking

sharks, with the long term aim of delivering a sustainable future in our increasingly busy coastal areas.'

At a weight of up to seven tonnes and a maximum potential length of 36 feet, basking sharks are the second largest type of fish, behind whale

sharks.

Large numbers of basking sharks are known to appear near Coll, Tiree and Canna every summer.

The research could have an impact on proposals to build an offshore wind farm near the Isle of Tiree.

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar calls on politicians to answer key questions

COMHAIRLE nan Eilean Siar has called on Scottish and UK political leaders to answer key questions about the Western Isles future following next year's independence referendum.

'Our Islands - Our Future'

The Comhairle has joined with Scotland's two other island councils, Shetland and Orkney, for the 'Our Islands - Our Future' campaign, which aims to secure a better political future for the islands.

The group has directed questions about constitutional arrangements and additional resources for the islands at First Minister Alex Salmond, Prime Minister David Cameron and Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, as well as Labour Party leader

Ed Miliband and party leaders at Holyrood.

With the Scottish Cabinet meeting in Shetland this week the councils said they want more power to shape the futures of the islands, whatever the outcome of the referendum.

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar leader Angus Campbell said: 'The campaign to win increased powers is crucial for the future of island communities and we will continue to lobby government at a Scottish and UK level.'

'Our Islands - Our Future is progressing well and I was pleased to participate in a very positive discussion with our island colleagues from Shetland and Orkney in advance of the Scottish Cabinet meeting in Shetland this week.'

UHI students vote for Oban lecturer

AN OBAN-based lecturer has been honoured by his students after being voted the University of the Highlands and Islands' (UHI) best research or dissertation supervisor.

Dr John Howe, a marine geologist at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) UHI, was nominated for being an encouraging supervisor who goes the extra mile to organise training opportunities for his students.

Dr Howe said: 'The award was a complete surprise. I'm delighted to be able to work with students on a variety of marine geo-science projects.'

'This year we had a diverse collection of projects involving glaciers, life on the seafloor and climate change in the Arctic.'

In explaining his reasons for nominating Dr Howe, one student said: 'John has been highly supportive as a supervisor, but never once took control of my work. Instead he gently steered me along in the right direction, allowing me to develop as an early career research scientist.'

'Throughout the past 10 months, he has arranged training on instrumentation required to analyse samples and even a work placement at the British Geological Survey in Edinburgh - an excellent CV and networking boost.'

'In addition to dissertation supervision, together we are now compiling my research for publication in a peer reviewed journal, an excellent achievement for an undergraduate, only possible with support from someone who knows what they're doing.'

Organised by UHISA, the UHI Students' Association, the awards recognise excellence in eight categories.

Dr Iain Morrison, dean of students at the university, said: 'These



Dr John Howe, a marine geologist at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) UHI

awards are tribute to the hard work and excellence of the staff.

'All those nominated, as well as the eventual winners themselves, have demonstrated commitment to our students and a high level of professional expertise that has been rightly recognised by those who appreciate it most.'

Bridge repairs restrict traffic on Road to Isles

TRAFFIC on the A830 Road to the Isles is being restricted to one lane between Glenfinnan and Arrienskill to allow work to be carried out on two bridges.

The work on the Utha and Dearg bridges, which started on Monday and is scheduled to be finished by Thursday August 1, is affecting the road between 8am and 5pm.

BEAR Scotland spokesman Eddie Ross said: 'These initial investigation works are required to help us to come up with appropriate structural solutions for these bridges as part of a scheme to make improvements. Although minimal delays are expected, we would urge motorists to plan ahead before setting out on their journey.'

Extra buses for Bunessan Show

MAINLAND residents are being given an extra opportunity to visit a Mull agricultural show this year thanks to West Coast Motors.

The bus company, which has recently taken over services on Mull, is putting on a special one-off bus which will allow visitors to Bunessan Show to travel back to Craignure in time to catch the 7pm ferry to Oban.

Show secretary Lynda MacCallum hailed the news as 'fantastic' and said: 'This extra service will allow people from Oban to come over for a day trip to the show. A bus will pick them up at 5.30pm to get them back to Craignure in time for the ferry.'

Bunessan Show, which takes place on August 2, will feature the usual high standard of livestock, including a new Cheviot sheep section, as well as home industries.



Gregor McGregor, Michael Bauermeister, Stuart Gray and Richard Darbyshire.

Fish farmers reach their peaks

A TEAM of fish farmers including two Argyll men were the fastest to climb the highest mountains in Scotland, England and Wales - completing this year's Three Peaks Challenge in less than 19 hours.

Scottish Sea Farms employees Gregor McGregor, based at Shuna, and Stuart Gray, based at Lismore, joined Richard Darbyshire, Michael Bauermeister and driver Phil Boardman to complete the gruelling challenge three hours ahead of their nearest rivals.

The group achieved an impressive time on Ben Nevis, the first peak, reaching the summit in two hours and 10 minutes before descending within an hour. The team then took on England's Scafell Pike before tackling Snowdon in Wales to complete the entire charity challenge in just 18 hours and 28 minutes.

A total of 24 teams took part in the Three Peaks Challenge with over 100 people involved. The event was in aid of the RNLI and The Brain Tumour Charity with £18,100 raised so far.

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Driver of 75 tonne crashed crane had no licence or insurance

A HGV driver who crashed a 75 tonne crane on the Ford to Dalavich road had no licence or insurance.

Mark Hughes of 84 Dale Avenue, East Kilbride, was fined £900 and had six penalty points

placed on his licence after he pled guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday to driving on the road on February 2 this year without a licence and without insurance. He also failed to report the accident which oc-

curred when the brakes and gearbox failed on the crane. Procurator fiscal John Service told the court that Hughes, 28, was driving the crane from Carraig Gheal Wind farm near Loch Awe, when it experienced

problems with the gear box and brakes. He explained: 'I jumped out of gear while descending a steep hill. The crane then left the road and collided with the grass verge.'

Hughes left the scene of the

accident and police enquiries led to his arrest. Defence agent Heather Shaw said: 'The problem is when he lost his licence it wasn't surrendered. When it came to the date when he could drive

again he thought he could drive because he had a licence. He didn't realise he had to reapply for it.'

She added he did not inform police of the incident as he was told by his employer they would

deal with it. As well as the fine and penalty points, Sheriff Douglas Small endorsed his licence. He said: 'If you are convicted of anything else you will be disqualified automatically.'

ACHA gains Lottery cash for tenant advice service

ALMOST £300,000 has been awarded to an Argyll housing association to provide financial advice to its tenants.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) will use the £296,994 Big Lottery Fund money to support financial and welfare rights advice services, including assistance at tribunals and appeals.

ACHA said the funding would play a significant role in sustaining its welfare rights service until March 2015. The service advises tenants on benefits and debt.

ACHA chief executive Alastair MacGregor said: 'As an association we are delighted at securing this substantial resource which will assist us in helping our poorest and most vulnerable tenants.'

'With the introduction of the 'bedroom tax' and universal credit implementation on the horizon this resource will allow us to do all we can to help those in greatest need.'

Argyll and Bute planners have high approval rating

ARGYLL and Bute Council has a 96 per cent planning approval rate, according to a new report.

The Scottish Government's Planning Performance Framework report also established that the council approves 78 per cent of all applications within two months.

More than 100 business planning applications were approved by the council, which has a team dealing with economically important applications, in the last two years, with only one rejected.

'While we are very pleased with the positive feedback, our planning service is not complacent and appreciates that continuous improvement is vital,' said Sandy Taylor, lead councillor for planning.



Fiona Hyslop welcomed Irish President Michael D Higgins to Iona.

Irish president visits sacred isle

THE PRESIDENT of Ireland has paid a visit to Iona to mark the passing of 1,450 years since St Columba, or Colmcille, arrived on the island.

Michael D Higgins and his wife Sabina were welcomed to Iona by Fiona Hyslop, Scotland's culture and external affairs secretary.

Links

The day-long event also celebrated Ireland and Scotland's shared history and language. It was organised by Peadar O'Riada, leader of Irish choir, Cór Cúil Aodhathe, and the members of the Iona Community.

Ms Hyslop said: 'It's my privilege to welcome President Higgins to this beautiful island today, not least because it is a fitting way to celebrate Scotland's excellent links with our Irish neighbours - something which the Scottish Government wishes to continue and strengthen.'

'St Columba's journey to Iona is just one of the many events which have created our strong bond with Ireland and it's important that we recognise and celebrate the continuing significance of this remarkable man and the community he founded.'

While on the island Ms Hyslop and Mr Higgins attended an ecumenical service at Iona Abbey, including a performance from the long psalm singers from The Isle of Lewis.

President Higgins said: 'I am so very pleased that cabinet secretary for external affairs and culture, Fiona Hyslop has

travelled to join us.

'I have known Mike Russell, now the cabinet secretary for education and lifelong learning here in Scotland, for almost 30 years. It is a pleasure and an honour to share a platform with him also today.'

'Those of you here who know me, know that those two words: education and culture encompass

much of what is very close to my heart.

'Sabina and I are happy to be on this sacred island - a place of learning and of cultural richness, which has always retained its own very special local identity.'

"Education and culture is very close to my heart."

Irish president Michael D Higgins

Brad and Angelina may come west to wed on 'Princess'

ONE OF the most famous couples in the world could be planning to tie the knot in style on a luxury cruise ship off the coast of Scotland.

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have been making enquiries about getting married aboard the Hebridean Princess, according to reports in the national press.

The couple had apparently planned to marry at their French chateau but had a change of plans thanks to a suggestion by son Maddox, brought on after looking at photos from when the family were in Scotland during the filming of World War Z.

A source claimed: 'It was Maddox who came up with the idea of the ship. He came across it after looking back at photos of the Carnell Estate in Ayrshire, where they stayed and all loved. So now they've made enquiries into booking the whole vessel. It's just what they're after. It



Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie may get married aboard the Hebridean Princess

can hold up to 50 of their friends and family and serve as a traditional, romantic setting - all totally private.'

The ship has been chartered by the Queen twice and would cost the couple an estimated £300,000.

The convenience of Scots law may appeal to Brad and Angelina though, with a minister allowed to conduct a wedding ceremony anywhere in the country - even on open water.

According to a British magazine Angelina is also planning

on honouring her late mother Marcheline Bertrand, who died in 2007, by wearing her wedding dress.

The 37-year-old actress had a cancer scare recently and underwent a double mastectomy over fears of developing breast cancer. Tests revealed Angelina had an 87 per cent chance of having breast cancer and 50 per cent risk of ovarian cancer.

She decided to go for treatment after her children asked her if she would meet with the same fate as Marcheline, who died of ovarian cancer at 57.

Brad Pitt, 49, and Angelina got engaged in April 2012 after meeting on the set of Mr and Mrs Smith in 2004. They have six children together.

Ken Charleson, chief operating officer of the Hebridean Princess' owners, Hebridean Island Cruises, refused to confirm or deny the rumours.

He said: 'We have a very confidential relationship with a number of high-profile guests. I can't confirm whether they have been making enquiries or not. But of course, they are more than welcome.'

Islay music festival goes in sea drama

WHILE some revellers from Tisee Music Festival were stranded on the island others made a less than successful attempt to go home to Islay on a Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB).

The volunteer crew of Tobermory lifeboat raced to the aid of 15 people on board the RIB off Iona which was taking on water late on Sunday afternoon.

The RIB was damaged when it hit floating debris and the crew were forced to use onboard

pumps to flush out the water.

Before the lifeboat arrived passengers on the stricken boat had been transferred onto a charter vessel from Iona and the RIB was under tow to the island. The lifeboat escorted both vessels until safely moored at Iona.

Tobermory RNLI coxswain Andrew McHaffie said: 'This was an incident which could have been very serious indeed had it not been for the prompt

action of the charter vessel which went to the aid of the RIB.

'We're very grateful to the skipper, his crew and the passengers for their assistance.'

It is understood the RIB had been taking festival goers home to Islay when the incident occurred. Those onboard were picked up from Iona by Oban-based Coastal Connection and safely delivered to Islay that evening.

Some others who had remained on Tisee, planning to leave on Monday, had their stay extended after additional CalMac sailings proved fuller than anticipated, leaving 50 people stuck on the island.

Although several were happy to party the extra day away those who had other commitments were taken off the island by private boats or air transport, arranged by TMF organisers on Monday evening.

Apology to MacLeods of Mishnish Hotel

Wyvex Media Ltd would like to take this opportunity to sincerely and wholeheartedly apologise to the MacLeods of the Mishnish Hotel, Tobermory after a failure in our production process resulted in wording that was insensitive and inappropriate appearing in print within one of our publications.

'We apologise for any embarrassment, concern or distress that this may have caused.'

Voices needed for community councils throughout Argyll

PEOPLE are needed to speak up for their communities across Argyll as community council elections are due later this year.

Argyll and Bute Council are holding elections for the voluntary bodies in October. Anyone wishing to stand as a community councillor must be on the electoral role and live in the area.

Community councils are voluntary organisations which have the right to be consulted about certain local government decisions which affect their areas. Members are elected by their communities and hold regular public meetings.

The purpose of a community council is to understand and recognise the views of people living in its area and actively represent local issues, needs and wishes to Argyll and Bute Council.

Elections will take place on October 31. Prospective candidates should be nominated, with a proposer and a seconder who should also be registered voters living in the area.

Nomination packs will be available from September 11. The nomination period starts on September 12, closing at 4pm on September 27.

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Morvern Lines

SURROUNDED as we are by the sea, which has been a source of food and a means of travel since man first came to these shores, it is not surprising that many lives have been lost by drowning.

There is hardly a newspaper, family tree or a graveyard in the West Highlands and Islands that does not record these sad tragedies. Five headstones in Kiel, Morvern, commemorate death by drowning of: Allan Livingstone, mariner, in Loch Lochy, 1833, his brother also Allan, in Loch Aline 1853; John Cameron, Bunavullin, 1887, aged 27; Angus Cameron, in Bordeaux, December 1925; Malcolm Robertson, in Texas, 9 August 1942 aged 28; John Paterson, Ullin, 5 April, 1907 aged 77 and a second brother, also John, 5 April 1907 aged 41 years.

A stone near the ruins of the medieval church, proclaims it was erected by John Morison, mariner, Ardrishaig in memory of his son Angus, feur [grazing tenant], Lochaline. 'Taken suddenly from time to eternity on 25 July 1852, aged 30 years', which probably also refers to a drowning.

FOUR young men from Ardnarmurchan were drowned in Loch Sunart in a boating accident in January 1871.

Alexander and Charles Macdonald, Gorteneorn; Duncan Macpherson, shepherd, Strontian; and Hugh Cameron, ploughman, Fort William, were making their way back home to Glenborrodale in the darkness from the Inn at Dorlin near the Island of Carna when their small boat capsized.

A search was made the following day when the boat and some items of clothing were found. A few days later the four bodies were discovered close to one another near the Glenborrodale Point where people used to land at low water.

Shortly afterwards the spirit licence was removed from the Inn at Dorlin which was also a school and a shop.

The London Times recorded the death by drowning of six Morvern people in the Sound of Mull on August 26, 1836.

The accident happened during the Mull horse-market which was held annually on August 25 and 26 when several boats were involved ferrying passengers and livestock between the market stance at Fishnish and Lochaline.

The report, which originally appeared in the Edinburgh Courant, takes up the sorry circumstances: 'On the forenoon of the 26th Mr Gregorson, of Ardnarmurchan, set out in his own wherry [a large, often flat-bottomed boat, propelled by oar and sail with local variations] to transact some business at the market and when near the Mull coast fell in with two of the ferry-boats.

'In order to avoid one of them he was obliged to tack, at which time another, belonging to Hugh McPhee [Lochaline] was at some distance ahead and to windward. Mr Gregorson's wherry, a fast sailer, of about 10 tons, soon came up with McPhee, both being on the wind and on the same tack.

'On nearing McPhee and going considerably faster, it was of course Mr Gregorson's object to pass him to leeward and in order to effect this, the wherry was kept off from the wind. At this time poor McPhee should have kept as far as possible to windward. Had he even kept right on his course Mr Gregorson's wherry would have passed him with ease; but unfortunately instead of luffing, he also kept off the wind with the view of getting out of the wherry's course by cutting across her bows. The consequence was that both came into collision in so far as their rigging got fouled.

'In the confusion that followed one of Mr Gregorson's boatmen was knocked down and stunned by a spar falling on his head. At the time they were separating it was blowing very hard. Mr McPhee's boat shipped much water and speedily sank with all on board.

'Happily seven of the passengers, while the boats were entangled, came on board the wherry and were saved but poor McPhee and six others went down with the boat and were seen no more with the exception of one man, who was picked up alive and the dead body of a woman found floating on the surface.

'Thus were six individuals suddenly deprived of life who left their houses that morning in health and spirits. Hugh McPhee was much liked, being a fine, frank, honest fellow, by all who knew him and much respected and employed as a sober, steady, tradesman. His afflicted widow and young family, with the relatives of those who suffered the same melancholy fate, meet with the deep sympathy of all Morvern.'



Waverley Cameron drowned in 1891 at the age of 23

OF PARTICULAR interest to readers of *The Oban Times* is a large granite monument in the form of a Celtic cross erected on Lismore near Achnacroisich overlooking the Lynn of Lorn.

It commemorates Waverley Cameron, son of Duncan Cameron who owned this newspaper, who was drowned aged 23 along with Donald Campbell of Balliveolan in the bay opposite in a tragic sailing accident on June 4, 1891.

Call for speed limit to be reduced at tourist attraction

POLICE are to carry out investigations on the A830 Road to the Isles to discover if the 60mph speed limit at one of the Highland's busiest tourist attractions needs to be reduced.

Locals have long fought for the limit to be brought down to 40mph at the Glenfinnan Monument, but due to its 'rural nature' Transport Scotland have said the 60mph limit should stay. Police Scotland plan to monitor speeds at the section of road as well as the volume of traffic to see if the 40mph village limit needs to be extended.

Glenfinnan Community Council chair Duncan Gibson welcomed the move. He told *The Oban Times*: 'We're just trying to get the speed limit reduced. The 60mph speed limit is far too fast for the amount of people crossing the road there.'

An estimated 180,000-200,000 people visit the National Trust Visitor Centre and the monument across the road annually. Last year Transport Scotland recommended reducing the speed limit on other parts of the A830, but not the section near the monument because it was not a built up area.

Mull produces another great games day at Tobermory

Bruce Robb produces new record for 56lb weight over bar

FERRIES from the mainland were full of craic and characters for the annual outing of the great and the good for Mull Highland Games. The early start was worth it, with all the sporting, dancing and musical talent on show.

Mull Highland Games was held last Thursday in Erray Park, as ever this season, starting the day in thick fog before the sun broke through for a scorching afternoon.

The day was well organised, and with Ronnie Campbell from the Ross of Mull on the microphone, all things ran to good order.

Games organisers had two new trophies to present this year. The Mrs Marion MacCallum (Minnie) Trophy for best youngster in the track and field events. Minnie was a long time patron of the Mull Highland Games, who sadly passed away this past year at the magnificent age of 100. Her legacy at the games will continue with family members Billy and Stuart MacCallum. Billy is a stalwart of the games and his son was on hand to present the trophy. It was presented to Cullen MacClymont.

A trophy to be given to the best Mull youngster in piping was awarded in memory of Roger

'Mac' Jones. Presented by his widowed partner Donalda Seaward it was an emotional day for the Tobermory woman.

Donalda explained: 'Roger loved the games day. He was so proud to wear his kilt, and to be a Scotsman.'

'We had such a short time together on the island that I hope this trophy will go a small way to keep his memory alive.'

The trophy was presented to a delighted Fraser Mitchell, aged 12, a member of Mull and Iona Pipe Band.

Competition throughout the day was good natured and steady. There were a few track records broken, and athletes from throughout the field enjoyed sharing skills with other competitors.

The Right Honourable Sir Lachlan MacLean of Duart and Morvern, Chief of the Clan MacLean said he was 'pleased with the day and the turn out' and praised the organising committee for bringing together such a successful games day.

Sir Lachlan said: 'Without the competitors and the spectators we wouldn't have a games. However, it is to the volunteers who work to prepare the games ground that make the games possible.'

One of those helpers, from

a family of helpers, Robert MacLeod junior, said that the games for him were the time when people should come home to Mull.

'For me I would not be able to miss the games, it is bigger for me than Hogmanay. And on days like today when it is hot and sunny there can not be anywhere finer.'

Heavy weight Bruce Robb was delighted to beat the record for 56lb weight over the bar. The previous record holder was disqualified for using banned substances. But Bruce managed to set a new record, quite naturally.

The games field was particularly smart this year with new tents.

The evening's entertainment was with Skippin'ish in the Aros Hall.



The Right Honourable Sir Lachlan MacLean of Duart and Morvern, Chief of the Clan MacLean, centre, led the march through Main Street, Tobermory before heading up the steep hill to the games field at Erray Park.



Oban High School Pipe Band caught the early ferry from Oban to take the march from Ledaig Car Park to Erray Games Field.



Bruce Robb, from Fife, beat the games record for the 56lb Weight Over Bar when he threw the height of 16'.



Cullen MacClymont was delighted to be presented with the Mrs Marion MacCallum (Minnie) trophy by Stuart MacCallum. The trophy was being presented for the first time in memory of Marion, a long time patron of the Mull Highland Games. Minnie, as she was fondly known, passed away at the age of 100.



Fraser Mitchell, aged 12, from Tobermory, was delighted to receive the Roger Jones Trophy, presented for the first time at the games. The trophy was presented by Donalda Seaward. Dona said: 'Roger loved the games and Tobermory. When he moved here he said it was though he had died and gone to heaven. He was taken quickly and this trophy gives an opportunity for young people taking part in piping to be inspired to go on and achieve.'



Mull and Iona Pipe Band gave a wonderful performance with many people commenting on the growing number in the band and how good they were sounding.



The Right Honourable Sir Lachlan MacLean of Duart and Morvern, Chief of the Clan MacLean, left, was joined by Ronnie MacLean who has been officiating at Tobermory Highland Games since the early 1980s.



Craig Nicholson, from Oban, gets a good grip on the local caber.



Five year-old Paisley boy John Keenan caused quite a stir in the crowd when he decided to take part in Oban High School Pipe Band's final set. John is the grandson of Rosemary MacColl, whose husband Angus is a world renowned piper. Angus played drums for Gunna Sound at last weekend's T'ree Music Festival.

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Jura 'sinks' on online map

Island vanishes from Google

'WE'RE still here' was the cry from Jura islanders after a technical fault appeared to flood the island on an online map.

The latest Google Maps update made the island appear on satellite view but not on map view, leaving little more than the A846 road visible.

'Well, I haven't got my feet wet,' said Jura Development Trust chairman John Potts.

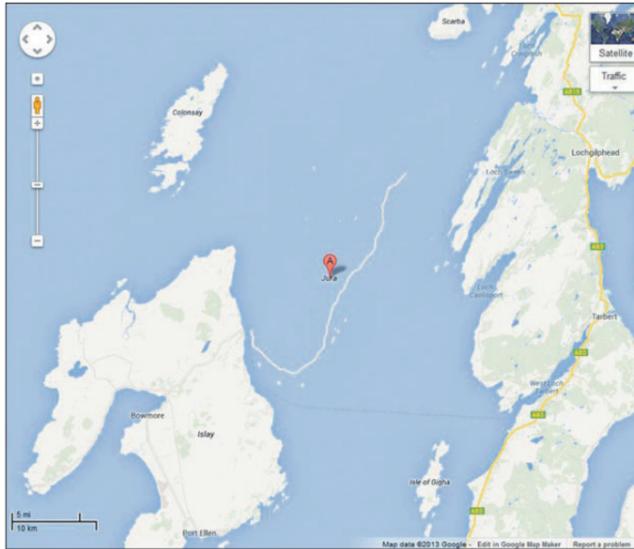
Asked if the gaffe could work in the island's favour, he replied: 'Well, it's not going to be bad publicity for the island.'

'Actually, we like to keep Jura a little bit of a hidden secret.'

Jura Hotel manager Catherine McCallum was quick to insist: 'We're still here.'

Google has apologised for the mistake. A spokeswoman said: 'We're aware of the problem, and our engineers are beavering away to fix it.'

'We hope to have the map of Jura back to normal as soon as possible.'



Jura appears to have sunk into the Atlantic Ocean after an online map error.

Plenty of water on Isle of Mull

RESERVOIR levels on the Isle of Mull are 'fine' despite road tankers being utilised to carry water from the mainland to the island, according to Scottish Water.

The supplier confirmed the need for the water was due to burst pipes on the island as well as the limitations of the water treatment works.

In the past two weeks several tankers of water have made the ferry journey to top up supplies in the Tobermory, Craignure and Bunsanan areas of Mull.

Repairs have been carried out and an upgrade of the water system on Mull is due to start at the end of this summer season.

The lack of water network capacity has restricted house building with developers being denied connections by Scottish Water for a number of years.

Builders had been told upgrade work would be complete by 2013 but the job is expected to take

"Major project is one of the biggest ever carried out in the Inner Hebrides."

Scottish Water spokesman.

18 months to finish - it will be ready for the summer season in 2015.

A spokesman for Scottish Water said: 'In the past two weeks we tankered some water from the mainland to the Tobermory, Craignure and Bunsanan areas of Mull and located and repaired some bursts on mains on the island.'

'Reservoir levels on Mull are fine but the water treatment works that serve these areas are only able to produce a certain

amount of water and the water we tankered in, and the repairs we carried out, ensured supply met demand in these areas and enabled us to maintain our normal high level of service.'

'Scottish Water recently confirmed that a major project to improve services on Mull, one of the biggest and most important it has ever carried out in the Inner Hebrides, is to start late this summer.'

'The £5.7m investment in major improvements to the water infrastructure on the island will provide clearer, fresher drinking water to customers in the Craignure area and enable growth and meet demand during peak summer months in the Tobermory area.'

The upgrade of the Tobermory treatment works will see stretches of the A849 between Salen and Craignure reduced to one lane with traffic lights in place during the project.

Concerns over planned Benbecula pharmacy

A NEW pharmacy planned for Benbecula could lead to patients making trips of up to 60 miles for medication, according to MP Angus MacNeil.

Concerns have been raised about the possibility of the island getting its first chemists, as it would prevent the current local practice of GPs dispensing medicine.

The surgeries currently get funding to provide the service, but this would end if the new pharmacy opens.

The group behind the plan, Local Pharmacies Ltd, said there is support locally and the new chemists will create jobs.

Mr MacNeil has written to NHS Western Isles chief executive Gordon Jamieson and Cabinet Secretary for Health, Alex Neil MSP asking them to ensure the issue is looked at closely.

He said: 'I have spoken to people in the community who are very concerned that if this application is successful, patients would have to make a 20-60 mile trip for medication. This would place an additional burden on the elderly and ill and indeed on all families, particularly with the high cost of fuel.'

Blood used to trace culprit in hotel break-in

AFTER appearing at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday, a man has been found guilty of breaking into Oban's Great Western Hotel.

Michael MacPhee of 4 Burnside Court, Miller Road, pled not guilty to the charge of housebreaking with intent to steal between December 28 and December 30, 2011.

Prosecutor fiscal John Service told the court that a hotel employee found the window broken in a store room in the hotel. Police found blood on the window frame which was analysed by forensics. Enquiries led them to MacPhee and a swab test confirmed his blood had been on the window.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'I'm going to call for reports. I can't guarantee what the disposal will be.' Sentencing was deferred until August 20.

Salmon farmers fly the flag at Buckingham Palace

Food producers at Coronation Festival

SALMON farmers and processors Marine Harvest Scotland (MHS) showcased their wares at a special one off event at Buckingham Palace to mark the 60th anniversary of the Queen's coronation.

Royal warrant

The Fort William-based company was among a select group of fine food producers attending the four-day Coronation Festival, which celebrated innovation, excellence and industry by firms who have earned the recognition of a royal warrant over the years.

The coveted designation is bestowed on individuals or firms who have supplied goods or services for at least five years to the households of the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh or the Prince of Wales.

The festival, which ended last

Sunday, drew over 60,000 people, opened with a royal preview for invited guests, including members of the royal family, charities, patronages, media, armed forces, inward investors and overseas trade missions, together with guests of the Royal Warrant Holders Association and the Royal Household.

MHS business support manager Steve Brackren said: 'The vast majority of MHS stand visitors were genuinely interested and encouraged by how we go about rearing our fish. There were very, very few who were critical of salmon farming.'

'For the whole MHS team attending the Coronation Festival it was an absolutely unique experience but also very importantly, an occasion to proudly fly the Marine Harvest flag before 60,000 people.'

Pointer plucked from the mountains of Bulgaria to the beaches of Tiree

Far-travelled pup finds new home

SHE WAS half-starved, abandoned and left to roam the harsh mountains of Bulgaria to forage for food.

Now though, Brillo - a lovable wire-haired German pointer - is scampering happily across the wide open beaches of Tiree and can look forward to the best of meals in a loving home.

Thanks to Kim O'Keefe, Brillo's scavenging days are over - but just how she came to be on Tiree is a remarkable tale of three countries.

An animal-loving English woman who has a home in Bulgaria was greatly distressed by the terrible plight of the country's stray dogs. She met three year-old Brillo when she was brought to a local rescue centre

where animals are neutered then sent back out on the streets. However, instead of seeing the animal returned to its perilous life, she arranged for her to be sent to a shelter in Dorset.

Brillo was briefly re-homed from there, but blotted her copy book when her scavenging instincts took over in a local hotel dining room and she scooped up a guest's breakfast.

It was decided to send Brillo north and Louise Casey, of Achnabreac Kennels at Lochgilphead, Argyll, agreed to take her.

Louise said: 'Just three days after Brillo arrived here, Kim O'Keefe, who lives on Tiree, got in touch because she was looking for a dog.'

Louise sent Kim a picture of Brillo and it was love at first sight.

Kim picked up Brillo from Louise at the ferry terminal in Oban and she and Brillo set sail to the sunshine island.

Kim, 40, whose partner Andy Cameron is a builder and stonemason on the island, welcomed the much travelled stray into their home and she has been there ever since, living a wonderful life.

She said: 'We adore her. She has a lovely nature and, despite the fact that she had clearly been cruelly treated in her past, trusted us right from the start.'

'Of course, she just loves her food, especially now she doesn't have to scavenge for it.'



From Bulgaria to Tiree - with love. Brillo is loving life on the Hebrides thanks to new owner, Kim O'Keefe.

Highland Council launch new petitions scheme

HIGHLAND Council is launching a new petitions scheme so individuals, communities or groups can have concerns or issues debated by the full council or one of its committees.

From next Thursday, petitions may be submitted by a group of citizens with at least 50 signatures from people living within the council area, or a group of at least 10 local businesses, voluntary organisations or social enterprise companies with a business address within the Highland Council area.

Petitions may be lodged regarding the council's activities or responsibilities, including where other organisations deliver services on the council's behalf.

Matters of concern to the interests and welfare of residents, voluntary organisations or local businesses will also be considered.

Council deputy leader David Alston said: 'When a petition is submitted to the council it can have positive outcomes by creating informed debate which may result in the council taking further action to address concerns raised in the petition.'

Petitions should be lodged at least four weeks prior to the relevant council or committee meeting.

Council officers will provide an accompanying report for every petition being heard at a meeting.



Lorn Organic Growers is beginning to flourish. From left are Carl Farmer, Anna Griffith with her son Toby Acton and Marlyn Turbitt. 15_130polytunnel01

Taynuilt's organic community food project is blooming

A COMMUNITY project is now in full bloom in Taynuilt as it sells organically grown food to a local store.

As well as selling produce privately, Lorn Organic Growers is selling potatoes it harvests on an ad hoc basis through Graham's Grocers in Taynuilt.

Marlyn Turbitt, Carl Farmer, Anna Griffith and Davie Walker currently make up the group, which grows vegetables in a polytunnel previously used by a former plant nursery.

'The weather has been great for growing things and the plants were protected during the frost we had in

March and April,' Carl said. 'The plants just kept growing and turned into monsters,' added Anna.

Marlyn believes there is demand for growing vegetables and having growing space.

'You can't get really good fresh vegetables otherwise and people like the idea of local produce,' she said.

'Our main aim is to grow food to eat for ourselves and other locals without the use of anything artificial, like pesticides.'

Lorn Organic Growers instead uses homemade nettle fertiliser and seaweed feed for their plants. The group, formerly known as

Taynuilt Organic Growers, has grown various vegetables on the former Highland Heathers site near Taynuilt since forming in February, including beetroot, spinach, cabbages, carrots, turnips and cauliflowers, as well as sunflowers.

The group is looking for additional volunteers to allow it to develop further.

'We have four plots in the polytunnel, one of which is the community plot and that is what we would like help with,' said Marlyn.

Those interested in joining the group can contact Marlyn Turbitt on 01866 822191.

Apprentices to get opportunities outdoor

OUTDOOR education and activities businesses in Argyll have the chance to employ apprentices thanks to a project between Argyll and Bute Council, Stramash and Scottish Canals.

The Argyll Coastal Waters Partnership Project is part of the council's wider economic development plan for tourism and employment. It is part funded by the Coastal Communities Fund and is looking for outdoor education and activity providers who are interested in employing modern apprentices within the outdoor and water sports industries.

The 12-month vocational employment of an apprentice in these areas is a chance for employers to offer paid employment and training to young people within the local community. Welcoming this opportunity, deputy provost of the council Douglas Philand said: 'I hope outdoor and watersports businesses will come forward and get involved with this great initiative. Our young people deserve every chance to develop their skills and decide on their direction in life - and businesses can benefit from their youth and enthusiasm.'

Mull named in Lonely Planet's amazing experiences

A VISIT to the Isle of Mull has been listed as one of the most amazing European experiences you can have.

Lonely Planet, the publisher of definitive worldwide travel guides, has released a free e-book to commemorate its 40th year.

Iconic

The book lists 40 'amazing experiences' to have in Europe, and the Isle of Mull features at number 26. The only other Scottish entry is Stirling Castle which ranks at number two.

Mull's entry, which features a photo of the iconic Duart Castle, states: 'The Isle of Mull, off Scotland's west coast, offers varied landscapes and habitats,

from high mountain and wild moorland to wave-lashed sea cliffs, sandy beaches and seaweed-fringed skerries.

'And if that wasn't enough to make you book the next boat over there, the waters around the island also offer the chance to spot some of Scotland's rarest and most dramatic wildlife, including eagles, otters, dolphins and even whales.'

Among the other experiences in the to-do list include cycling between Moravian vineyards, enjoying a picnic on city walls in Tuscany, taking a St Bernard dog for a walk on the Col du Grand St Bernard in Switzerland and swimming between islands in Greece.

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Down your Way

Dunvegan, Isle of Skye



The coral beaches three miles north of Dunvegan are again proving a popular attraction with visitors this year. The car park at Claigan, the access point for the 2km walk along to the sands, has been a busy place since Easter. The distinctive sand, made of up of a rare form of calcified seaweed, coral and clam shell fragments, is a popular picnic spot and draws tourists from all over the world, many of whom also visit the nearby Dunvegan Castle, clan seat of the Macleods. When your *Oban Times* correspondent visited the beaches recently, no fewer than 80 people, many from France and Spain, were counted making their way along the springy turf path to the scenic location. 20_F30coral01

DUNVEGAN Weather Station website seems to have a large fan base in Finland, according to its visitors log. As expected, by far the biggest amount of traffic comes from the UK, with the USA a distant second. But for some unknown reason the Finns take a keen interest in northwest Skye's weather and are a clear third in the 'hits' parade, ahead of Austria, Germany and Belgium. Canada, which might have been expected to rate highly because of its Highland ties, ranks only ninth.

DUNVEGAN fisherman Willie Murdo MacKinnon - along with many others on the west coast - is finding things tough as sea temperatures struggle to recover from the cold winter and spring. Mr MacKinnon, who operates two boats, *Sealgair* and *My Amber*, told *The Oban Times*: 'The fishing is not very good this year with the water temperature being so cold for so long. It has been very slow, both for prawns and lobsters. It is marginally better now, but nothing like what it should be and hopefully this is a one off.' He added: 'Prices for prawns are okay prices for lobsters have been poor for some time.'

DUNVEGAN Show is celebrating its 65th anniversary this year - and organisers are keeping their fingers crossed the event at Dunvegan Primary School on Saturday will be blessed with good weather. To mark the historic occasion, a photographic exhibition of shows past will be on display, while Cullinns FM will be broadcasting live from the field. Publicity secretary Moira Campbell said: 'Ours is the only show on Skye this year because the Portree show is unable to go ahead because they can't get the field. Therefore, it will be a very important for the island's agricultural community as it will be their only chance to show their livestock.' Competitions on the day feature sections for horticulture, flower arranging, art, homebaking and photography, while the ever-popular dog show will take place in the afternoon. Entertainment includes body zorbing and a bouncy castle from Janette MacDonald from Port Appin in Argyll, a stilt walker and the Jaggy Thistle traditional music group, comprising local primary school children playing the accordion, fiddle, guitar and flute. An after show ceilidh with Kyle Ceilidh band in Dunvegan Community Hall at 9pm will round off the day.



THE HORSE Show at Dunvegan Show on Saturday will once again be hosted by the Isle of Skye Riding Club. Judge this year will be Ruth Winterburne from Dunvegan. Jeanne Wells will be steward, assisted by IoSRC members. Above, judge Mairi Higginson at last year's show with Champion of Champions William Gordon and Charlie, Glenhaultin, and reserve horse champion Maureen Wood and Scruffy. Picture - Nikki Macleod.

Next week:
Down your Way visits Callander with senior reporter Steven Flanagan

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LISMORE

THE CANADIAN Walking Youth with the Walking Theatre Company, visited Lismore with their very inspiring performance of Selkirk's New Nation which they had previously performed at the Scottish Parliament.

They are all pupils from Powerview School in Manitoba, descended from Canadian First Nations, (Cree, Ojibwe, Métis) as well as French, Irish and Scottish settlers. Selkirk's New Nation, written by Sadie Dixon-Spain, explores the impact of Lord Selkirk's Scots Settlers on Native Canadians.

Both groups were dispossessed so soon came into conflict as the disinherited Scots began to settle in what they called the New World. The effect of this on the native Canadians was movingly performed by these descendants.

The Métis people have only this year been granted land rights after an ignored treaty of 1870.

Argyll's own Walking Theatre worked in Manitoba for three weeks, forming the very first Canadian Walking Youth Theatre and giving four public performances over one hectic weekend.

A GARDEN party at Lismore Primary School was held to showcase the year's work.

The children greeted visitors and then showed them round the art gallery, the new outdoor learning centre, the weather stations and the pond.

They were most proud of the new outdoor Story Chair in memory of Fay Carmichael who was a good friend of the school and where the children can now read, be read to or sit quietly. This was donated by the Parent Council.

A concert with dancing followed with the winning Mod songs from Rachel McCormick and Katy Cook as well as the action song that gained all the children a first place.

The under fives sang a welcoming song and there were impressive recorder solos and group playing.

The last item was two country dancers under the watchful eye of teacher Anne Livingstone.

The afternoon finished with the raffle and refreshments.

CONGRATULATIONS to Anne White of Frackersaig Farm on her marriage to Mark Stanley in the Lismore Parish Church on June 29.

CONGRATULATIONS also to Brona and Peter MacDougall on the birth of their second son Cian. A brother for Cormac.

LISMORE Lumiere are offering 'Watchable Wednesdays' with seven films in July.

The first on July 3 was *A Royal Affair*, a Danish historical drama directed by Nikolaj Arcel.

This multi award winning film was well cast and scripted and beautifully shot.

'Les Miserable' on July 10 was equally well received.

See www.isleoflismore.com for the full programme.

A SUPERB concert by Lismore Voices - the island's accomplished choir - celebrated the island's talent and also raised funds for insulating the hall roof.

The evening opened with the singers processing through the packed hall singing the round *Da Pacem Domine* which they followed with a huge variety of items from around the world, sung in many languages.

As well as arrangements in Gaelic and English, there was folk music from Bulgaria and Macedonia, a 16th century madrigal, a setting of *Ubi Caritas* from Norway, a spiritual and two African settings.

Throughout the evening choir items were interspersed with local singers and instrumentalists including Gaelic songs from Mary MacDougall and daughter Laura Cook, a song from Sebastian Tombs accompanying himself on the guitar, Sarah Campbell singing with Yorick Payne and an arrangement of *Amazing Grace* with Christina Cass.

Freda Drysdale, accompanied by the choir, sang a Lismore version of Grainger's *English Country Garden*, and Katie Crossan sang a Gaelic song accompanied on guitar by her daughter Shona Wright.

A highlight was the winning Mod songs from nine year old Katie Cook and 13 year



The Canadian Walking Youth with the Walking Theatre Company, visited Lismore.



Fionn Cook shows us his picture of a pirate as the children of Lismore Primary School greeted visitors and then showed them round the art gallery.



Lismore Primary School recorder group entertained.



Lismore Voices raised funds for the hall roof.

olds Sophie King and Shona Wright.

Finally, breaking up the singing were two sets of foot tapping instrumental interludes from Arthur Cross on the electronic flute with Duncan Ferguson on the accordion.

The choir has two alternating conductors, Sarah Campbell and Katie Crossan, the latter being a Gaelic speaker who mainly, but not exclusively, conducts the Gaelic music.

DUNBEG

A NUMBER of trophies and cups were handed out to pupils of Dunbeg Primary School at a presentation before the summer break.

The awards were: James Johnstone Quaich for Art: Jodie Jeffery; Gordon MacPherson Memorial Shield for Best Beginner Swimmer: Owen MacCorquodale; Swimming Cup: Imogen Carnie; Gordon MacPherson Memorial Cup for Clan Football: Lorn; Sports Shield: Lorn; Sportsman of the year (netball): Kieron Morrison; MacLean Family Shield for Musical Achievement: Jen-

nie MacLean; Special Award for Musical Achievement: Katie McGowan; Music Festival Folk Group Competition: Folk Group A; Agnes Connelly Shield for Recorder: Dunbeg Recorder Group; Miss Watson Cup for Gardening: Lorne MacFarlane; Jordan Family Caring Cup: Jodie Jeffery; Mary Graham Cup for Citizenship: Neil MacLean; Helen Paton Cup for Endeavour: Megan MacIntyre.

CANNA

THE second year of a project to track basking sharks near Canna, Coll and Tiree is underway. Scientists from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the University of Exeter are tagging 27 sharks with satellite tracking tags.

The project will collect data to give them an insight into the sharks' behaviour during summer, and members of the public can follow the animals' movements online.

Data collected last year showed sharks mainly occupy the top 250m of the water, although two were recorded as deep as 1,000m.

Project manager Dr Suzanne Henderson said: 'This will build on last year's work, helping provide insights into shark behaviour year on year and identify any trends in the behaviour of sharks in this area.'

The results will help the Scottish Government decide whether a Marine Protected Area should be put in place to safeguard the sharks.

PORTREE

A GROUP of former Portree High School pupils will take on two teams in tonight's (Thursday) BBC Alba 'Gun Sgot'.

Ruairidh Cormack will captain in the Skye team when they tackle a team of workmates from Perth and three students from the University of Strathclyde in the quiz show, which will be shown at 10pm.

GLENELG

A SUMMER ceilidh to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support will be held in Glenelg Village Hall next month.

The fun starts at 7.30pm on Saturday August 3.

ARDFERN

SET TO be even better than ever before, the fourth Galley Gig Fest has announced an exciting line up of 12 gigs over four weekends to see out July and welcome in August.

Starting this Friday, July 26, each weekend Ardfern's Galley of Lorne Inn will host three separate bands, with groups from across Argyll - including Oban Heart Surgery, the Lush Puppies and Two Man Jam from Oban - joined by artists from across the UK for the event.

Gareth Bryant will open the event next Friday from 9pm.

The Moray singer is known for his eclectic mix of covers, which includes Bruno Mars, Daft Punk, the Saw Doctors and even Johnny Cash.

Karla Bernardi follows up on the second night, with the former X-Factor contestant performing a host of covers and power ballads.

Oban Heart Surgery complete the programme for the first weekend, who play a mix of their own songs as well as mix of covers.

Organiser Andrew Stanton said: 'This is the fourth year we have put on a music festival and each year we're growing that bit bigger.'

For more information about the festival, log on to galleyof-lorne.co.uk.

COLONSAY

A STUDENT is helping Colonsay Community Development Company to find out why people visit the island in a bid to improve its tourism industry.

Steven Cote, who is from Belgium but studies at Edinburgh's Napier University, is undertaking a masters degree in tourism marketing and has chosen to examine why 'return visitors' come to Scottish islands as his dissertation topic.

The 25 year old has been a familiar face at Colonsay pier, where he has handed out survey forms and spoken to hundreds of tourists throughout the summer.

He said: 'I hope this research helps the island plan for the future and finds out what visitors really want from the island.'

'It is important for me to get the view of the locals, as well as the visitors, and combine these views to find the acceptable level of change. Tourists want things that locals wouldn't want, so you have to weigh that up.'

'By the end of my study we should have found something

that brings the two together.'

Steven is employed by the development company through the Third Sector Internship Scotland initiative and is building his dissertation around a case study on Colonsay.

'I am really interested to find out why people keep coming back to the Scottish islands, because it can be expensive.'

'I always like to think it is because they have the freedom to create their own holiday.'



Student Steven Cote is surveying visitors to Colonsay on behalf of the island's community development company. 15_t29survey01

CALLANDER

CALLANDER Youth Project was asked to share a stage with the minister for youth employment to highlight the benefits of community employment and youth engagement.

Angela Constance MSP introduced Chris Martin, the manager of the Callander Youth Project Trust (CYPT), to a 100 strong audience at a Parliamentary reception earlier this year.

CYPT was established in 1997 and last year purchased the Bridgend House Hotel in Callander to house its community work.

Chris said: 'The main labour driver in Callander is hospitality and tourism. Our aim is to train young people to develop their skills in the hospitality sector and become a conduit to jobs in the local community.'

'The partnership with the



Callander Youth Project's Chris Martin recently addressed the Scottish Parliament on community employment.



KILCHOAN

Sea haars plagued much of the west coast and islands over the recent week as high air temperatures combined with the cool ocean to form banks of sea fog.

Kilchoan Bay off West Ardnamuchan, above, was one of the many maritime locations affected. Picture - Jon Haylett

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Fort Augustus summer fèis proves big success

FORT AUGUSTUS

FÈIS Gleann Albainn's summer fèis proved a big success last week, with 70 youngsters coming to Fort Augustus to take part.

The number was well up on last year's turnout at Kilchuimen Academy, and children aged from two to 16 enjoyed the week-long event.

The programme included tuition from top class musicians such as Fiona Young of Roy Bridge and local fiddler Rona Cooper in a number of traditional Scottish instruments, such as chanter, guitar and accordion.

The youngsters - who counted two visitors from Spain among their number - were also able to enjoy shinty, drama and art classes. And for the first time a 'Trad songs for Wee Toots' session was added to the fèis for youngsters aged two to five.

A concert involving both tutors and pupils was held in the school on Thursday night.

Co-organiser Tracy MacCallum told *The Oban Times*: 'It's been great. As always all the kids are fantastic and really well behaved.'



Owen Sinclair's guitar lessons proved popular with many of the youngsters. 20_1307e103

Below: Ann Stewart of Invergarry (left) and Fort Augustus' Rona Cooper took the fiddle classes. 20_1307e105



Kilchoan FC and Coll FC line up before last Saturday's derby match up.

Coll goal from free kick gives victory over Kilchoan

KILCHOAN

A BIG crowd gathered at Kilchoan playing field to cheer on the local side in their annual derby match against Coll FC. But despite the vocal support,

it was the visitors who retained the trophy with a 2-1 victory.

Kilchoan forwards Iain MacDonald and Mark Dornan caused problems for the Coll defence early on, but couldn't find the back of the net.

In the dying seconds of first

half injury time, the home side failed to clear the ball and Coll knocked it in to give themselves a 1-0 half time lead.

Kilchoan came out strongly after the break and equalised in the 50th through MacDonald.

Home keeper Justin Cameron

was called upon to make a good save to keep the scores level, while Kilchoan struggled to get through a strong Coll defence at the other end.

After 65 minutes a Coll free kick went straight through the wall and with Cameron

unsighted it hit the back of the net to give Coll the lead, which they held onto until the final whistle.

Despite finding himself on the losing side, Kilchoan defender Gordon MacKenzie was named man of the match.



Rebecca Johnstone of Invergarry is a picture of concentration with her keyboard. 20_1307e101



Some of the youngsters in the whistle and chanter class. 20_1307e104



Invergarry's Rhianna MacCallum playing a tune in the accordion class. 20_1307e106



Pupils from the nursery at Ballachulish Primary School wished local health visitor Fedor Bunge farewell on his final visit to their building before his retirement.



Banavie Primary's eco committee unveiled the school's third Green Flag before heading off for their summer break. 20_1281a901

Games results

Inveraray

Highland Games

LOCAL RESULTS:

PIPING: March :Age 15 and under 18 years: 1 Daniel McDermott, 2 Cameron Underwood, 3 Donnie McKerral, Campbelltown; Strathspey & Reel: Age 15 and under 18 years: 1 Daniel McDermott, 2 Donnie McKerral, 3 Cameron Underwood;

March: Under 15 years of age: 1 Jamie Campbell, Strachur, 2 Ciardha Baxter, Dunoon, 3 Jamie McKerral; C a m p b e l t o w n; Strathspey & Reel: Under 15 years of age: 1 Jamie Campbell, 2 Jamie McKerral, 3 Ciardha Baxter; Chanter: 1 Emma Hill, Connel, 2 Jack Ferguson, Campbelltown; Novice piping: 1 Christina McFadyen, Campbelltown, 2 Lucy McNiven, Islay;

JUNIOR EVENTS: OPEN: March: Under 18 years: 1 Daniel McDermott, 2 Harry McLachlan, 3 Jack Williamson; Piobaireachd: Under 18 years: 1 Edward Lavender, Windermere, 2 Daniel McDermott, 3 Donald C Stewart, Stewarton;

SENIOR PIPING GRADE A: OPEN: Piobaireachd: 18 years and over: 1 Angus D MacColl, Oban, 2 John Mulhern, Glasgow, 3 Faye Henderson, Aberdeen; March: 18 years and over: 1 Callum Beaumont, Bo'ness, 2 Donald MacPhee, Alexandria, 3 Innes Smith, Stirling; Strathspey & Reel: 18 years and over: 1 Angus D MacColl, 2 Gordon McCready, Renfrew, 3 Callum Beaumont;

SENIOR PIPING GRADE B: OPEN: Piobaireachd: 18 years and over: 1 Connor Sinclair, Crief, 2 David Shedden, Glasgow, 3 Gavin Ferguson, Glasgow; March: 18 years and over: 1 Sarah Muir, Campbelltown, 2 Graham Drummond, Bathgate, 3 Steven Leask, Irvine; Strathspey & Reel: 18 years and over: 1 Sarah Muir, 2 Graham Drummond, 3 George Stewart, Perth;

SENIOR PIPING GRADE C: OPEN: Piobaireachd: 18 years and over: 1 J a m i e E l d e r, Fife, 2 Kristopher Coyle, Antrim, NI, 3 Sean Regan, Pennsylvania, USA; March: 18 years and over: 1 Caitlin MacDonald, Glasgow, 2 Mael Siard-Cras, Glasgow, 3 Neil Henderson, Falkirk; Strathspey & Reel: 18

years and over: 1 Nick Hudson, Pittsburgh, USA, 2 Jonathon Lamberton, Antrim, NI, 3 Jamie Elder. TROPHY WINNERS: Age 15 & under 18: Duke of Argyll Cup: Daniel McDermott, Rothesay; Age 15 & under 18: Campbell - Birnie Shield (Runner up):

Scotch Whisky Heavyweight Championship Trophy: Scott Rider; Best Local Heavy: Lorne Colthart, Lismore; Best Local Athlete: David Clunie, Oban; Best Open Athlete: Anthony Daffurn, Coarbridge; Best Open Cyclist: John Gardiner memorial Trophy: Greig

James McCorkindale Quaich: Nicole McKinlay, Campbelltown; Christina Cairns School of Dance Shield: Katie MacPherson, Oban; Ella Edgar, MBE, Shield: Eilidh MacDonald, Isle of Islay; 16 yrs & over: (confined to Argyll & Bute): Betty Beaton Memorial Trophy: Kirsty Bar-

rett, Rothesay; Spiers School of Dance Trophy: Gina McMurphy, Campbelltown; Sinclair School of Dance Shield: Rachael O'May, Campbelltown; 10 yrs & under 12 yrs: Ex-provost W D Sempole Cup: Olivia Bremner, West Kilbride; 12 yrs & under 14 yrs: Archie Beaton Memorial Quaich: Olivia Blennie, Stirling; 14 yrs & under 16 yrs: Iona, Duchess of Argyll Shield: Carrie McIntyre, Kilbarchan; 16 yrs & under 18 yrs: Morton Atkinson Shield: S i o b h a n Young, Kilbirnie; 18 yrs & over: Argyllshire Standard Trophy: Candice Walker, Leslie; Best male dancer: Convener's Trophy: Steven Horner, Kirkcaldy; Best overseas dancer: Visit Scotland Quaich: Chelsey Kutzner, Canada.

Taynuilt Highland Games Open Heavy: Light Hammer: 1 S King, 2 S Rider, 3 H Geirmusson; Shot: 1 S Rider, New Field Record: 56'4, 2H Geirmusson, 3 S King; 28lb Weight for Distance: 1 S Rider, New Field Record 84'; 2H Geirmusson, 3 S King; Caber: 1 S Rider, 2 S King, 3 H Geirmusson; Nant Stone: 1 S Rider, New Field Record: 39'9, 2H Geirmusson, 3 S King; Heavy Hammer: 1 S Rider, 2 S King, 3 H Geirmusson; 56lb Weight Over Bar: 1 S

Rider, 2 H Geirmusson, 3 S King; Overall Heavy Champion: S Rider; Games Cup for Open Heavy Events: S Rider; Biggie Cup for Open Caber Tossing: S Rider. Light Hammer: 1 A Servant, 2 C Leitch, 3 N Charlton; 16lb Shot: IC Leitch, 2 A Servant, 3 N Charlton; 28lb Weight for Distance: 1 A Servant, 2N Charlton, 3 M Charlton; Caber: 1 C Leitch, 2 N Charlton, 3 A Servant; Overall Local Champion: A Servant; Goodale Rose Bowl for Best Local Heavy: A Servant.

Track Events Gents: Open: Gents 100yds: 1 B Coates, 2 S Twort, 3 J Paterson; Gents 220yds: 1 S Twort, 2 B Coates, 3 J Paterson; ¼ Mile: 1 C Leitch, 2 B Coates, 3 N Boucher; ½ Mile: 1 C Leitch, 2 N Prendergast, 3C Hooper; 1 Mile Gents & Ladies: 1 C Walsh, 2 R Joss, 3 BThibault; Hill Race: 1 T Smith, 2 C Walsh, 3M Bossard.

Track Events Gents: Local: Gents 100yds: 1 S Mobery, 2 H Mobery, 3 B MacFarlane; Gents 220yds: 1 S Mobery, 2 H Mobery, 3 D Teape; ¼ Mile: 1 S Mobery, 2 H Mobery, 3 B MacFarlane; ½ Mile: 1 S Mobery, 2 H Mobery, 3 B MacFarlane; Mile: S Mobery; Hill Race: 1 A Houston.

Track Events Ladies: Open: Ladies 100yds: 1 E Thompson, 2 C Van Lierle, 3 G Thomson; 220yds: 1 E Thompson, 2 R Joss, 3 R Smith; ¼ Mile: 1 R Joss, 2 A McKinnon; ½ Mile: 1 E Marshall, 2R Joss. Track Events Ladies: Local: Ladies 100yds: H Teape, 220yds: 1 H Teape, 2 R Lilley, 3 E Shearer; ½ Mile: 1 E Shearer, 2 H Teape; ¾ Mile: 1 E Shearer, 2 R Lilley, 3 H Teape.

Inveraray Cup for Open Athletics: Ruth Joss; Duncan MacDonald Memorial Cup for Gents 100yds: Ben Coates; Ingils Memorial Cup for Best Local Athlete: S.Mobery; John Garvie Cup Best Local Junior Athlete: S.Mobery. Piping - Open: March : 1 F Morrison, 2 D Urquhart, 3 A Matthews; Strathspey & Reel: 1 D Urquhart, 2 F Morrison, 3 R Edwards; Piobai-

reachd: 1 D Urquhart, 2 F Morrison, 3 D Rishmiller; Jig: 1 F Morrison, 2 D Urquhart, 3 D.Rishmiller. Piping Junior: Open: March: 1 A Hossain, 2 D Stewart, 3 J Divers; Strathspey & Reel: 1 A Hossain, 2 D Stewart; Piobaireachd: 1 D Stewart, 2 A Hossain. Best Open Piper: D.Urquhart; Best Overall Open Junior: A Hossain.

Piping Cups: Angiolini Cup Best Overall Piping Competitor: D.Urquhart; Games Shield for Open Piping: Stathspey & Reel: D.Urquhart; Games Shield Open Piping: March: F.Morrison; Brander Lodge Hotel Trophy: Piobaireachd: D.Urquhart; Ardanaiseig Hotel Trophy: Best

3 Kiera Rutherford; Swords: 1 Nicole Kean, 2 Edie Elliott, 3 Kiera Rutherford; Seann Truibhas: 1 Iona MacKay, 2 Nicole Kean, 3 Kiera Rutherford; Hullachan: 1 Nicole Kean, 2 Kiera Rutherford, 3 Iona MacKay; Flora: 1 Nicole Keen, 2 Iona MacKay, 3 Eva MacColl; Lilt: 1 Nicole Kean, 2 Iona MacKay, 3 Lilli Webster; Beginners 9 years & over: Fling: 1 Isla Dunlop, 2 Blane Coleman, 3 Chelsea MacAulay; Swords: 1 Isla Dunlop, 2 Chelsea MacAulay, 3 Blane Coleman; Seann Truibhas: 1 Chelsea MacAulay, 2 Blane Coleman, 3 Isla Dunlop; Hullachan: 1 Chelsea MacAulay, 2 Isla Smith, Isla Dunlop; Flora: 1 Blane Coleman, 2 Chelsea MacAulay, 3 Isla Smith; Lilt: 1 Chelsea MacAulay,

Flora: 1 Zoe Brown, 2 Caitlin Curran, 3 Emma Brown; Lilt: 1 Zoe Brown, 2 Amy Armstrong, 3 Emma Brown; Intermediate: Fling: 1 Ailie Munro, 2 Iona Bradshaw, 3 Alanis M Morrison; Swords: 1 Ashleigh Taylor, 2 Alanis M Morrison, 3 Iona Bradshaw; Seann Truibhas: 1 Ailie Munro, 2 Ashleigh Taylor, 3 Alanis M Morrison; Hullachan: 1 Ailie Munro, 2 Ashleigh Taylor, 3 Alanis M Morrison; Hornpipe: Ailie Munro, 2 Ashleigh Taylor, 3 Alanis M Morrison; Jig: 1 Ailie Munro, 2 Alanis M Morrison, 3 Iona Bradshaw; Premier 12 years and under: Fling: 1 Lisa McGillyray, 2 Kate Sausbury, 3 Fiona Armstrong; Swords: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Libby Maclean, 3 Kate Sausbury; Seann Truibhas: 1 Lisa McGillyray, 2 Libby MacLean, 3 Kate Sausbury; Hullachan: 1 Fiona Armstrong, 2 Libby Maclean, 3 Lisa McGillyray; Hornpipe: 1 Libby Maclean, 2 Lisa McGillyray, 3 Molly MacPherson; Jig: 1 Lisa McGillyray, 2 Fiona Armstrong, 3 Molly MacPherson; Premier: 13 years and over: Fling: 1 Carrie MacIntyre, 2 Isla MacKenzie, 3 Katie MacPherson; Swords: 1 Gillyan Cullen, 2 Carrie MacIntyre, 3 Katie Lambert; Seann Truibhas: 1 Carrie MacIntyre, 2 Gillyan Cullen, 3 Lisa MacKenzie; Hullachan: 1 Carrie MacIntyre, 2 Gillyan Cullen, 3 Mairi Lawson; Hornpipe: 1 Carrie MacIntyre, 2 Gillyan Cullen, 3 Katie Lambert; Jig: 1 Gillyan Cullen, 2 Abbie MacKenzie, 3 Mairi Lawson; Premier 16 years and over: Fling: 1 Stephen Horner, 2 Courtney Cowden, 3 Kirsty Barrett; Swords: 1 Claire McLaughlin, 2 Kirsty Barrett, 3 Courtney Cowden; Seann Truibhas: 1 Claire McLaughlin, 2 Stephen Horner, 3 Kirsty Barrett; Hullachan: 1 Claire McLaughlin, 2 Courtney Cowden, 3 Daniella Wokes; Hornpipe: 1 Claire McLaughlin, 2 Stephen Horner, 3 Kirsty Barrett; Jig: 1 Claire McLaughlin, 2 Stephen Horner, 3 Kirsty Barrett.

Trophy Winners: The Munro Shield: Nicole Kean; Dhuirinish Challenge Cup: Chelsea MacAulay; Taynuilt Games Shield: Sophie MacPherson; The Etive Quaich: Amy Armstrong; The Brander Lodge Quaich: Ailie Munro; Dugald MacCallum Memorial Trophy: Joint Winner: Lisa McGillyray and Fiona Armstrong; Piper Alec Martin Shield: Carrie MacIntyre; Anne McLroy Dancing School: Claire McLaughlin.



It took five good men to carry the Inveraray Games caber to the competitors

Donnie McKerral, Campbelltown and Cameron Underwood, Dalmally; Age under 15: Munro Cup: Jamie Campbell, Strachur; Novice Piping: Billy Liddell Memorial Trophy: Christine McFadyen, Campbelltown; Peter MacGregor Trophy: Daniel McDermott and Jamie Campbell; Under 18 years: McPhedran Memorial Trophy: Daniel McDermott; Under 18 years: Clan Arthur Society Quaich: Daniel McDermott; Under 18 years Piobaireachd: Neil Munro Society Quaich: Edward Lavender, Windermere; Grade A Piobaireachd: Lesley Craig Memorial Kiltpin: Angus D MacColl, Oban.

Trophy winners: Open: Throwing 16lb Hammer: Archie Miller Memorial Trophy: Scott Rider, London; Throwing 22lb hammer: Clan Campbell Society (USA) Rosebowl: Scott Rider; Tossing the Caber: Clan Campbell Whisky Rosebowl + SGA Medal: Scott Rider; 56lb weight over bar: Clan Campbell Whisky Rosebowl: Bruce Robb, Kilsyth; Wrestling: Scottish Backhold Style 10st 7lbs: Premier: 12 yrs & under (confined to Argyll & Bute): Inveraray Games Shield: Libby MacLean, Dunoon; Anne McLroy School of Dance Shield: Lisa McGillyray, Dunoon; The Achaleven Shield: Isla MacCallum, Isle of Islay; 13 yrs and under 16 yrs (confined to Argyll & Bute):

reached: 1 D Urquhart, 2 F Morrison, 3 D Rishmiller; Jig: 1 F Morrison, 2 D Urquhart, 3 D.Rishmiller. Piping Junior: Open: March: 1 A Hossain, 2 D Stewart, 3 J Divers; Strathspey & Reel: 1 A Hossain, 2 D Stewart; Piobaireachd: 1 D Stewart, 2 A Hossain. Best Open Piper: D.Urquhart; Best Overall Open Junior: A Hossain.

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Glasgow sisters Elish, left, and Cara Strachan get a wee head start at Taynuilt games' three-legged race. 15_1307aynuilt12

Junior Piper: A.Hossain; Lodge St Modan Trophy: Best Overall Junior Piping Competitor: A Hossain. Primary 4 years: Pas-de-Basque: 1 Zara O'Hare, 2 Riona Megan, 3 Kassoy Wood; Pas-de-Basque and High Cuts: Zara O'Hare; Fling: Zara O'Hare; Primary 5 years 16 Pas-de-Basque: 1 Alex Elliott, 2 Rowan Gemmell, 3 Iona Baxter; Pas-de-Basque and High Cuts: 1 Alex Elliott, 2 Isla McKay, 3 Rowan Gemmell; Primary 6 years: 16 Pas-de-Basque: 1 Neve McKay, 2 Daniel Craik, 3 Megan McCormack; Pas-de-Basque and High Cuts: 1 Daniel Craik, 2 Kayleen Rutherford, 3 Megan McCormack; Fling: 1 Daniel Craik, 2 Kayla Baxter; Swords: Kayla Baxter; Beginners 8 years and under: Fling: 1 Nicole Kean, 2 Iona MacKay,

2 Blane Coleman, Isla Dunlop; Novice 9 years & under: Fling: 1 Careen J Morrison, 2 Sophie MacPherson, 3 Isla Taylor; Swords: 1 Sophie MacPherson, 2 Bryana McColl, 3 Careen J Morrison; Lilt: 1 Careen J Morrison, 2 Sophie MacPherson, 3 Bryana McColl; Novice 10 years and over: Fling: 1 Emma Brown, 2 Zoe brown, 3 Amy Armstrong; Swords: 1 Charlie Nathan, 2 Zoe Brown, 3 Beth Campbell; Seann Truibhas: 1 Amy Armstrong, 2 Zoe Brown, 3 Emma Brown; Hullachan: 1 Amy Armstrong, 2 Emma Brown, 3 Zoe brown;



Scott Rider celebrates his £1,000 win after tossing the Taynuilt caber, one of the heaviest on the Highland games circuit.

Heavyweight Scott Rider lifts £1,000 caber tossing bounty Cockney conquers 'untossable' Taynuilt caber

Competitors in first ever hill race suffer in the sunshine

HEAVYWEIGHT athlete Scott Rider won his biggest pay day of the summer last Saturday by tossing the intimidating Taynuilt Caber at the Taynuilt Highland Games.

A jackpot of £1,000, put up by local builder Neil McGougan, was available to anyone who could toss the hefty caber at the perfect 12 o'clock point and Rider, fresh from his World Caber Tossing Championship victory at Inveraray earlier in the week, had been tipped to do it.

The Englishman - nicknamed the Cockney Caber Champion - achieved the feat with his final throw of the day and, on receiving the thumbs-up from caber judge Martin Charlton, Rider ran to the roaring crowd to celebrate his windfall.

Asked how he felt at conquering the Taynuilt Caber, Rider replied: "Fantastic. It is my biggest pay day by far."

Rider, a former Winter Olympic bobsledder and Commonwealth Games shot-putter, had earlier in the day set new games records for the shot-put, Nant Stone and the weight for distance and was close to breaking Gregor Edmunds' weight-over-the-bar record as the Highland games legend, who was not competing, looked on.

In fact, the only event the Englishman didn't win was the light hammer, when he lost out to veteran Stephen King, Inveraray.



Scott Rider tosses the Taynuilt caber on his final attempt.

too much for one hill race competitor who dropped out and even race winner, the experienced Tom Smith from Oban, conceded the conditions were among the toughest he had faced. Taynuilt teenager Alex Houston was the only junior competitor in the hill race and, after finishing, still had enough energy to conquer the games' famous greasy pole.

On the track, 15 year old Stewart Mobey won the best local athlete and best junior athlete trophies after winning the local 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1,500m.

But the most popular track event of the day was the three-legged race - announcer Donald Harrison quipped it was the 'largest gathering of three legs ever seen'.

Piper Darach Urquhart, who hails from Kyle of Lochalsh, had to beat South Uist native Fred Morrison to win the prestigious Taynuilt Hotel Piobaireachd Cup and Oban's Aaron Hossain was named best junior piper.

A well-run Highland dancing competition saw more than 60 dancers take part.

Among the vibrant crowd, the theme of the day seemed to be weddings: Kilchrean woman Zhenya Winter was at the games with her new husband and wedding party and, in spite of the heat, Frenchman Christophe Boucher and his friends wore kilts and 'Jimmy Hats' as they celebrated his stag party at a very sociable games.



Taynuilt's own Stewart Mobey was named best local athlete and best junior athlete on the day.



Piper Darach Urquhart, who hails from Kyle of Lochalsh, won the prestigious Taynuilt Hotel Piobaireachd Cup.



Taynuilt Highland Games committee members lead the march through the village.



Runner Tom Smith, from Oban, cools down after winning the hill race.



Oban Pipe Band get a view of Ben Cruachan as they march into the games field.



A French stag party get some tips from athletics convenor Alfie MacKenzie in the tug of war.



Scott Rider shows expert technique in the shot putt.



Dancers compete in the Irish Jig.



Taynuilt teenager Alex Houston conquers the greasy pole.



Kilmore's Ben Coates, far right, wins the 100m.



Taynuilt Highland Games committee member Leslie Servant receives a quich for 40 years service from Carol Thomson, wife of chieftain, Davy Thomson.



A mad dash at the start of the three-legged race.

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NTS trapped by own rules in Glencoe

Anonymous email sparks memorial row as grieving family mourn lost daughter

THE NATIONAL Trust for Scotland in Glencoe has come under fire for putting up a memorial bench for a bereaved family - then ripping it out weeks later. Steve and Diane Parker were devastated when their 20-year-old daughter Emily drowned in a kayaking accident in the River Coe in April 2010.

The Nottingham couple wished to remember their daughter on their frequent visits to the glen - and applied for a permanent memorial at the spot she entered the river.

NTS Glencoe granted permission and installed a recycled bench donated by a Durham firm on the Parkers' behalf on April 3, 2013.

The family marked the installation with a toast to Emily on the third anniversary of her death, April 6.

But on May 8 the Parkers received an email explaining that an error had been made and that there was no alternative but to remove the bench.

The NTS Glencoe property manager later informed couple the decision followed a single complaint via an anonymised email address that the bench breached NTS policy.

The guidelines state memorials placed on its property without permission "will be removed after a period of one month."

Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council are furious the trust granted permission then withdrew it through an unverifiable complaint - and agreed to apologise by letter to the Parkers on behalf of all Glencoe residents.

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

Simon Meldrum told the meeting: 'We are upset at the distress it has caused the family and the reflection it has put on Glencoe's reputation for hospitality.'

NTS Glencoe offered to re-site the bench at its visitor centre, an offer the couple declined as 'not particularly fitting' because it was too close where Emily's body was found.

In an email to NTS Glencoe, Mr and Mrs Parker said: 'As you can imagine we are deeply upset by the development regarding Emily's bench.'

'It is extremely distressing that a bench which has been placed following such tragic circumstances has evoked complaints when our hope was that it would benefit not just ourselves but the local community and the visiting tourists.'

'We support the local community whenever we visit by using local services and continue to do whatever we can to support the work of the Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team. The situation is very hurtful.'

'How can someone send an anonymous email and cause such heartache'

Victoria Sutherland, Glencoe

The Parkers have become close friends with Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council chairman Alister Sutherland and wife Victoria. Each time the Parkers make

a pilgrimage north, the Sutherlands offer free accommodation at their Glencoe Cottages holiday business.

Mrs Sutherland told The Oban Times: 'We lost our own son Erik at 18 when he was killed by a drink driver in Minorca 15 years ago, and that partly explains why we have so much sympathy for them.'

'Losing a child is a life-changing moment and it does not take much to knock you back.'

'The trust put the bench up for them and did all the digging. It is just bizarre. My biggest concern is how somebody can send in an anonymous email and cause such heartache.'

'It is such a shame they removed it just because of correspondence from "aconcernedlocal@gmail.com". That could be anybody.'

'If someone named has genuine concerns you discuss things with them. You just should not take an anonymous call at face value. That is no basis for doing something that is upsetting to people.'

'The original decision was made with the best of intentions, however, on further reflection, it was decided that this was in breach of the principles under which we try to manage Glencoe.'

'These are intended to try to maintain the area's wild character as far as we can. We have offered an alternative location for the bench, but regrettably this is not suitable for the family.'



Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council chairman Alister Sutherland next to the River Coe where Emily's bench once stood. 20_f30bench01

Drumnadrochit woman killed in A831 cycle crash

A FORT William-based cycling club has issued a road safety plea after a female cyclist was killed in a collision with a car near Drumnadrochit on Monday morning.

West Highland Wheelers spoke out as police investigations continue into the fatal accident on the A831 near the A833 junction at Milton.

Chairman Andy Rogers told The Oban Times: 'West Highland Wheelers is very sorry to hear of the tragic cycling accident at Drumnadrochit.'

'Without knowing the details of the incident, it is however another salutary reminder for all road users to be particularly vigilant at this busy time of year.'

'Any fatality on the roads is one too many for all those who

are closely involved.'

The woman, named locally as Mary Brook of Balnain, Drumnadrochit, was around three miles from her home when the accident occurred. The 59-year-old died at the scene.

Anyone who may have witnessed the incident or may have information is urged to contact Police Scotland on 101. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

The accident happened days after cycle safety campaigners placed two white 'ghost bikes' outside the Scottish Parliament. The bikes were in memory of two cyclists killed on Scottish roads last week.

Ms Brook was the ninth cyclist to die this year. Nine cyclists were killed in the whole of 2012.

Fort events in doubt as centre hits cash flow woes

ONE OF Lochaber's premier event venues could be facing closure after running into serious financial difficulties.

The 28 members of staff at the Nevis Centre in Fort William have been told the hub has been suffering cash flow problems since investing in a new nursery and a soft play area.

The centre is run by charitable organisation Linnhe Leisure, who receive an annual grant towards running costs from Highland Council.

Linnhe Leisure chairman Norman Clark stood down this week over his frustration with the council on the issue. He told The Oban Times the centre could run at a profit within 18 months if the next grant instalment was brought forward from October.

He said: 'It's just a cash flow problem, our cash reserves have dwindled. But the wood burning boiler has saved us around £10,000 a year, the play area is probably going to make a profit of £50,000 this year

and the nursery has moved into profit.'

'The simple solution would be to bring the grant forward by three months. If not, the cash flow problem will make it difficult for the centre to continue.'

Mr Clark added: 'The centre has been under-funded for years. We used to get £200,000 a year, but that was cut by £20,000 three years ago.'

A council spokesman said more than £1.4 million had been given to Linnhe Leisure since 2006. He said: 'The current agreement was that the council would provide a grant of £180,000 towards annual running costs, with payments scheduled in April and October of this year.'

'To assist the company with cashflow issues, the council had agreed to pre-pay the April payment of £90,000, in two instalments. These were fully paid by April of this year.'

The Nevis Centre is due to host events including the Blas Festival, Singing Kettle and Lochaber

Closed hotel in Duror is robbed

AN EMPTY country hotel has been broken into with a large number of electrical items stolen.

Police in Duror were forced into the Stewart Hotel near Duror - which has been closed for more than a year - at some point during the past week. Televisions were among the items taken, but no value was given for the stolen goods.

Inspector David Campbell told The Oban Times: 'A vehicle would have been needed to remove the items. We are asking for anyone with any information to come forward.'

Hotel owners Shamsul and Salma Arefin had their licence to run the premises revoked by Highland Council's licensing board in February due to a failure to pay fees.

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2.45pm Kids Races
3.15pm Great Annual Parade of Livestock
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Road network needs to be fit for purpose

SEVERAL serious road accidents this week, and almost every week, have emphasised how vulnerable the west coast community and its economy are to the closure of its ailing road network.

The closure of the A82 between Onich and Fort William on Tuesday afternoon, after yet another fatality, effectively sealed off Fort William from the south for the majority of the day with the only option for road travellers a more than 150-mile detour north and east via the A9 accessed through Spean Bridge, Laggan and Dalwhinnie, then south to towards either Perth or Loch Tayside. Would such a long and winding alternative route be considered acceptable in other parts of the country?

Many drivers then found further complications when they met traffic snarled-up as a result of another accident which closed the A84 Lochearnhead - Callander road.

These accidents, while tragic for the people and families directly involved, further emphasise the need to upgrade what is now a road not fit for purpose. Tourism organisations are rightly trumpeting the value of our unique locality but if visitors and locals alike cannot travel in safety and certainty of reaching a destination without doubt and disruption many will simply opt to look elsewhere.

GLASGOW LETTER

Piping Live 2013

Back in 2004 the first festival Piping Hot took place during the week leading up to the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow Green and this year, having been billed as Piping Live since 2006, is the 10th anniversary of the festival.

Appropriately there will be a birthday party to celebrate, based at the National Piping Centre, and as a result the festival will start one day earlier than in the past with Sunday August 10 being the day of the party. From then the festival will last until Sunday August 18 and throughout there will be the opportunity to sample Piper's Pilsner Beer, a light and hoppy new beer to help celebrate the anniversary.

As I indicated several weeks ago the well tried and successful formula developed over the years will have to change since the redevelopment of George Square will mean it will not be a festival venue.

The organisers have had to devise an alternative strategy which will mean that St Enoch Square will become a daily focal point for much of the activity which would have been located in George Square with, as a bonus in my opinion, the introduction of the pedestrian precinct of Buchanan Street being a stopping off point for performers heading to St Enoch.

This should make the residents of the city and the visitors more aware of the fact that such an enjoyable festival is taking place in the city.

The main focal point of the festival will, of course, still be the National Piping Centre with its cafe providing excellent food and music throughout the day and, as in the past, there will be evening concerts.

The Strathclyde Suite is out of commission and concerts which would have been scheduled for there will now take place in the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Tickets for these concerts are now on sale and can be purchased via the festival website.

At the end of the Piping Live week the World Pipe Band Championships will take place in Glasgow Green and for the first time they will be over two days, the weekend of August 17 and 18, giving many more spectators the opportunity to listen to more of the 200 bands from 11 countries worldwide.

Organisers of both Piping Live and the Worlds will be looking forward to the same kind of summer weather as we have recently been experiencing.

Gaelic Service

Please note that because of the holiday season there will be no Gaelic service in St Co-

lumba's Church in July. The next service will be on Friday August 30 at 7.30pm and will be conducted by the Rev Kenneth MacLeod, Downvale Free Church of Scotland

Doreen Sweeney

After an extremely brave struggle with illness, lasting almost three years, Doreen Sweeney passed away peacefully in the early hours of Thursday July 18 in St Andrew's Hospice in Airdrie.

Gaelic singing was a major love for Doreen and it was fitting that she won her Gold Medal at the National Mod in East Kilbride, her home venue, in 1976.

Over the years she was involved, as singing member or conductor, with Govan Gaelic Choir, East Kilbride Junior and Senior Gaelic Choirs and the Glasgow Islay Junior and Senior Gaelic Choirs and in addition she enjoyed competing, with much success, in duet and quartet competitions.

Until very recently she performed with the Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir with her commitment to the choir sustaining her throughout her illness.

She will be sadly missed by all her friends throughout the land and no more so than in Tighnabruich where she loved to spend much of her leisure time.

Our sympathy is extended to her sister Margaret and her family at this sad time.

Dates for Diary

Thursday July 25 Stirling and Trossachs Feis Trail together with Argyll Feis Trail, Dalmally Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Friday July 26 Tolbooth, Stirling, 8pm-The Hot Seats.

Saturday July 27 Scottish Pipe Band Championships, Levensgrove Park, Dumbarton-all day event

Tuesday July 30 Live at the Star, Admiral Bar, 72, Waterloo Street, 8pm-Malcolm Bushby and Seth Tinsley.

Friday August 2 Tolbooth, Stirling, 7.30pm-Sarah MacNeil and Friends

Saturday August 3 Donnie Munro, Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh.

Sunday August 4 Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh-Horse.

Pub Scene

Music in the Park Bar this weekend will be provided by Gaberlunzie on Friday, the Martain Skene Ceilidh Band on Saturday and Scott Harvey on Sunday while in the Islay Inn it will be Karnaby Street on Friday and Diego on Saturday.

Approximately 150,000 eligible UK employees will receive free shares giving them a 10 per cent stake in the business. This is the largest free stake than in any other major UK privatisation for almost 30 years.

Many previously Government-owned companies - like Rolls



This week's picture comes from CC Bullock of Coventry and shows the Oban High School Sports champions of 1939. The picture, which is originally from The Oban Times, is of John MacDiarmid, Lochgilphead, winner of the Rector's Cup; Ena MacKenzie, Bendorloch, winner of the Rose Bowl, Andrew MacDougall of Thornhill, Oban, who won the Tenga Cup - and the group of prizewinners are joined by Mr A H Davidson, sports secretary. 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

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Privatisation good for Royal Mail

Sir,
Your readers may be interested to understand what the recent announcement by the UK Government on the privatisation of Royal Mail means for our customers, our business and our people.

The UK Government has acknowledged it is not a good owner of large businesses. Private ownership will enable Royal Mail to become more flexible and fleet of foot in the fiercely competitive markets in which we operate. We will also have long-term access to capital when we need it. The Government has made clear it doesn't have the money to allocate to Royal Mail ahead of schools and hospitals.

We aim to combine the best of the public and private sectors. The six-day-a-week, one-price-goes-anywhere, affordable universal service will remain unchanged. It is protected by law - enshrined in the Postal Services Act 2011. Any change would have to be passed through an affirmative vote in both Houses of Parliament.

The Quality of Service regime that applies to Royal Mail under public ownership will continue to apply under private ownership. Ofcom has already specified the minimum standards under regulation. Royal Mail will continue to offer good value for money. UK stamp prices are among the best value in the EU.

Our people are at the heart of Royal Mail. The current position is that all terms and conditions that apply now to Royal Mail employees would remain in place, on the same basis, were the company to be sold.

To provide further reassurance, we will create a legally-binding and enforceable contract with the CWU. Pay and protections could not be changed for the period of the contract without CWU agreement.

Approximately 150,000 eligible UK employees will receive free shares giving them a 10 per cent stake in the business. This is the largest free stake than in any other major UK privatisation for almost 30 years.

Many previously Government-owned companies - like Rolls

Royce and British Airways - have flourished under private ownership. We believe privatisation will equip Royal Mail for similar success.

Gerry McAuley, Royal Mail Delivery Director, Glasgow

Grass verge cutting

Sir,
For the first time ever, during the last week three birds have flown out of the grass road verge and died when they hit my car. I can only assume that there are so many birds feeding in the verges at present due to the council not cutting the grass verges. This allows the wild flowers to seed and provide good feeding for the birds. In the last week I have also noticed the corpses of two sparrow hawks on the road between Clachan and Tayinloan. Presumably they have also been attracted towards the road verges to prey on the smaller birds feeding there.

I noted that in a recent edition of the Courier that a councillor was quoted as saying that there would have to be further cuts to grass verge cutting. As the council now only cut the verges once a year then this would suggest that many verges will not be cut at all next year. The roads budget is already inadequate and the uncut verges are already proving a danger to motorists as the visibility at many accesses and bends have been dangerously obscured by the overgrown uncut verges. I would suggest that if the council wants to make spending cuts that they do not make these in areas that put our lives and property at risk and that lead to the increased carnage to our wildlife.

Iain Logan, Tayinloan

Fun Day at Lochaber Rural Centre

Sir,
May we thank everyone who attended the Family Fun Friday event and made it such a successful day.

Special thanks to the Andrews family, Lyndsay Evans, Robbie Campbell and Isabel MacPhee. The hamper was won by Marie Weir, Corpach.

A total of £526.45 was raised

for the trust.

Thank you all for making it such a happy day.
Lochaber Rural Education Trust and Lochaber Farm Shop

Need to be more carbon aware

Sir,
Many of us are making real efforts to combat climate change by cutting our own carbon emissions and working to make our local communities more sustainable.

But the banks and pension funds in which most of us invest our money are pouring billions of pounds into dirty coal, oil and gas around the world - yet we have no say in how this money is spent. The fossil fuel extraction financed by UK banks and pension funds is pushing the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. It is also destroying the lives of the people who have to live with giant coal mines and oil wells on their doorsteps. Often these projects are in poor countries, and far from benefiting local people, they pollute the land and water people rely on and sometimes even evict them from their homes.

We have very little say in how banks and pension funds spend our money.

So as part of a campaign by the World Development Movement, I'm calling on the government to make banks and pension funds publish the carbon emissions from the fossil fuel projects they finance, so that we can start holding them to account and make them change their ways.

Jennifer Selater, Innellan

Innis Na Birlinn Cemetery

Sir,
Following our recent AGM, the committee of Innis Na Birlinn Cemetery would like to pass on our very grateful thanks to everyone who has supported us through the last year, whether by financial contribution or giving their time and joining the members on the grass cutting rota.

We are very grateful to have received a lot of very nice comments from relatives and friends paying visits.

We are always very welcoming to anyone wishing to join our grass cutting rota, so please feel free to let us know if you are interested. The more cutters we can get on the rota means fewer cuts per person.

A list of members detail can be found on our noticeboard at the cemetery.
Ann Marie Cameron, committee member

Water breaks at shinty final

Sir,
Last Saturday I attended at shinty cup final at the Jubilee Park, Ballachulish.

After 30 minutes the game came to a standstill. I was not sure what had taken place and then I realised that they were having a water break.

I have attended hundreds of games in my 70 years and this is the first time I have ever witnessed a game being stopped for a water break.

Due to the present heatwave, this, I assume, must be a health and safety precaution to prevent heat stroke.

The temperature was close to 30 degrees, therefore it must have been very hot for the players.

Health and safety normally goes over the top with its guidelines. I would respectfully suggest that this is a very sensible precaution during this super weather.

My mother used to say that every day was a school day, as you learn something new every day.

Tom Kirsop, North Ballachulish

Oban roads

Sir,
In last week's *Oban Times* you highlighted a report that stated the condition of the roads in and around Oban were 'satisfactory'.

I would have to ask, 'compared to what?' Had the researchers looked at road surfaces in similar rural areas they would surely have noted that you can tell when you leave Argyll and enter a different local authority area. Or, even more obvious, if you leave the west of Scotland and travel into the Central Belt.

Some tar and honesty please.
John Stewart, Oban

ISLAY LETTER

Bowlers' ceilidh

Bruichladdich Village Hall was the setting last Thursday for a traditional ceilidh hosted by members of the Bridgend Bowling Club.

Although the attendance could have been more encouraging - a victim of the tropical weather perhaps? - all enjoyed the entertainment on offer and the programme content greatly pleased the visitors present.

Getting it all off to a rousing start were the piping sisters Lyndsay and Rhona McArthur and they were ably backed by drummers Catriona MacPhee and Ciara MacMillan.

Singing a wide variety of songs were Janey Torrance, Ruairaidh MacKinnon and Alec Brown and the accordionist was club member Bob Ralston who was accompanied in the second half by Stuart Todd on bodhran.

The Highland dancers were sisters Sophie and Alana Baker and their input ranged from Sean Triubhais to the Sailor's Hornpipe.

Raffle prizes were eagerly sought and went far and wide and the supper spread would have amply fed the five thousand.

The introductions and vote of thanks were capably handled by committee member Tony Archibald.

This was an enjoyable evening deserving of greater support.

Farmers' visit

Around 50 members from the Fellows and Associates of the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland chose Islay as the setting for their 2013 annual summer outing.

It was an action packed two days for the visitors and among the ports of call were the seat of the Lord of the Isles at Finlaggan and the RSPB centre at Gruinart where the farming and bird protection methods employed were observed.

No visit to the island would be complete without a distillery tour and this was informatively provided by the staff at Bruichladdich.

Local arrangements for the visit were carried out by Ian McKerrell, a member of a well known Ileach farming family, and the society members were greatly impressed by the island's fertile acres and commented favourably on the quality of the farming stock in the area.

Exhibitions

Ongoing exhibitions currently on display at Ionad Chalum Chille Ile, the island's Gaelic centre, includes a 'Jura Lives' theme and features artefacts which reflect various periods in the long history of the deer island.

A 'Muintir Ile' display of photographs features people and places of yesteryear and has proved a high point of interest.

Also on display are a selection of wall hangings designed and created by pupils from Islay and Jura schools and depicting scenes from the clan battle of Loch Gruinart. This was the subject of 'Blar' the highly successful community

event performed at Bowmore in May and promoted by Còisir Ghàidhlig Ile.

Coffee morning

The Round Church's monthly coffee morning takes place in the Bowmore buffet hall on Saturday July 27 at 10.30am.

Home baking, produce, bric-a-brac, bargain books and CDs will be on offer and the admission is £3.

All proceeds go to the church's fabric fund.

First grandchild

Congratulations to Marie and Brian Palmer of Bowmore on the birth of their first grandchild Sam Robert MacCafferty on July 8.

Mother Nikki and baby Sam are doing well and dad Kevin is coping admirably.

There is no truth in the rumour that Papa Brian, of 'Ileach' fame, is planning to give the new arrival a cycling helmet as a christening gift!
Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX, Tel: 01496 810 658



Beachd Ailein

Ailean Caimbeul

"Dad às ùr an-diugh?" Sin an fhàilte bu trice as cuimhne leam a bh' air a' phosta nam òige is e a' coiseachd tron bhaile le a mhàileid litrichean, agus mu lethidh am Nollaige poca mòr pharsailean air a dhruim cuideachd.

Leis gun robh a' mhòr-chuid a' theaghlachan an uairsin an eisimeil nan catalogan, aig JD agus Oxendale mar bu trice, bha feum air a' phoca aig amannan eile cuideachd. Nuair chluinnear an-diugh mu bhith a' ceannach far an eadar-lion, shaoileadh tu nach do thachair a' leithid riamh roimhe, ach 's e ceannach air chreideas bho na catalogan a chum mòran theaghlachan ann an aodach agus fiù 's àirneis taighe thar nam bliadhnaichean. Agus abair othail nuair a nochdadh am posta le pàrsailean! Bhiodh an uairsin iomagain a' feuchainn aodaich ach an robh e a' mheudachd cheart agus tàmailt mhòr mura biodh agus gum feumaist a' thilleadh gus rud eile fhaotainn. Ach a bharrachd air litrichean is pasgain, bha am posta cuideachd a' giùlan naidheachdan anns na bailtean iomallach, eadar fios a' thoibh latha-fainge-chorach neo tiodhlachadh bha e cho cudromach aig àm far nach robh fòn fiù 's anns gach baile gun ghuth air gach dachaigh. Cha robh iomradh air leithid fònaichean-làimhe!

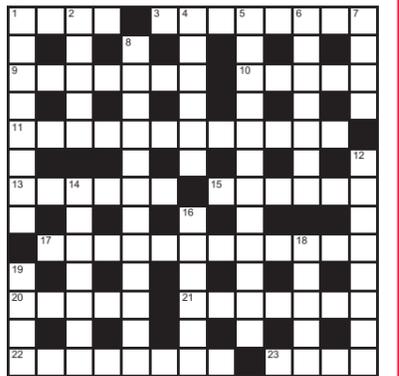
Chan ionndrainn thu rud chun an tèid aicheadh dhut! Nach tric a chualas na briathran sin agus nach tric a thèid an dearbhadh dhuinn nuair a chaillead sinn leithid seirbheis usige neo dealan mar eisimpleir. Dh'fhalbh post a' bhaile mar a' bhithne dhuinn agus thòisich na bhanaichean agus chan eil an aon dàimh leis a' phosta 's a bha. Agus a-nise tha an Rìghaltas air cur rompa am Post Rìghail a reic dhan roinn phrìobhaideach is iad ag argamaid gur e airgead-seilbhe prìobhaideach an aon dòchas a' th' aig an t-seirbheis air gluasad air adhart bho shuidheachadh anns am bheil i air a bhith a' call bho chionn bhliadhnaichean. Chan anns nach eil na h-uile ag aontachadh agus mar a thuirr an eòlaiche a chuala mi air rìoid, nam biodh suidheachadh na buidhne cho dona 's a tha an Rìghaltas a' cumail a-mach, cha ghabhadh i reic! Ach dha muintir bhailean an iomail 's i' a' cheist dè an seòrsa seirbheis a gheibh iadsan nuair a thachras an t-atharrachadh? Bheil an aon chòraichean aig an aon phris gu bhith aca neo am bheil iad dol a dh'fhulang a-rithist air sgàth an cuid iomallachd?

Residents of remote communities may feel cynical about the "Better Together" arguments when they consider the limited level of public services available to them. It is undoubtedly challenging for government to provide equal levels of provision for all citizens of the UK but that should be the aspiration, and because the private sector will always be profit driven, privatisation of public services bodes ill for remote communities.

Royal Mail may not be cheap or even efficient at times, but it seeks to deliver a national equality of provision.

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

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1 Stew (4) | 1 Winter month (8) |
| 3 Group outing without the ladies (8) | 2 Hoodoo (5) |
| 9 River flowing to Yellowstone river (7) | 4 Staying power (6) |
| 10 A writ (5) | 5 Nonsense (12) |
| 11 Without being disciplined (12) | 6 Frozen floater (7) |
| 13 Dance... (6) | 7 Enlarged (4) |
| 15 ...slowly, to a conductor (6) | 8 Travel fast to break it (5,7) |
| 17 Careless affliction (12) | 12 Farewells (4-4) |
| 20 Royal canines (5) | 14 Throw (7) |
| 21 Ornate (7) | 16 Beneficial (6) |
| 22 Gloomily (8) | 18 Entanglement (3-2) |
| 23 Musical composition (4) | 19 Decorated (4) |

Last week's solution

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Forty years after 'the fire'



Firefighters tackle the front of the still smouldering building long after the height of the blaze.

On July 24, 1973 the Esplanade Hotel in Oban caught fire resulting in the deaths of 10 tourists. The early morning blaze left a lasting impression on the minds of many who, 40 years on, still remember it simply as 'the fire'.

YESTERDAY (Wednesday) marked the 40th anniversary of one of the most devastating incidents in Oban's history.

The Esplanade Hotel fire, which remains the worst Scottish hotel fire since wartime - killed 10 holidaymakers visiting the town.

Staying at the 25-bedroom hotel on the evening of July 23, 1973 were two private families and 42 guests from Cornwall, Devon and Somerset on a Greenslades Coaches tour.

Nine died in the fire while one died in Glasgow's Western Infirmary from injuries sustained leaping from a third floor window. More than 20 others were treated for injuries.

The five-storey Esplanade Hotel had caught fire at around 3.30am on July 24, 1973.

Just before 4am Oban police contacted the town's part-time fire station and by the time two engines arrived - while another two were called as back-up from Lochgilphead and Inveraray - the fire had well and truly taken hold. A total of eight fire engines attended that night.

Flames were coming from the upper floors and the roof of the six storey building.

In the aftermath of the tragedy the gutted hotel and affected parts of its neighbouring Park Hotel, situated where the Esplanade Court now stands, were demolished. The incident also

"The gruesome part is best left to the history books."

Retired ambulance man John Barbour

According to *The Oban Times* of July 26 members of the emergency services and civilians who had assisted were praised for their heroics.

Oban's voluntary services also swung into action. Organisations including the Rotary Club, Inner Wheel, Round Table, Red Cross and WRVS gave clothing, food and money to survivors of the tragedy. Help was also given by Argyll County Council social work.

gave weight to the argument that Oban should have a full-time fire service, something that was installed soon after.

Improvements to the fire service in Oban followed in the years after. An additional full-time officer was immediately based in the town, so there was one now to deal with training and the other for fire prevention.

In 1976 the Oban retained firemen moved from their prefabricated building to a newly built fire station and in 2004 a new fire station was opened with a full-time appliance and retained one. An aerial ladder appliance was later added to the station, more than 30 years since there were first calls for a turntable ladder in Oban.

The cause of the fire was never confirmed but it was believed to have started in the reception area. It was suggested the fire started with an ignited cigarette end in a waste paper basket, which set alight the waste paper.

Following the Fire Precautions Act 1971, Ian Nicolson, the owner of The Esplanade Hotel since 1963, wrote to the Western Area Fire Brigade in September 1972 seeking advice on fire safety and had received recommendations on improvements to be made. He had intended to put safety improvements in place during the hotel's closed season in the year of the fire.

At the instigation of procurator fiscal Graeme Pagan, a Fatal Accident Inquiry was held at Oban Sheriff Court in October 1973. A jury of five men and two women sat with Sheriff Principal James MacKay, QC (later Lord Chancellor, Lord MacKay of Clashfern). They found that no fault or negligence whatsoever could be attributed and that all reasonable precautions were in hand but the inquiry made recommendations that would shape the future of the emergency services and hotel safety.



Joe Simpson examines Oban Times photographs of the rescue attempt. 15_130j0e01

'I was there ...'

The fireman

'The noise was something I'll never forget'

Joe Simpson was a 42-year-old plumber and station officer at the part-time fire station in Shore Street, Oban.

The town had 14 part-time firemen, all of whom attended the fire.

'We would have the odd house fire,' said Joe. 'But that night was like nothing we had ever seen, or ever would see. People were jumping from the windows.'

On hearing his firebell at home, Joe drove to the station where he made the call 'make pumps four', indicating the highest level of attendance was required.

The Oban firefighters used both of their appliances, as well as a spare engine, which was held in reserve in case of fire at the distillery. Two of the appliances were pumping water straight from the sea.

On arriving at the blaze, station officer Simpson and his crew began to assist people at the front of the hotel, who had escaped from their rooms onto a veranda but after hearing screams from the back of the hotel, where the flames were at their worst, he diverted resources to the rear of the building.

'I remember someone grabbing me and asking why I was taking the boys round the back of the hotel,' Joe said. 'I told him that I believed people were

trapped and asked if he wanted to come and see for himself - he didn't have an answer for that.

'The noise was something I'll never forget: the flames, windows bursting and people screaming. Lots of people were shouting, 'there are flames coming out of the window', as if I hadn't seen them myself!

'We managed to get a few people out from the back but the stairway had burnt away.

'We were helping one woman down an old ladder when she collapsed. One of the other boys had to go up the ladder to help get her down, but the ladder was only supposed to take two people and it snapped.

'I had seen a man's face in the same room, so I shouted for another ladder. By the time we got that up, the face had gone. The image of that face, just above the window ledge has stayed with me.'

The man turned out to be the husband of the woman who the firemen had saved and was one of nine bodies the Oban firefighters pulled out of the hotel that night.

They were stood down at 9.20am when the full-time crews took over.

'For a few weeks afterwards, a few of the boys talked about leaving the fire service but that doubt soon went away,' said Joe.



As hoses play on the rear of the building, an injured man is lowered to safety. Ambulance man John Barbour is second left of the group on the roof. He vividly remembers the events of that morning.

The ambulance man

Ambulanceman John Barbour was just 24 years old and had been in the service for a year at the time of the Esplanade Hotel fire.

And that fateful night was his first night on call in his own house.

He received the call from the telephone exchange to say that there was a fire at The Esplanade Hotel. As he dressed, his wife telephoned his colleague, Eric Turner to attend.

'I came down Dunollie Brae from where I lived and straight along the Esplanade,' he recalls.

'I didn't bother with the one-way street in the circumstances, so I was there very quickly. It was a nightmare.

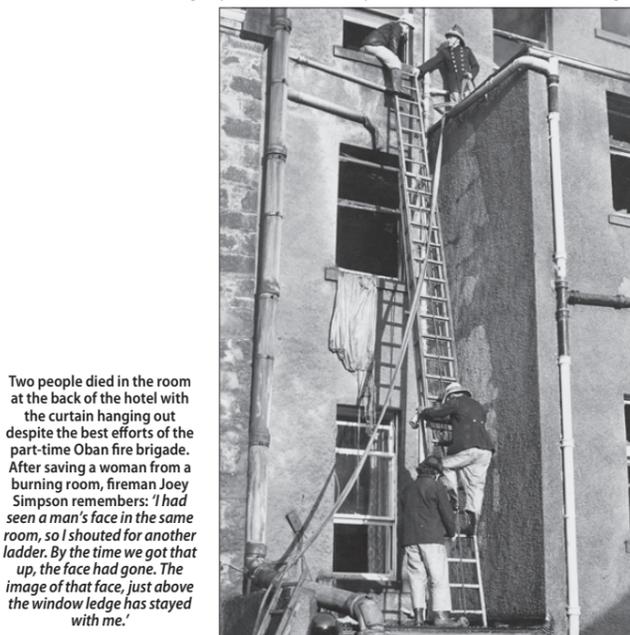
'The Esplanade Hotel fire was horrendous and will hopefully never be repeated anywhere. It was a very sad and traumatic event for everyone involved.

'People still ask me about it but I wonder whether the younger generations even know about it.

'The lessons learnt were good from the point of safety but the gruesome part is best left to the history books and is something I don't like to talk about.'



Fire crews struggled to reach the top floor of the hotel.



Two people died in the room at the back of the hotel with the curtain hanging out despite the best efforts of the part-time Oban fire brigade. After saving a woman from a burning room, fireman Joe Simpson remembers: 'I had seen a man's face in the same room, so I shouted for another ladder. By the time we got that up, the face had gone. The image of that face, just above the window ledge has stayed with me.'



Volunteers, passers-by and other hotel guests helped emergency crews with the injured.



Looking bewildered, a survivor with a bedcover over her nightclothes wanders along Oban's Esplanade to the safety of other hotels. Nine people lost their lives in the fire, with another person dying later in hospital.



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Fort William park to close for month before shinty final

FORT William's An Aird park is to close for more than a month ahead of the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup final for pitch maintenance - just over a year after the last major works were carried out on the surface.

The cup final is set to be played on September 14, with the ground closing on August 5 for the improvements to be carried out. Camanachd Association's Torquil Macleod told The Oban

Times grounds were regularly closed before cup finals for pitch repairs.

He said: 'The ground around the goal mouths is getting a bit worn. It needs a bit of watering, a bit of seeding and a bit of

resurfacing.' Kyle Athletic and Kingussie will contest the Camanachd Cup semi final on Saturday August 3 before Fort William host Glenurquhart later the same day, the last games played

at An Aird before the final.

Fort William will be homeless for five weeks, but with five away games still to play their last home game against Newtonmore may be played at An Aird after the final.

Fort chairman Richard Gall said he did not think the closure would affect his team's relegation fight. He said: 'It's always closes before the Camanachd Cup final. It's just one of those things.'

'We've got other games to play so we might actually be back at An Aird by the time we play Newtonmore.' Previous work at An Aird was carried out between June 2011 and August last year.

Walking route brings Skye tourism boom

ELGOL on Skye appears to be enjoying something of a tourism boom thanks to a new 128km walking route from Rubha Hunish, the island's northernmost headland, to Broadford in the south.

Elgol village shop manager Hermione Lamond said: 'We had a few people using the route last year but obviously the word has got out and there are a lot of people using it now. I don't know who's behind it or promoting it but it seems to be working.'

She added: 'We are very busy and there are a lot of people about, especially Europeans - Germans, Dutch and a lot of French.'

Foragers seek food in Ardnamurchan

FORAGERS will be combing the oakwoods and seashore around Salen in Ardnamurchan next Saturday in search of wild foods.

Galloway expert Mark Williams will be leading the expedition to find fungi, edible plants, berries and shellfish. More information at www.katheskitchen.co.uk.

SSPCA calling for Loch Ness runners

THE SCOTTISH SPCA is calling on animal lovers in the Highlands and Islands to enter the Loch Ness Marathon to raise vital funds. Scotland's animal welfare charity still has a handful of spaces available for the popular event on September 29.

Elaine Floyd, manager of the charity's rescue and rehoming Centre in Inverness, said: 'Anyone who participates in the marathon will be helping save lives.'

More information on 03000 999 999 (option 4) or email fundraising@scottishspca.org.

Windows smashed

TWO WINDOWS were broken at houses in Greater Fort William last week.

A window in Wallace Place was broken around 1.30am on Thursday July 18, while a second was smashed in Mackay Crescent, Caol at around 1am on Monday July 15. Contact local police on 01397 702000.

Rain welcome as water runs low

Private water supplies and hydropower come under threat

THUNDERY showers over the West Highlands on Tuesday brought localised relief to some as the prolonged dry hot spell threatens hydropower output and private water supplies.

In Knoydart, the small hydro scheme supplying electricity to local homes continues to operate - for the moment. Knoydart Foundation development manager Angela Williams told The Oban Times: 'At the moment it's so far so good. The loch level has dropped but we have a meter in the turbine house which we are keeping an eye on.'

REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

'We are pretty lucky with the hydro and private water supplies because when it rains the ground holds it and releases it slowly.'

'But give it a few more days and it could be a different story. The weather is beautiful but we would be grateful for some rain.'

Across on Eigg, burns are beginning to run dry and Small Isles Community Council secretary Camille Dressler is already

taking steps to save water. She said: 'We are probably going to struggle if the good weather carries on, our water supplies are quite limited.'

'We have not quite reached the problem stage yet, but we have had to move an intake pipe further down the burn and we are trying to limit the amount of water used. We are using water from the bath to water the plants in the garden in the morning.'

She added: 'In a couple of weeks we will be feeling it and it could get quite tricky.'

Eigg's hydro plants, which supply the island's renewable

energy grid are still running. Eigg Electric engineer Eddie Scott said.

Glenborrodale in Ardnamurchan, which relies on private water supplies, is experiencing few difficulties, according to local resident Sian Morrison.

She said: 'A couple of days ago we had low pressure but when my husband Alan went to check it was just an obstruction at the pipe filter.'

As The Oban Times went to press, further heavy showers were forecast for the week along with somewhat lower temperatures.

'International' cricket comes to Fort William

IT MAY not quite be a match for the Ashes - but Fort William Cricket Club players will have the chance to try their hand at 'international' cricket next week.

The National University of Singapore's cricket team is embarking on a tour of Scotland during July and August, and their coach Grant Stanley emailed the Lochaber club to challenge them to a 20/20 game.

Fort William chairman Derek Spencer told The Oban Times the invite came 'totally out of the blue'.

He said: 'Of all the Scottish clubs they chose us - no doubt for the geography of Lochaber, not for our cricket talents! But we'll give them a warm welcome and I expect there'll be a few drinks afterwards.'

The game starts at 4pm on Wednesday July 31 at the BA Club.

Visitor numbers rise at West Highland Museum

VISITOR numbers at West Highland Museum in Fort William this week are 26 per cent up compared with the same time last year.

Figures compiled by curator Colleen Foggo also show shop sales ahead by 22 per cent and donations from visitors up 27 per cent. Ms Foggo said: 'We could not have done this without the help of our volunteers who are wonderful at welcoming our visitors and helping in the shop. We have nearly 40 volunteers

at the moment but would like to increase it to 50 to help cover holidays and to enable us to do extra things in the museum other than helping at reception and in the shop.'

However, the average donation per person is still only 53p - the same as 2012. Ms Foggo said: 'We would like to get average donation up to £1 per person.'

'This would help us meet the deficit we shall have from next year with our grant funding reducing.'



Lochaline celebrates the opening of the new shore facilities at Cala Loch Alann.

Sailors' Ahoy at Lochaline

MORVERN Games and Gala Week had even more to celebrate last Wednesday - the official opening of new £215,000 shore facilities at Lochaline Harbour.

Former Morvern Community Development Company (MDCD) chairman Robin Smart, who played a key role in redeveloping the harbour as a west coast yachting destination, cut the ribbon.

The attractive wooden building, featuring a harbour office, showers, toilets, laundry and wi-fi, will serve the 24-pontoon Cala Loch Alann marina, which opened in July 2011.

The pontoons recorded over

1,100 boat nights in the first 12 months, helping to boost to boost visitor numbers to the remote community.

Morvern Community Trading Company chairman Hector MacKechnie said: 'We are extremely proud of our new shore facilities at the Harbour and are looking forward to welcoming even more visitors to Lochaline.'

'The pontoons are already well used as an overnight stop for yachts on the popular routes up and down the Sound of Mull and between Oban and Tobermory.'

'Lochaline itself is described in many yachting magazines

as offering some of the best all weather anchorages of any harbour in this part of the west coast.'

'Our new facilities will really improve the experience for visitors to this spectacular part of the world.'

MDCD led a local bid to secure £150,000 from LEADER, £55,000 from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and contributed £10,000 themselves to develop the shore facilities.

Cala Loch Alann is part of Sail West, an EU-backed project led by Donegal County Council to boost sailing along the northern Irish and western Scottish coasts.

Raft race raises £5,000 for mountain rescuers



THE SUN shone down on the annual Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team (LMRT) fundraising Glen Nevis raft race on Saturday.

Crowds gathered on the banks of the River Nevis in baking conditions to see competitors from across the country plunge into the icy water on blow-up rafts at Lower Falls and race two miles down waterfalls and rapids. The recent spell of good weather in Lochaber meant the water levels in the river were lower than usual.

Around 60 people, including SNP MEP Alyn Smith, took part in the race, with Craig McMahon from Northumberland recording the fastest time of 36 minutes and 43 seconds.

Faser Coupland, of event organisers No Fuss Events, told The Oban Times more than £5,000 had been raised for LMRT.

He said: 'There wasn't very much water, but it went really well. Everybody seemed to enjoy it and there was loads of spectators.'



Daniel MacDonald, who will run from Glasgow to Taynuilt this September for Macmillan Cancer Support and Yorkhill Children's Hospital. 16_t30daniel1

Taynuilt lad to run home from Glasgow for charity

Keen to show support for Macmillan Cancer and Yorkhill Children's Hospital

A TAYNUILT shinty player will run from Glasgow back to his home village this September to raise money for two charities which provided vital care to his family.

Daniel MacDonald has never run a marathon in his life, but decided in the spring to run 80 miles in just three days - running more than a marathon on each day - to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer and Yorkhill Children's Hospital.

While he has managed to run one marathon in training, thanks to trainer Stephanie Dunstaffnage at Boost PT, he knows he's got a long way to go before his body can recover quickly enough to allow him to run 27 miles on day one, followed by two runs of 28 and 25 miles.

However, the joiner with Gillies Brothers will be motivated by his gratitude to the charities and says he's so determined to complete the challenge he's even given up his sport, albeit temporarily.

'My inspiration for doing this is my uncle Norrie,' said 22 year old Daniel. 'In September last year he left his home on Eriskay to have an x-ray to see if he could find out why his neck was sore. The x-ray showed part of his fifth vertebra was missing.'

'The discovered he had a tumour in his neck destroying his spine. He had three major operations to try and rebuild it but after new year the doctors said there was nothing more they could do; the tumour was too aggressive and he also had an infection.'

SHOPPERS at Tesco Oban have been doing their bit to help people in need by donating shopping items to the food charity Trussells.

Led by the store's newly-formed Retired Staff Association (RSA), the FareShare initiative encouraged shoppers to buy from a list of goods and donate the items to the charity. The charity then made up food parcels to be distributed through Oban charities Lord's Larder, Mary's Meals, The Salvation Army and Hope Kitchen. The store undertook a similar initiative in December in the lead up to Christmas, collecting the equivalent of 2,061 food parcels, but expected to beat that total this time round. The RSA is led by Teresa Russell and meets at the store for a coffee and chat, as well as services like pension advice, on the first Monday of every month.

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RICS

what's on

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FREE EVENT LISTING

THURSDAY - July 25

Family fun week, North Mull Parishes.
Exhibition of 'brain paintings' by Heide Pfuertner, Easdale Island Community Hall.
9.30am, Ramblers Scotland Glen Creran walk, meet Ballachulish tourist centre or Oban's Longdale Road car park.
10am, In the footsteps of Columba art exhibition, Campbeltown Library.
11am, Coffee morning, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
11.15am, Family inflatable fun session, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
12pm, Mull and Iona Rangers guided walk at St Martin's Caves, Iona.
12pm, Summer lunch, Connel Church Hall.
1.30pm, Mull Musical Minds, An Roth, Craignure.
1.30pm, Metal embossing, Kilmartin Museum.
2.30pm, Mull Lions strawberry tea, Tobermory Golf Course, Mull.
7pm, Clay pigeon shooting, Lorn Clay Target Club, North Connel.
7pm, Prize bingo, Congregational Church Hall, Oban.
7.30pm, MICT broadband meeting, Craignure Village Hall, Mull.
7.30pm, Stepping into the Spotlight, Corran Halls, Oban.
8pm, Summer Ceilidh, Taynult Village Hall.
8pm, Sleepless 'til Seattle, Mull Theatre, Druminfin, Tobermory.
9pm, John 'the box' Turnbull, The Lorne Bar, Oban.
9pm, Quiz, Coasters, Oban.
11.30pm, Thursday night disco, Skippinish, Oban.

FRIDAY - July 26

Family fun week, North Mull Parishes.
10am, In the footsteps of Columba art exhibition, Campbeltown Library.
11am, Coffee morning, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
11.15am, Family inflatable fun session, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
2pm, Isle of Luing History Group exhibition, Cullipool Hall, Luing.
7pm, Car treasure hunt, meet Congregational Church Hall, Oban.
7.30pm, Ivan Drever, Victory Hall, Benderloch.
7.30pm, Sleepless 'til Seattle, Corran Halls, Oban.
8pm, 90s tunes and dance anthems, Paparazzi, Oban.
8pm, Ceilidh Trail, An Tobar, Tobermory, Mull.
9pm, Gareth Bryant, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
9.30pm, Sandra MacBeth, Markie Dan's, Oban.
9.30pm, Karaoke, McCaig's Return, Oban.
10pm, Disco, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

SATURDAY - July 27

Family fun week, North Mull Parishes.
7.30am, Ramblers Scotland Corraur walk, meet Fort William Station.
10am, In the footsteps of Columba art exhibition, Campbeltown Library.
10am, Table top craft sale, Congregational Church Hall, Oban.
11am, Isle of Luing History Group exhibition, Cullipool Hall, Luing.
12pm, Open shoot, Fasnachloich Gun Club, near Appin.
12pm, Maolachy House garden open day, Lochavich.
2pm, Barochreal garden open day, Kilinver.
2pm, Melfort Kitchen Garden open day, near Kilmelford.
7pm, BBQ, Pennyghael Hall, Mull.
7.30pm, Chasing Owls and Jethro Kinavuidi, Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Oban.
7.30pm, Hannah Fisher Trio, Easdale Island Community Hall.
8pm, DJ Guy theme night, Paparazzi, Oban.
8.30pm, Scottish Show, Royal Hotel, Oban.
9pm, Karla Bernardi, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
9.30pm, Shennanigans, McCaig's Return, Oban.
9.30pm, Kenny Pearson, Markie Dan's, Oban.
10pm, The Democrats, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

SUNDAY - July 28

Family fun week, North Mull Parishes.
Uliskin Beach Games, Bunessan, Mull.
10am, Charity car boot sale, Co-op car park, Oban.
11.30am, Isle of Luing History Group exhibition, Cullipool Hall, Luing.
12pm, Ardchattan Priory Gardens Fete, near Oban.
12pm, Maolachy House garden open day, Lochavich.
2pm, Barochreal garden open day, Kilinver.
2pm, Melfort Kitchen Garden open day, near Kilmelford.
2.30pm, Live accordion music, Tartan Tavern, Oban.
3.45pm, Sunday Session, Barn Bar, Lerars.
8pm, Disco, McCaig's Return, Oban.
9pm, Oban Heart Surgery, The Galley of Lorne Inn, Ardfern.
9.30pm, Tim O'Connor, Markie Dan's, Oban.
10pm, Disco, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

MONDAY - July 29

11.15am, Family inflatable fun session, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
2.30pm, Live accordion music, Tartan Tavern, Oban.
3pm, Starbird, Mull Theatre, Druminfin, Tobermory, Mull.
9.30pm, Trail West, Markie Dan's, Oban.
9.30pm, Kenny Pearson, McCaig's Return, Oban.

TUESDAY - July 30

11am, Red Cross coffee morning, Aros Hall, Tobermory, Mull.
11.15am, Family inflatable fun session, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
11.30am, Starbird, Bunessan Hall, Mull.
12pm, Summer lunch, Connel Church Hall.
3pm, Fun in the Sun, Fionnphort Beach, Mull.
7pm, Oban Pipe Band, Station Square, Oban.
8.30pm, Roddy Woombie, An Tobar, Tobermory, Mull.
8.30pm, Scottish Show, Royal Hotel, Oban.
9.30pm, Trail West, Markie Dan's, Oban.
9.30pm, Kenny Pearson, McCaig's Return, Oban.

WEDNESDAY - July 31

11am, Fun in the Sun, Calgary, Mull.
11.15am, Family inflatable fun session, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
7pm, Oban High School Pipe Band busking, Station Square, Oban.
8.30pm, Roddy Woombie, Iona Hall.
9pm, Quiz, The Lorne Bar, Oban.
10pm, Pub quiz, The Lorne Bar, Oban.

THURSDAY - August 1

8.45am, Ramblers Scotland Loch Creran walk, meet Ballachulish tourist info or Oban's Longdale Road car park.
10am, LORN Market, Kintaline Farm, Benderloch.
11am, Coffee morning, St John's Cathedral, Oban.
11am, Fun in the Sun, Aros Park, Tobermory, Mull.
11.15am, Family inflatable fun session, Atlantis Leisure, Oban.
12pm, Summer lunch, Connel Church Hall.
6pm, Paperback launch of Island Wife by Judy Fairbairns, Waterstone's, Oban.
7pm, Tales of the Sea, Columba Hall, Port Ellen, Islay.
8pm, Jacques Brel, Mull Theatre, Druminfin, Tobermory, Mull.
8pm, Summer Ceilidh, Taynult Village Hall.
9pm, John 'the box' Turnbull, The Lorne Bar, Oban.
9pm, Quiz, Coasters, Oban.
11.30pm, Thursday night disco, Skippinish, Oban.

FRIDAY - August 2

9.30am, Islay Festival of the Sea, Port Ellen, Islay.
10am, Bunessan Show, Mull.
10.30am, Coffee morning, Kilmelford Village Hall.
11am, Coffee morning, St John's Cathedral, Oban.

Send your events to whatson@obantimes.co.uk.

Life's a beach at Tiree Music Festival



Capercaillie and Manran among the highlights

THE POPULARITY of the Tiree Music Festival (TMF) shows no sign of waning if the 2013 model is anything to go by.

Dubbed the 'Hawaii of the North' the festival site at Crossapol was more akin to a Mediterranean setting with sun screen and hats replacing the stereotypical festival attire of wellies and waterproofs.

News that the 2014 event will add an extra day will please the 1,500 people who attended, but also the many more who were unable to get their hands on tickets.

Musical highlights included Capercaillie, Skerryvore, Manran, Roddy Hart and Lonesome Fire, Washington Irving, Blazin' Fiddles and crowd pleasers Gunna Sound.

Oban's Eilidh Orr, who was attending her first TMF, said: 'It was absolutely roasting all weekend and people were taking advantage of the festival site being right on the beach with a bit of sunbathing and swimming.'

'The bands were all on form but Gunna Sound and Manran were hard to beat.'

Festival-goers and musicians enjoyed island activities between performances.

Dip in the sea
Ahead of their set Glasgow-based Washington Irving, who hail from Oban, decided to go for a dip in the sea.

'It is nice to get out of the cities and play festivals like this instead

of your usual large venues,' said lead singer Joe Black. 'We couldn't resist going for a swim, we've played worldwide and never found a festival site as beautiful as this - where else can you just jump in the sea before you jump on the stage?'

The festival has been nominated for Best Small Festival at the Scottish Event Awards.

Capercaillie singer Karen Matheson said: 'It's fantastic that the festival brings so many musicians and music fans to the island and celebrates and champions Celtic music. It's such a welcome addition to the Scottish cultural calendar. The crowd were amazing - so loud and enthusiastic - it's just been such a great festival.'



Trail West played to a full ceilidh.



Enjoying the sunshine on Crossapol Beach.



Gunna Sound were at their crowd-pleasing best.



Festival-goers explore the festival site.



Capercaillie headlined the 2013 festival.



Not even standing room is available at the main stage.



Breabach, fronted by Lochaber's Megan Henderson.



Manran got the crowd bouncing with their trad-rock style.

Young New Zealand pipers come to play in Oban



The pupils of St Kentigern School Pipe Band from New Zealand march to Oban's Station Square to join Oban High School Pipe Band 15. 129piping02

THERE was an international flavour to an Oban High School Pipe Band practice at Station Square when a band from Auckland, New Zealand joined in with a few tunes.

St Kentigern School Pipe Band tours Scotland every year and made its second visit to Oban on July 10 when it joined the weekly summer outdoor practice of Oban High School's juvenile and novice juvenile bands.

The three bands took it in turns to play this year's tunes and entertain a large gathering of locals and tourists.

St Kentigern piping teacher Andrew Lightfoot explained the band had seen superb weather while touring all over Scotland. He added: 'We have a whole generation of schoolchildren who think Scotland is a tropical country!'

'I told the kids to pack warm clothing for a trip to Scotland. They think I'm insane.'

The trip is also seen as a pilgrimage for the Kiwi pupils, whose school was founded by Scots. Many can also trace their ancestry back to Scotland.

Mr Lightfoot also extended an invitation for some of Oban's young pipers to visit Auckland in a bid to create an exchange programme.

The weekly outdoor practices have become a crucial fundraiser for Oban High School's pipe bands and committee members collect an average of £400 every week through donations and CD sales.

The band has sold 900 CDs since their first album of tunes was launched in 2011.

The committee expressed its gratitude to the community for its regular support for the band, which faces huge costs every year in travel and equipment.



A museum on Mull hit five figures last week when it welcomed its 10,000th visitor this year. Newlyweds Barry and Michaela MacLean Sloss visited Mull Museum as part of their trip to the island. The Mull Museum started in the 1970s as a temporary exhibition. In 1986 the museum moved to its permanent home in Tobermory and has been steadily developing ever since.

Gardens open gates for charity

THREE Argyll gardens are opening their gates this weekend to raise money for charity.

Barochreal in Kilniver, run by Nigel and Antoinette Mitchell, has a beautiful rose garden well worth a visit. Kilmelford's Melfort House will also be inviting visitors in to see how they grow vegetables in the poly tunnel while the garden at Maolachy House, Lochavich will also be open.

All three properties will be open on Saturday and Sunday, Maolachy will be open at 12pm while the other two gardens open at 2pm. All three close at 5pm.

Funds raised will be split between the charities of the Scottish Gardens Scheme and Argyll Animal Aid.

Cowal Highland Gathering gathers steam

THE COWAL Highland Gathering is gathering steam as the former Singing Kettle member is set to appear at the Dunoon event.

Artie Trezise, who retired from the children's folk group after 30 years in February, will present interactive traditional stories on the gathering's final day.

Science shows from Edinburgh University and the Glasgow Science Centre will also feature at the event, as well as fireworks, magicians and a classic car show.

'We pride ourselves on being one of Scotland's top family events, and we believe we've put together an entertainment schedule which ensures all our spectators will have a fantastic time, whatever their age,' said Cowal Highland Gathering chair Ronnie Cairns.

The three-day festival begins on August 29.

Stomp line up for Isle of Kerrera debut performance

Theatre comes to tea room

A FIRST of its kind theatre performance will take place on the island of Kerrera today featuring cast members from the internationally acclaimed Stomp.

The theatre company Stamped Ensemble will be performing their new show Cargo at the Kerrera Tea Garden at 3pm today. There will also be a special evening performance at 7pm for islanders.

Cargo is inspired by the Euripidean chorus of captive women and their fate post-Trojan War.

Stamped Ensemble are a chorus of individuals who expose their process of creating a performance, the rehearsal process and the challenges of devising a tragic sequel to an epic tale.

As they argue, play and depend on each other, themes of captivity, helplessness and resistance arise. This is a story

about trying to tell a story.

Aideen Gallagher, who owns the tea garden alongside Martin Shields, said: 'A friend of mine, Tanya Stephenson, is one of the five strong female cast.'

'We worked together on the international tour of Stomp and she continues to work with them in the West End.'

'She is currently completing a Masters in Theatre Design at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and this show will contribute to her studies.'

'I'm pretty sure there has never been a theatre performance of this kind on the island and it'd be fantastic if we could draw a decent audience.'

The free shows last around 40 minutes and are suitable for children. They will take place either outdoors, weather permitting, or in a marquee.

Audiences celebrate 25 years of Mendelssohn on Mull



AUDIENCES at the recent Mendelssohn on Mull festival enjoyed performances from talented young professional musicians and their experienced mentors in free concerts across Mull and Oban.

The 25th year of the festival featured shows with repertoire

including Brahms, Schubert, Haydn, Mozart, and, of course, Mendelssohn.

Festival highlights included a concert in Iona Abbey - 1450 years after the arrival of Saint Columba on Iona in 563AD.

There was also a performance at Duart Castle and, at the

annual Classical Ceilidh, audiences were treated to artistic director Levon Chilingirian performing a solo traditional Armenian folksong.

Violinist Gaby Lester also performed works by Fritz Kreisler, in addition to works arranged and played by the young professionals who attended.

South Uist Games 2013

Chamber Competition: Beginners
 1. Ailsa MacKay; Novice: 1 Leanna Steele, 2 Kevin Beaton, 3 Calum MacDonald; Novice Piping: 1 Angus MacPhee, 2 Eonoph Campbell, 3 Kyla MacLean; Under 15 Piping: March: 1 Fergus MacVicar, 2 Robbie McIsaac, 3 Cameron Sharpe; Strathspey & Reel: 1 Cameron Sharpe, 2 Fergus MacVicar, 3 Katy MacDonald; Under 18's Piping: March: 1 Bridghe Chaimbeul, 2 Michael Steele, 3 Eirrenn MacKay; Strathspey & Reel: 1 Bridghe Chaimbeul, 2 Andrew MacIsaac, 3 Mairi MacInnes; **Junior Piping Trophies:** Kelly Cup (Chamber): Liana Steele; Archie Lindsay Memorial Trophy (Under 15): Fergus MacVicar; Roddy Morrison Memorial Cup (Under 15): Cameron Sharpe; John Steel Memorial Cup (overall Under 18): Bridghe Chaimbeul; Pipe Major RJ Gillies Memorial Trophy (Under 18 local): Bridghe Chaimbeul. **ADULT PIPING:** Pòbairreachd: 1 Decker Forrest, 2 Cameron Drummond, 3 Greg Canning; Marches: 1 Jamie Forrester, 2 Cameron Drummond, 3 Derek Midgley; Strathspey & Reel: 1 Matt Wilson, 2 Cameron Drummond, 3 Derek Midgley; Jigs: 1 Cameron Drummond, 2 Decker Forrest, 3 Fiona MacLean; Trophies: Fincastle Star awarded to Local Winner of Jigs: Fiona MacLean; The John Campbell (New Zealand) Challenge Cup will be awarded to the Piper with most points in the Open Piping Competitions: Cameron Drummond; R MacIntyre Memorial Cup (Open Pòbairreachd): Decker Forrest; The Archie MacDonald Memorial Shield: Cameron Drummond; George MacKinnon Memorial Shield (Open March): Jamie Forrester; Finlay MacDonald Ormicate Cup (Open Strathspey & Reel): Matt Wilson. **Dancing Competition:** Primary 5 yrs and under: 16 Pas-de-Basque: 1 Lexy MacLeod, 2 Kiera Munro, 3 Grace Morrison; Pas-de-Basque - High Cuts: 1 Lexy MacLeod, 2 Kiera Munro, 3 Grace Morrison; Highland Fling: 1 Lexy MacLeod, 2 Kiera Munro; Sword Dance: 1 Lexy MacLeod, 2 Kiera Munro;

Section Winner: Lexy MacLeod; Beginners aged 7yrs & Under: Highland Fling: 1 Elizabeth Munro, 2 Lauren Shepherd, 3 Annie MacNeil; Sword Dance: 1 Elizabeth Munro, 2 Lauren Shepherd, 3 Holly Muir; Seann Truibhas: 1 Lauren Shepherd, 2 Holly Muir, 3 Annie MacNeil; Half Tulloch: 1 Elizabeth Munro, 2 Lauren Shepherd, 3 Holly Muir; Flora MacDonald: 1 Holly Muir, 2 Elizabeth Munro, 3 Lauren Shepherd; Scottish Lilt: 1 Elizabeth Munro, 2 Lauren Shepherd, 3 Holly Muir; Section Winner: Elizabeth Munro; Beginners aged 9yrs & Under: Highland Fling: 1 Mollaidh Nicholson, 2 Mia Mutch, 3 Eilidh Campbell; Sword Dance: 1 Caitlin Bain, 2 Eilidh Campbell, 3 Mollaidh Nicholson; Seann Truibhas: 1 Caitlin Smith, 2 Eilidh Campbell, 3 Eilidh MacPhee; Half Tulloch: 1 Eilidh Campbell, 2 Mollaidh Nicholson; Flora MacDonald: 1 Eilidh Campbell, 2 Mollaidh Nicholson, 3 Caitlin Smith; Scottish Lilt: 1 Eilidh Campbell, 2 Caitlin Smith, 3 Mollaidh Nicholson; Section Winner: Eilidh Campbell; Beginners aged 10yrs & over: Highland Fling: 1 Tamzin MacLeod, 2 Ruairidh Gray; Sword Dance: 1 Tamzin MacLeod, 2 Ruairidh Gray; Seann Truibhas: 1 Tamzin MacLeod, 2 Ruairidh Gray, 3 Kyla MacKinnon; Half Tulloch: 1 Tamzin MacLeod, 2 Ruairidh Gray, 3 Kyla MacKinnon; Flora MacDonald: 1 Tamzin MacLeod, 2 Ruairidh Gray, 3 Kyla MacKinnon; Scottish Lilt: 1 Tamzin MacLeod, 2 Kyla MacKinnon, 3 Ruairidh Gray; Section Winner: Tamzin MacLeod; Novice aged 10 yrs & Under: Highland Fling: 1 Rianna Nicholson, 2 Charlotte Simpson, 3 Beth Campbell; Sword Dance: 1 Rianna Nicholson, 2 Rebecca MacIntosh, 3 Charlotte Simpson; Seann Truibhas: 1 Charlotte Simpson, 2 Rianna Nicholson, 3 Chloe Humberstone; Half Tulloch: 1 Charlotte Simpson, 2 Rebecca MacIntosh, 3 Rhys Lynch; Flora MacDonald: 1 Rianna Nicholson, 2 Charlotte Simpson, 3 Rebecca MacIntosh; Scottish Lilt: 1 Rianna Nicholson, 2 Charlotte Simpson, 3 Rebecca MacIntosh; Novice aged 11 yrs & Over: Highland Fling: 1 Bethane MacNeil, 2 Christina Wilson, 3 Liana Steele; Sword Dance: 1 Kristie Boyd, 2 Lauren Skinner, 3 Anna Beverstock; Sword Dance:

1 Kristie Boyd, 2 Mairi MacIntosh, 3 Catherine Sinclair; Seann Truibhas: 1 Anna Beverstock, 2 Lauren Skinner, 3 Kristie Boyd; Strathspey: Half Tulloch: 1 Kristie Boyd, 2 Lauren Skinner, 3 Anna Beverstock; Heilan Laddie/Barracks Johnnie: 1 Lauren Skinner, 2 Kristie Boyd, 3 Darrah MacKenzie; Sailors Hornpipe: 1 Kristie Boyd, 2 Lauren Skinner, 3 Mairi MacIntosh; Irish Jig: 1 Anna Beverstock, 2 Kristie Boyd, 3 Lauren Skinner; Section Winner: Kristie Boyd; Premier aged 10yrs and over: Highland Fling: 1 Danielle Law, 2 Claire MacLellan, 3 Sinead Scobie; Sword Dance: 1 Danielle Law, 2 Sinead Scobie, 3 Gemma Steele; Seann Truibhas: 1 Danielle Law, 2 Sinead Scobie, 3 Claire MacLellan; Strathspey: Half Tulloch: 1 Sinead Scobie, 2 Danielle Law, 3 Claire MacLellan; Heilan Laddie/Barracks Johnnie: 1 Danielle Law, 2 Claire MacLellan, 3 Sinead Scobie; Sailors Hornpipe: 1 Danielle Law, 2 Sinead Scobie, 3 Claire MacLellan; Irish Jig: 1 Danielle Law, 2 Sinead Scobie, 3 Gemma Steele; Section Winner: Danielle Law. **Dancing Trophies:** A P Walker Memorial Cup: Kristie Boyd; D MacRury Memorial Cup: Abigail MacPhee; Margaret Moir Memorial Cup: Danielle Law; Archie Lindsay Memorial Trophy: Tamzin MacLeod; Norman MacDonal Memorial Trophy: Elisha Scobie. **Athletics:** Open: Throwing the Heavy Hammer (22lb): 1 Randal Fraser, 2 David Steele, 3 Fred Weinhand; Flat Race (100 yards): 1 Findlay Murray, 2 Gregor Murray, 3 Will Burles; Putting the Heavy Stone (22lb): 1 Randal Fraser, 2 Fred Weinhand; 3 David Steele; Flat Race (220 yards): 1 Findlay Murray, 2 Gregor Murray, 3 Rory Muncester; Light Hammer: Randal Fraser, 2 David Steele, 3 Fred Weinhand; Flat Race 440 yds: 1 Findlay Murray, 2 Rory Muncester, 3 Gregor Murray; Putting the Light Stone (16 lb): 1 Randal Fraser, 2 Angus Campbell, 3 Willie Morrison; High Jump: 1 Shonnie MacLeod, 2 Findlay Murray, 3 Angus Campbell; Long Jump: 1 Findlay Murray, 2 Angus Campbell, 3 Ruairidh Steele; Throwing Weight for Distance (28 lb): 1 Randal Fraser, 2 Willie Morrison, 3 Fred Weinhand; Hop, Step and Leap: 1 Findlay Murray, 2 Angus Campbell, 3 Gregor Murray; Throwing Weight Over Bar (56 lb): 1 Randal Fraser,

2 Angus Campbell, 3 Willie Morrison; Flat Race 880 yds: 1 Findlay Murray, 2 Gregor Murray, 3 Stephen MacPherson; Flat Race (one mile): 1 Findlay Murray, 2 Angus Campbell, 3 Gregor Murray; Relay Race: 1 South End, 2 Murray, 3 Tag of War, 1 South End, 2 Crazy Boys. **Trophies:** David MacBrayne Trophy: Angus Campbell; Angus John F. Flower Memorial Trophy: David Steele & Angus Campbell; Finlay MacDonald Memorial Challenge Trophy: Findlay Murray; South Uist Games Trophy: Randal Fraser; Donald Mac Donald 'Empire Cup': Findlay Murray. **Athletics: Junior Section:** Amateur: Under 5 Flat Race Calum yards: 1 John Scott, 2 Jonathan Banton, 3 Ewan Pierce; 7 & under Flat Race Boys 100 yards: 1 Shaun Michael, 2 Neil Robertson, 3 Vincent Peternani; 9 & Under Flat Race Boys 100 yards: 1 Keon Beaton, 2 Luke Skivington, 3 Noah Wright; 10 & under Flat Race Boys 100 yards: 1 Sommerland MacDonald, 2 Ewan Campbell, 3 Francis MacPhee; 11 & over Flat Race Boys 100 yards: 1 Seamus MacPhee, 2 Ross Nicholson, 3 Seamus Scullion; Mixed under 15 Flat race 100 yards: 1 Finn MacIntosh, 2 Anna Davie, 3 Freya Ais; Under 5 Flat Race Girls 100 yards: 1 Theresa Mack, 2 Eilidh O'Healey, 3 Freya Ais; Under 7 Flat Race Girls 100 yards: 1 Lea MacIntosh, 2 Grace Steele, 3 Lilly Brodie; Under 9 Flat Race Girls 100 yards: 1 Karys MacKay, 2 Iona MacLeod, 3 Kerry Stewart; Under 11 Flat Race Girls 100 yards: 1 Emily Steele, 2 Catriona Scott, 3 Eilidh MacPhee; Under 7 Flat Race Boys 220 yards: 1 Noah Currie, 2 Ewan Pierce, 3 John Scott; 9 & Under Flat Race Boys 220 yards: 1 Kevin Beaton, 2 Luke Skivington, 3 Noah Wright; 12 & Under Flat Race Boys 220 yards: 1 Finn MacIntosh, 2 Seamus MacPhee, 3 Sommerland MacDonald; 7 & Under Flat Race Girls 220 yards: 1 Lauren Shepherd, 2 Iona Campbell, 3 Orla Geddes; 10 & Under Flat Race Girls 220 yards: 1 Karys MacKay, 2 Eilidh MacPhee, 3 Coral Warle; 14 & Under Flat Race Girls 220 yards: 1 Catriona Scott, 2 Anna Davie, 3 Freya Ais; Wheelbarrow Race Girls: 1 Eosopth & Ciostaidh Campbell, 2 Anna Davie & Freya Ais, 3 Anna Taylor & Lexie MacLeod; Wheelbarrow Race Boys: 1 Shaun Shepherd & Luke Skivington, 2 Ewan Campbell & Sommerland MacDonald, 3 Daniel Fraser & Noah Currie.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

SCOTLAND'S GARDENS
 Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th July 2.00pm - 5.00pm
 Barochreal
 Kilniver, PA34 4UT
 £3.00

Maolachy's Gardens
 Lochavich, PA35 1HJ
 £3.50

Melfort House
 Kilmelford, PA34 4XD
 £3.00

Plant Stalls
 Homemade Teas

FASNAICHOICH GUN CLUB
 Open Shoot
 Saturday 27th July
 Start 12:00

An Comunn Gàidhealach CRUACHAN BRANCH
SUMMER CEILIDH
 Thursday 25th July
 8pm
 Taynuilt Village Hall
 Admission £4, Members & Children (5-16 yrs) £2

ARDCHATTAN PRIORY FETE
 SUNDAY 28 JULY
 12 - 4pm
 Entry £3.50
 Lunches & Teas, Children's Activities, Pony rides and Live Music

Scottish Wildlife Trust Open Day
 Glencruitten House
 Saturday, July 27
THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED
 01852 200366

CHARITY CAR BOOT SALE
 Sunday 28 July 2013
 CO-OP CAR PARK
 10am - 2pm
 £5 per table

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Islay Festival of the Sea
 1st - 4th August 2013, Port Ellen

The Islay Festival of the Sea is an annual event celebrating the rich sea-faring heritage of the island, its historic maritime associations with Ireland and is a showcase for fresh local produce, talent, unique culture and sportsmanship.

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Contact: 01496300579
 www.spanglefish.com/islayfestivalofthesea
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 Fri 26th 14:00 3D
 Sat 27th 12:00 2D, 15:00 3D
 Sun 28th 13:00 2D
 Mon 29th 14:30 3D
 Tues 30th 14:30 2D
 Wed 31st 14:30 3D
 Thurs 1st 14:30 2D

The Internship
 Fri 26th 20:30
 Sat 27th 20:45
 Sun 28th 16:00
 Mon 29th 20:30

Pacific Rim
 Fri 26th 17:30 3D
 Sat 27th 18:00 2D
 Sun 28th 19:00 3D
 Mon 29th 17:45 2D
 Tues 30th 17:45 3D
 Wed 31st 17:45 2D
 Thurs 1st 20:30 3D

Stand up Guys
 Tues 30th 20:30
 Wed 31st 20:30
 Thurs 1st 17:45

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Monsters University (U)
 Mike Wozowski and James P Sullivan are an inseparable pair, but that wasn't always the case. From the moment these two mismatched monsters met they couldn't stand each other. "Monsters University" unlocks the door to how Mike and Sulley overcame their differences and became the best of friends. In this fun loving sequel/prequel to "Monsters Inc." Mike and Sulley prove that first impressions are not always correct and that friendship can overcome even the deepest of rivalries.

The Internship (12A)
 Billy (Vince Vaughn) and Nick (Owen Wilson) are salesmen whose careers have been torpedoed by the digital world. Trying to prove they are not obsolete, they defy the odds by talking their way into a coveted internship at Google, along with a battalion of brilliant college students. But, gaining entrance to this utopia is only half the battle. Now they must compete with a group of the nation's most elite, tech-savvy geniuses to prove that necessity really is the mother of re-invention.

Pacific Rim (12A)
 When legions of monstrous creatures, known as Kaiju, started rising from the sea, a war began that would take millions of lives and consume humanities resources for years on end. To combat the giant Kaiju, a special type of weapon was devised: massive robots, called Jaegers, which are controlled simultaneously by two pilots whose minds are locked in a neural bridge. But even the Jaegers are proving nearly defenseless in the face of the relentless Kaiju. On the verge of defeat, the forces defending mankind have no choice but to turn to two unlikely heroes. A washed up former pilot (Charlie Hunnam) and an untested trainee, (Rinko Kikuchi) who are teamed to drive a legendary but seemingly obsolete Jaeger from the past. Together, they stand as mankind's last hope against the mounting apocalypse.

Stand up Guys (15)
 After 28 years in prison, Val (Al Pacino) is released and reunites with old comrade, Doc (Christopher Walken). However the local mob boss, Claphands (Mark Margolis) has ordered Doc to kill Val and Doc has only until morning or he will be killed. It's a long night and Val wants to party. After midnight, they pick up Hirsch (Alan Arkin), their old getaway driver, realising their bond is stronger than ever. The sun rises, Claphands wants Val dead, and Val has figured out his fate, is resigned. But is there anything left to take care of?

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Hannah Fisher Trio

EasdaleIslandHall.org

Easdale Island Community Hall

Three of Scotland's finest young musicians blend touches of country and bluegrass with richly textured tunes and infectiously catchy songs.

Saturday 27 July
 8.15pm, (doors & bar 7.30 pm), late return ferry
 Entry £8/£6 (accompanied under 16s free)

NEWTONMORE HIGHLAND GAMES

Clan Macpherson Annual Rally & March
SATURDAY 3rd AUGUST 2013
 15 miles south of Aviemore on A9

~ Massed Pipe Bands from 1pm ~
 ~ Track Athletics, Dancing, Piping, Hill Race ~
 ~ Traditional Heavy Events Competition ~
 ~ Stalls & Shows ~

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FARMING



Judge Jean MacKay presenting Iain MacInnes, Ruaig with the Tiree Show Champion of Champions sash for his 21-month old Limousin heifer, Artnagullion Gnoush, by Wilodge Vantastic

Ruaig Limousin is Tiree champion

YOUNG farmers were the main force of the day at Tiree Show on Friday. Livestock judges were all Young Farmers Club members with others across from groups scattered over the mainland and Argyll.

Tiree's own club chairman, Iain MacInnes, lifted the Champion of Champions title. With three of the six animals forward in the final line up belonging to Alastair and Iain MacInnes, Ruaig, it was the leader from the cattle section that gained most points. The Limousin heifer, Artnagullion Gnoush, an October 2011 heifer by Wilodge Vantastic, purchased at the Red Ladies Sale Carlisle in December 2012 took the main award.

Reserve in the pure bred cattle section was a Saler cow from Tiree's vet, Pat Boyd, Drumagla. Cattle judge, Jean MacKay from West Renfrew YFC was very impressed with the quality of cattle at the Show.

In the strong crossbred cattle section, overall champion was a Charolais heifer by Thrunton Equity, from Archie John MacLean, Heylipol. This heifer was

also crossbred champion at Tiree Show last year as a calf. Heylipol also won the overall reserve ticket with the suckled calf champion, an April born Limousin heifer calf by Tweedale Goldie with the suckled calf reserve going to the Limousin autumn born calf from Tearlach MacDonald, Main Road.

Champion in the breeding cattle came from Colin MacKinnon, Kilkenneth and Colin went on to lift the Tiree Association Prize for most points and the Crofter's Shield. Reserve in this section was a Limousin cross heifer from Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol.

Scott Rorison from Ayr YFC had the task of judging the crossbred sheep. Champion in this section was a Texel cross gimmer from Sandra Brown, Balevullin and she went on to win the trophy for most points and the Crofter's Shield. Reserve was a Texel cross ewe lamb from Ruaig.

The MacInneses also won the purebred sheep championship and later took the supreme sheep award with a two shear Texel tup by Knock Rebok. Standing reserve was Tiree Sophie, a Beltex gimmer from Alasdair MacLean, Heylipol.

Ifferdale bullocks top Stirling sale

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd sold 352 store cattle and young bulls at Stirling on Monday when cattle from Kintyre were amongst the leading prices.

Bullocks sold averaged at 235p per kg and sold to 281p per kg for six Aberdeen Angus from Andrew Gemmell, Ifferdale, Campbeltown and to £1210 for a 490kg Limousin from Malletsheugh, Newton Mearns.

Heifers sold averaged 227p per kg and sold to 248p per kg for five 350kg Charolais from Bougang, Ballantrae, and to £1280 for a 520kg Blonde A'Quitaine from Westerlochgreen, Bonnybridge.

Black and white bullocks sold averaged 165p per kg and sold to 195p per kg for nine at 315kg from Low Barbeth, Stranraer and to £745 for nine at 460kgs from Hoodsyard, Beith.

Bulls averaged 209p per kg and sold to 217p per kg for a Simmental from Willie Skilling, Carra View, Tayinloan, Argyll. In the native bred section bullocks sold to £1050 for a 390kg Aberdeen Angus from Malletsheugh, Newton Mearns.

Shorthorn bullocks sold to £910 for a 455kg from Todholes, Fintry. Luing bullocks sold to £870 for a 410kg from Braeside, Kirknewton.

Galloway bullocks sold to £780 for two at 335kg from Andrew Gemmell, Ifferdale, Carradale. Heifers sold to £1120 for a 485kg Aberdeen Angus from Malcolm McArthur, Homeston, Campbeltown.

Shorthorn heifers sold to £865 for two 395kgs from Todholes, Fintry. Hereford heifers sold to £700 for a 350kg from Badenkep, Buchlyvie.

Breeding cattle sold to £5,600 for a Limousin bull from a dispersal from Morgan Farms, Coatbridge and £2,650 for a Limousin cow with bull calf at

Stirling prime
UNITED Auctions sold 3665 sheep including 2811 spring lambs and 854 cast ewes and rams at Stirling on Thursday.

Nether Pratts sold Beltex cross lambs to £105 and 244p per kilo, while Wester Balgair had Texel crosses to £100 and 227p. Texel ewes from Elmscleugh sold to £113.50 with Suffolks from 25 Brunt Court selling to £92.50. Blackface ewes from Wester Dubford sold to £65.50.

Texel rams from Parkhill sold to £89.50, with Drimsynie selling Suffolks to £77.50 and Danna selling Blackfaces to £63.50.



It was a repeat performance from Mary Flora MacDonald with her Clydesdale champion, Major, who also won last year



Supreme sheep champion was a two-shear Texel tup from A&I MacInnes, Ruaig



Left: Jo Vale's best basket in horticulture section



Right - The popular Pet Show champion Pip, a German Pointer from Iain MacInnes, shown by his sister, Morven.

Tiree Agricultural Show 2013
Words by Caroline MacLean
Pictures by Rhoda Meek
Results from Tiree Agricultural Show in next weeks edition of The Oban Times



Jan Paterson from Balinoe took her impressive Friesian Tallina Fan'T Sudein to the top riding horse title

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Overall show champion at West Ardnamurchan Show was Angus-John Cameron with his Blackface gimmer

Blackface is overall champion at West Ardnamurchan Show

THE WEST Ardnamurchan Show and Sports Day drew huge crowds to Kilchoan last Friday. Mull visitors again made up a large part of the crowd as temperatures soared to 28°C but a breeze blowing across the field was able to keep everyone cool. All classes in the livestock show well represented, with local man Angus John Cameron taking the trophy for overall winner with a fine Blackface.

A high turnout for the fiercely competed races. There were 100 entries for the 22 sections in the show, including gardening, baking and eggs. May McNicol was named best baker, while Stella Cash and Cheyenne Cameron shared the best gardener prize. The trophy for best half dozen eggs went to Bridget Cameron. Organiser Pat Glenday said the standard of entrants was 'very high'.

SCF launch petition for action against wild geese numbers

THE SCOTTISH Crofting Federation (SCF) has launched an on-line petition in a bid to get the Scottish Government to review its policy on wild geese in the Uists. An estimated 10,000 protected greylag geese live on the islands, and island crofters are calling for a cull of the rapidly growing population to protect local crofting areas. SCF director Roddy MacDonald said: 'Everyone seems to be aware of the terrible threat of escalating wild goose numbers,

yet there is an apparent lack of Scottish Government action to do anything - in fact they are considering reducing the budget to control this pest. We have raised this petition to show the strength of feeling over this issue and to get some meaningful action before it is too late.' Crofters complaints about geese are not new and extend to Tiree and Islay - plus fast becoming a problem in the rest of the Western Isles and the Northern Isles.

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EVH GRADE 6 (SP 17-20) [£25,042 – £27,376]

West Highland Housing Association is a charitable housing association based in Oban. It currently has a stock of 750 units across the Oban, Lorn and Inner Hebridean Isles area. The organisation has an excellent reputation for delivering high quality affordable and innovative housing in the area.

A vacancy has arisen for a Housing and Customer Services Assistant (Income) to work as part of our Housing and Customer Service Team based in our office in Oban.

We require a candidate with a proven background of relevant skills, experience and IT competence. A key part of the job is to work flexibly as part of a small office team.

The Housing and Customer Services Assistant will provide high quality housing management services to our existing tenants and to applicants on the HomeArgyll waiting list. The Association requires a candidate with experience in housing management and in particular income collection and arrears management. The candidate requires to have a detailed working knowledge of the Housing Benefit System and the Welfare Reform measures currently being implemented.

Access to a car and possession of a full current driving licence are essential as is the ability to stay away overnight occasionally.

An enhanced disclosure check will be carried out for the successful candidate.

The post will be based at the Association's office in Crannog Lane and Office hours are 9am – 5pm Monday to Thursday and 9am – 4pm Friday.

Application packs can be e-mailed by contacting mail@westhighlandha.co.uk

Applications should be returned by Friday 2nd August 2013. Interviews will likely be held week commencing 12th August 2013.

Should you wish further information regarding the post please contact Graeme Bruce, Operations Manager.

West Highland Housing Association is a Registered Social Landlord and a Scottish Charity [SCO17357]

West Highland Housing Association aims to be an Equal Opportunities Employer.

BLACKWELL

Vacancies at Glensanda Quarry

C A Blackwell (Contracts) Limited have recently taken over the Load and Haul contract at Glensanda Quarry.

We are currently looking to recruit the following personnel to supplement our existing teams in this remote and challenging environment:

Maintenance Engineers

We are seeking skilled and qualified maintenance engineers to work with our existing teams in a supervisory capacity. Experience of working on large mining / quarrying plant is required.

The shift pattern will be 7 on / 7 off with both day and night shifts available.

Salary circa £29k plus enhanced rate for night shift.

Welder

We are seeking an experienced welder to join the existing team. The successful candidate is likely to have knowledge of working on quarrying / earthmoving plant.

The shift pattern will be 7 on / 7 off with both day and night shifts available.

Salary circa £27k plus enhanced rate for night shift

Accommodation may be available for the right candidates for the Maintenance Engineer and Welder roles.

Plant operators

Applicants from the local area are invited to apply to join one of our Load and Haul teams. The role will initially involve operating 100t rigid dump trucks.

Preference will be given to those having experience / qualifications in operating earthmoving plant, however a full training programme will be provided for non-experienced applicants who are considered suitable for the role.

A full clean driving licence is required.

The shift pattern will be 4 days on / 4 days off with occasional overtime available.

No accommodation provided.

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C A Blackwell (Contracts) Limited are a nationwide quarrying, earthmoving, and civil engineering company who can offer long term stable working conditions at Glensanda, with a benefits package including contributory pension scheme and health insurance.

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Please apply with full CV and covering letter to Alison Arden, Wyvex Media Ltd, Crannog Lane, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB or email: all@wyvexmedia.co.uk



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For more information on these roles please visit www.crerarhotels.com/jobs or to apply, please send your CV with your covering letter stating why you are a suitable candidate for this role to obanbay@crerarhotels.com or by post to: Margaret MacArthur, Oban Bay Hotel & Spa, Corran Esplanade, Oban PA34 5AE

WWW.CRERARHOTELS.COM/JOBS



Assistant Service Manager

Based: Crossroads Caring Scotland – Lochaber, Caol Shopping Centre, Glenloy Street, Fort William PH33 7DR. Salary Scale: £20,520 - £22,515. Employer pension 3%. Crossroads Caring Scotland – Lochaber needs an experienced practitioner in community care who also has the management skills to support a team of Care Attendants. You will have a commitment to supporting carers and to developing and delivering quality services that meet registration standards and Crossroads standards.

To apply send your CV to: Margaret McCarthy, Director of Operations/Deputy CEO, Crossroads Caring Scotland, 24 George Square, Glasgow, G2 1EG. Tel: 0141 226 3793 Email: margaret.mccarthy@crossroads-scotland.co.uk. Closing date: Friday 9th August 2013.

Crossroads Caring Scotland is an equal opportunities employer. Crossroads Caring Scotland is a registered charity. SC013081.



Farm Technician Glenfinnan

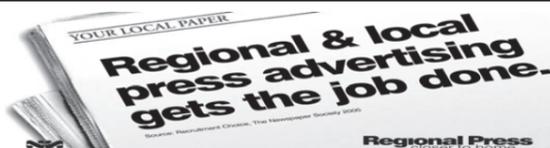
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If you would like to be considered for this role, please submit an application in writing with details of relevant experience, no later than Friday 2 August 2013 to: Vicky Ferguson, Human Resources Manager, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Limited, Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William PH33 7PT.



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Interested applicants should contact claire.scott@scottishseafarms.com or call 01786 445521 for a job description and application form.

Closing date for applications is Monday 5 August 2013. A full, clean driving licence is essential.

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Argyll Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, Monday to Friday 9am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5pm. On Wednesdays, the Customer Service Points will open at 10am. At the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
13/01234/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land East of Rhumor North Connel Oban Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Ledaig
13/01406/PP	Renovation of ruin to form bothy and installation of septic tank.	Ruin At Taigh Anna Mhor Tirez Argyll and Bute	Tirez Area Office
13/01463/PP	Erection of gates (retrospective)	Barrachander Quarry Kichrehan Taynuilt Argyll and Bute PA35 1HD	Oban Area Office
13/01484/PP	Demolition of existing barn and erection of detached dwelling and installation of septic tank	Corrie Farm Craignure Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA65 6BA	Sub Post Office Craignure
13/01492/PP	Alterations to east elevation	Unit 1 Torran Gorm Industrial Estate Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4PA	Oban Area Office
13/01501/PP	Re-location of existing plots 22 and 24 to New Plots 4a and 8, additional new plots 18a and 37 and repositioning of chalets on plots 17 and 18	Dalavich Chalet Park Dalavich Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
13/01524/PPP	Site for the erection of 6 dwellinghouses	Site At Woodend Glencruitten Road Oban Argyll and Bute	Oban Area Office

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 67 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
13/01362/PP	Erection of 10kW wind turbine (15 metres high to hub height and 6.9 metre blade diameter)	Land North West of Balnahard Farmhouse Kilaran Isle of Colonsay Argyll and Bute PA61 7YT	Sub Post Office Isle of Colonsay

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Office Whitegates Road Lochgilthead PA31 85Y.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @
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Argyll Bute COUNCIL

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS TAKE PLACE ACROSS ARGYLL AND BUTE ON 31 OCTOBER 2013

For more information on how to stand as a candidate make sure you contact us well before 27 September 2013. Nomination Packs available week beginning 9 September.

T: 01546 605522 (when phoning ask for Community Council Elections)
E: Elections@argyll-bute.gov.uk
W: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/elections
A: Kilmory Headquarters, Kilmory, Argyll and Bute

www.highland.gov.uk

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the SERVICE POINT, LOCHABER HOUSE, HIGH STREET, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6EL and online at http://wam.highland.gov.uk

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
13/02498/FUL	Adjacent to Willow Cottage Auchindarroch, Duror, Argyll	Construction of shared user path
13/02650/FUL	Land 650m North West of Poulary, Invergarry	Erection of house and garage (renewal of 10/03031/FUL)
13/02657/PIP	Land SE of Craighulish Achaphubuil, Fort William	Erection of house & detached garage, formation of access
13/02665/PIP	Land 300m SW of West Lodge, Roshven, Glenuig	Erection of house

Time period for comments is 14 days.

ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

Outdoor Business - (Modern Apprenticeships)

Coastal Communities Fund

The Argyll Coastal Water Partnership Project, part funded by the Coastal Communities Fund, is seeking notes of interest from outdoor education and activity businesses who are interested in employing Modern Apprentices.

Please contact Iain Watson by the 9th of August at training@stramash.org.uk or 01631 566 080

Industrial And Provident Societies Act 1965
Notice of Cancellation pursuant to section 16 of the Act

Notice is hereby given that the Authority has pursuant to the above mentioned section this day cancelled the registration of Acorn Co-operative Limited (Register No. 2746RS) the registered office of which is at Camus Ara, Lunga, Craobh Haven, Lochgilthead PA31 8UL at its request.

The society ceases to enjoy the privileges of a registered society, but without prejudice to any liability incurred by the society, which may be enforced against it as if such cancellation had not taken place.

Date: 12 April 2013
Financial Conduct Authority
25 The North Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London E14 5HS

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
PRIVATE MOORING, OBAN BAY

Notice is hereby given that Mr I M Cleaver has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of installation of a private mooring at:

Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Oban Bay	56° 25.075' N	05 28.666' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Oban Library, 77 Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AL.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference: 04895
Mr I M Cleaver

CROFTING COMMISSION
COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD
FIRST REGISTRATION OF COMMON GRAZINGS

The Crofting Commission have registered the following Common Grazings on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Ormsaigbeg Common Grazings, Ardnamurchan & Sunart
Registration Number: CG26

Scottstown Common Grazings, Ardnamurchan & Sunart
Registration Number: CG27

Anahelt Common Grazings, Ardnamurchan & Sunart
Registration Number: CG28

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may appeal to the Scottish Land Court. The appeal must be brought within 9 months from the date of this advert and should be made directly to the Land Court.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.rsg.gov.uk/register/home

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GRADUATIONS



Andrew Gordon Marshall recently graduated from Heriot Watt University with a BSc in 'Information Systems'. Andrew was educated at Strathallan School in Perthshire. Congratulations from all the family.



Katherine Christa MacKenzie, daughter of Donald and Rosalie MacKenzie, Isle of Seil, has graduated with First Class Honours in Anatomical Sciences (BSc) from the University of Dundee. She is going on to study an MSc in Stem Cell Technology in Nottingham.



Neil Galbraith graduated with M A (Hons) in English Literature and Mathematics from Glasgow University. Son of Mary and the late Finlay Neil Galbraith, Fairlie. Grandson of Margaret and the late John Armour, Campbelltown and Archie and Annie Galbraith, Lochgilphead.



Dr Michael Peter MacPherson graduated MBChB with Distinction and BSc (Hons) Sports Medicine from Glasgow University. Michael is the son of Sara and John MacPherson, Oban and the grandson of Dorothea and Peter Robertson, Tarbert, Norma Tedeschi, Viareggio and the late Robert MacPherson, Paisley.



Adam Davies graduated with First Class Hons in law from Edinburgh University. He is the son of John and Sheila Davies, Taynuilt. Adam attended Taynuilt Primary and Oban High School. Congratulations from Mum, Dad and all the family.



Laura Munro graduated from the University of Stirling with BAcc with Honours 2.1 in Accounting and Business Studies. A former pupil of Dunbeg Primary and Oban High, Laura is the oldest daughter of Calum and Susan and grand-daughter of Kenneth and Maureen Munro and Mary and the late Alan Gale.



April McKillop graduated with a B.A. in Events Management from Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh. A former pupil of Dunbeg Primary and Oban High School. April is the daughter of Malcolm and Anne McKillop and granddaughter of Bill and Christine McKillop, Oban, and the late Margaret MacKenzie, Ardrishaig.



Laura MacQueen recently graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Geography and Professional Education (secondary) from Stirling University. Laura is the elder daughter of Neil and Julie MacQueen, Luig, and the granddaughter of Hugh and Ann MacQueen, Luig and Christina Chapman, Oban. Laura was educated at Luig Primary and Oban High School. Laura starts her teaching career at Alford Academy, Aberdeenshire.

DEATHS

CAMERON - Helen (née Reid). Peacefully at Mossbank Nursing Home, Caol, on July 18, 2013, beloved wife of the late John A. Cameron of Hollybank, Acharacle, mother of Hugh, Iain and Andrew, mother-in-law of Anne and loving grandmother to Morven. Funeral service will take place on Friday, July 26 at 2pm in Church of Scotland, Acharacle.

CLARK - Sadly but peacefully at The Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban, on Sunday, July 21, 2013, in her 74th year, Mary Jessie, 11 Longdale Crescent, Oban, beloved wife of the late George. Funeral service will take place from St. Columba's Cathedral, Oban at 11.00 am on Thursday, July 25, 2013. Family flowers only please. Will be sadly missed by all the family.

CORCORAN - Thomas Philip (Phil), in his 94th year on July 19, 2013 at Daill Farm, Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead with his family. Beloved husband of Margaret Fletcher, much loved father of Malcolm, Fiona and Andrew, dear grandfather to Alexandra, James, Iain, Declan and Emma. Funeral on Friday, July 26 at 12.30 pm at St Margaret's RC Church, Lochgilphead, interment at Achabreac Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Mthunzi and Llanda Initiative.

FINLAYSON - Peacefully at home on Sunday July 21, 2013, Helen, beloved wife of the late John, a dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral will take place from St. Oran's Church, Connel on Monday July 29 at 1 pm. Thereafter to Pennyfur Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection/donations if desired for RNLI.

MACBEATH - Cecilia (Cecy) Catherine, passed away peacefully at the Belford Hospital, Fort William, after a short illness, aged 83. Widow of the late Donald MacBeath of Glenkingie Street, Caol, Fort William. A loving mum, granny, great-granny and friend. Will be sadly missed by her family and many friends. Funeral will be held at Kilmonivaig Parish Church on Saturday, July 27 at 11am followed by the interment at Blarour Cemetery.

MACVICAR - Suddenly at his home, Gartnagrach, Achnamara on July 15, 2013, Archie John, in his 58th year, beloved son of the late Archie MacViccar and Cathie Blair, dearly loved brother of Sheena and brother-in-law of Alasdair. Funeral service will be held in Lochgilphead Parish Church, on Monday, July 29, 2013 at 1.00pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Marie Curie.

MAUCHLINE - John. Peacefully at Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban, beloved husband of Isobel and father of John, Rowena and Jeni and father-in-law of Gillian, Paul and Alister. He loved and was much loved by his

grandchildren. Funeral will be held on Tuesday, July 30, St Oran's Church, Connel at 11am, to which all are invited. Family flowers only please.

MICHIE - Peacefully at Belford Hospital, Fort William on Thursday, July 18, 2013, Margaret Michie, aged 86 years, beloved wife of the late Robert (Bob), much loved mother of Charles, Jim and Ian, devoted grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral service at Kilmalie Parish Church, Corpach on Friday, August 2 at 12 noon. A short service for family will take place at Inverness Crematorium on Saturday, August 3 at 10.30am. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired, for Belford Hospital may be given at the church door. Enquiries to John McLellan Funeral Directors. Tel 01397 702128

MORGAN - Peacefully at home surrounded by her family on Monday, July 22, 2013, Elizabeth (Lily) Morgan, formally of Croit Anna Hotel, beloved wife of Russ, cherished mother of Paul, Robin and Christopher and much loved grandmother. Funeral service at St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Fort William on Friday, July 26 at 11am thereafter to Innis Na Birlinn Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Enquiries to John McLellan Funeral Directors Tel 01397 702128.

ROBERTSON - Peacefully on July 19, 2013 at Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban surrounded by her family, aged 72, Irene, beloved wife and soul mate of Tommy, loving mum of Brian and Carol and much loved granny of Caitlin, Lauren, Elise, Josie and Ben. Much loved and sorely missed.

TRAYNOR - Peacefully at her home Ardsheal View, Kentallen on July 16, 2013, with her family by her side. Jessie aged 88 years, beloved wife of the late John and loving mother of Violet, Iain, Janette, Jennifer and the late Veronica, adored nannie to all the grandchildren and dear mother-in-law.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ARCHIBALD - Carol and family wish to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy extended to them following the passing of Tommy. Special thanks to all those who gave care and support during Tommy's illness. Thanks also to Mike McFall Funeral Directors for their caring and professional services. Finally thank you to all who attended the church and graveside to pay their last respects.

DUNLEVY - The Dunlevy family would like to thank all the people who sent cards and flowers on the sad loss of our father, Dr Massie, Tweeddale Practice, doctors nurses, paramedics and staff of the Belford Hospital, Macmillan nurses, all nurses, staff and management of Mossbank, Betty, Jimmy and Katrina, Mike McFall and staff, piper, minister of the Duncairn Church, MacDonald Bros and West End Hotel for the lovely spread. Money collected at

church £622 was donated to Cancer Research.

ROBERTSON - Ann. Margaret, Alan and families would like to thank everybody for their help following mum's death. Grateful thanks to Kinlochleven Surgery, Rev D. Davidson and Mike McFall Funeral Directors. Finally thanks to all who attended church and crematorium. The sum of £680 was raised and will be split between St Paul's Church and Kinlochleven Surgery.

TRAYNOR - Violet, Iain, Janette, Jennifer and family would like to express sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for their support on the sad loss of their mum, Jessie. Special thanks to Dr Calder, Dr Wilmington, all the Community Nurses and Cobriene (Crossroads). To the Rev Moira Herkes for her comforting service, to John McLellan, Funeral Directors for their support and guidance. To Hollytree, Kentallen for the funeral tea and to all those who paid their respects at the church and graveside. To Bessie a loving friend and neighbour for 58 years. Many thanks also for the generous donations amounting to £585.00 for the South Lochaber Community Nurses.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

REEVES - A Memorial Service for John Reeves formerly of Chisham, Benderloch will be held at St Modans Church, Benderloch, on Wednesday July 31 at 3pm. All friends are respectfully invited to attend.

MEMORIALS

ARCHIBALD - In loving memory of our darling daughter, sister and niece Michelle, died July 25, 2002, and all those gone before. We can't get over losing you, no matter how we try. You'll always be within our hearts until with day we die. - Your loving mum, dad, sister Lisa and uncle Angus xx

DONALDSON - Treasured memories of a dear mother, mother-in-law and nan, Lexy, who died July 27, 1989. Deep in our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered every day. - Morven, DJ, Paul, Sean, Gavin and Kai xx

DONALDSON - In loving memory of Lexy, our mother and mother-in-law who died July 27, 1989. Today, tomorrow the whole year through. A day never passes without thinking of you. - Iain and Moira.

DONALDSON - Remembering our dear sister, sister-in-law and auntie Lexy, who died July 27, 1989. Sadly missed. - The family in Bunness (Mull) and away.

KERR - Remembering with affection Flora a dearly loved mother, mother-in-law and granny, who died July 26, 2004. - Love John, Morag, John,

Amanda, Jamie, Jordan and Ashleigh.

MACCALLUM - In loving memory of our dear mother, mother-in-law, granny and great-granny, Minnie (Marion), who died on July 23, 2012. Always in our thoughts. Missed so very much. - Billy and Mary, Elma and Bill, Iain and Carol, Stuart and Alison, Helen and Oz, Joanne, Andrew and family.

MACCOLL - In memory of Ronnie who passed away on July 30, 2009 in Kilmore. Always in our thoughts. - Morven, Christina, Deirdre, Duncan and their families.

MACKINNON - Treasured memories of my very dear husband, our much loved father, grampa and great-grampa Iain, who passed away July 29, 2012 at Gartnavel Hospital. It is sad to walk the road alone instead of side by side. But to all there comes a moment when the way of life divide. Although you can't be here with me we're truly not apart. Until the final breath I take you will be living in my heart. - Your loving wife Flora. If we could write a story it would be the greatest ever told. Of a kind and loving father who had a heart of gold. They say that hearts don't really break. We know now that's not true. Because the day our dear dad died. It broke our hearts in two. - Angus, Lachie, Margaret, Christine, Fiona, Linda, Alastair and all their families.

MACKINNON - In loving memory of a very dear uncle, Iain, who died July 29, 2012. The smile and the welcome that showed his deep love. Will remain in our hearts As long as we live. - Inserted by Murdoch, Eilidh and family. - Ann and Allan, Terece

MACNEIL - In memory of Dugald MacNeil, my darling dad who would have celebrated his birthday today. Your absence has left such a silent grief. But I know that you are not too far away. As I feel you are walking beside me some days. If only I could have hugged and kissed you. One last time to say goodbye. Missing you every day darling dad. - Love Shirley and John.

ROBERTSON - In loving memory of Marie, who passed away July 29, 2007. Just a prayer from those who loved you. Just a memory ever true. In our hearts you will live forever. Because we thought the world of you. - Chris, Kenneth, Marie Claire, Denise, Lesley and Ryan and grandchildren Dawn, Sarah and Nyah.

STEWART - Treasured memories of Hester (née Baker) a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, who died July 22, 1992. Forever in our thoughts. - Angus and family, Islay.

CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION

Sunday 28 July 2013
Trinity 9
St John's Cathedral, Oban
Holy Communion..... 08.00
Sung Eucharist..... 10.15
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Nicki McNelly, Provost.
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St James, Ardbrecknish, Cladich
Holy Eucharist..... 11.00
St Columba, Gruline, Mull
Holy Communion..... 11.00
St Columba,
Bishop's House, Iona
Holy Eucharist..... 08.00
Evensong..... 20.15
Holy Eucharist.....
Wed 31 July 14.30

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GRADUATIONS



Natalie Roberta Smith graduated on June 28, 2013 from Strathclyde University with a 2:1 Honours degree in Law with Sociology. Natalie is the elder daughter of Stephen and Nicola Smith of Lochgilphead and granddaughter of Jan and the late John Sinclair, Lochgilphead and the late Malcolm Smith and Nina Smeaton of Tarbert.



Heather Leadbetter recently graduated with a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Business Studies and Human Resource Management from the University of Stirling. Heather is a former pupil of Oban High School and is the eldest daughter of Ailsa and David Leadbetter 'Saorsa', Oban, granddaughter of Helen and the late Cameron Stevenson, Millport and the late Muriel and Bill Leadbetter, Glasgow and sister of David and Rhona.

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Coping with Bereavement

NO MATTER what life throws at you, losing a loved one is one of the most difficult things to deal with. At times like this, it's good to know you're never alone.

Like any emotional trauma, grief can manifest itself in a number of different ways and there is no wrong or right method to come to terms with events. Some may feel confusion or disbelief, while others can be angry or even feel guilt at something they could do nothing to prevent.

Loneliness, anxiety, fatigue or even a sense of numbness are also common emotions and nothing to be alarmed about. It is not unusual either to experience physical symptoms;

with headaches, lethargy, muscle tremors and even dizziness common experiences.

The truth is there is no hard and fast rule on how to deal with a loss and what you will feel in doing so.

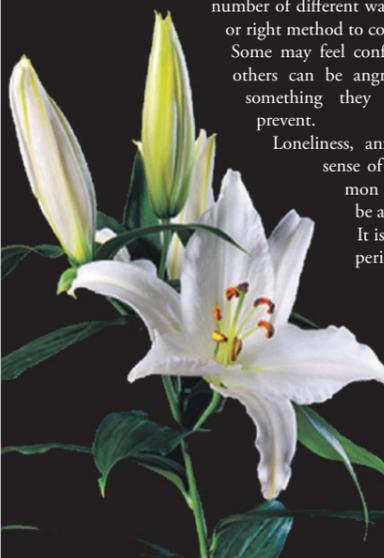
There are, however, a number of different ways in which you can help yourself through these tough times, allowing you to get on with life while preserving those treasured memories in a way that lets you look back with fondness and a smile.

Something many people find beneficial is talking to friends and family, recounting memories and sharing stories that summed up the character of the person no longer with them.

Such discussions remind everyone why the bereaved was so loved in the first place and why they enriched your life and that of those around you. In a similar vein, some may consider making a tribute of some kind to help pay their respects in a

physical of symbolic way. With that in mind, the funeral can be one of the most important parts of the grieving process.

Funeral directors will take care of the practical arrangements and guide you through the selection of flowers, music and order of events, helping make the poignant occasion reflect your wishes. But most of all, the funeral offers a chance to say goodbye while sharing memories, experiences and anecdotes with friends and family - a true celebration of a person so important to so many.



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27th July – 2nd August 2013



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IT TAKES all types of weather to make for an interesting West Highland Week but come rain or shine, the area has plenty to offer visitors in their spare time.

Starting south of Oban, taking in Gigha, Craobh Haven and everything in between, the race fleet will have the chance to see Argyll industry at its best.

Craobh Haven Marina is an ideal west coast base, situated in the heart of Argyll, in a stunning setting. The marina is a hive of activity and excitement as it starts the feeder races.

A short trip to Islay will bring visitors to the powerhouse of Scotch whisky production. At Bruichladdich Distillery, visitors are encouraged to tour a working distillery, while sampling some of the produce, including the famed Botanist gin.

And, especially if there's a nip in the air, why not pay a visit to Islay Woollen Mill Company, where a selection of tweeds, tartans and scarves are on offer, as well as expert advice.

The newly-built Islay Hotel is a welcome addition to the pier at Port Ellen and those who have not been to the island for some time, especially, should pay a visit. And to get the craic in Bowmore, be sure to pop in at the Lochside Hotel, which has a selection of more than 300 malts.

Another port gaining a wider reputation among the sailing fraternity is Tarbert and the harbour is an ideal place from which to explore Mid Argyll and the islands.

On Luing, the best way to visit the island is by bike, so if mooring there be sure to check in with Luing Bike Hire.

At Craobh Haven, there is only one place to be - Lord of the Isles restaurant and bar will host a party to mark the launch of West Highland Yachting Week with a hog roast, barbecue and fireworks.

The race centres around the town of Oban, which has a number of activities on offer.

The Royal Hotel is one of the town's more established, with regular top-class musicians in residence.

Nearby, Aulay's Bar is one of the town's most popular pubs and its central location makes it easy to get to.

The local community cinema, Oban Phoenix, always has a selection of films on show. This recently re-opened venture has become a source of pride for the community and is fun for all the family!

Outside of Oban, the village of Taynuilt offers a less hectic location for the West Highland Week visitor but there is no shortage of things to do.

The newly-refurbished Taynuilt Hotel has a growing reputation for food and entertainment, while the picturesque Brander Lodge is also situated on the A85 - an ideal situation for the weary traveller.

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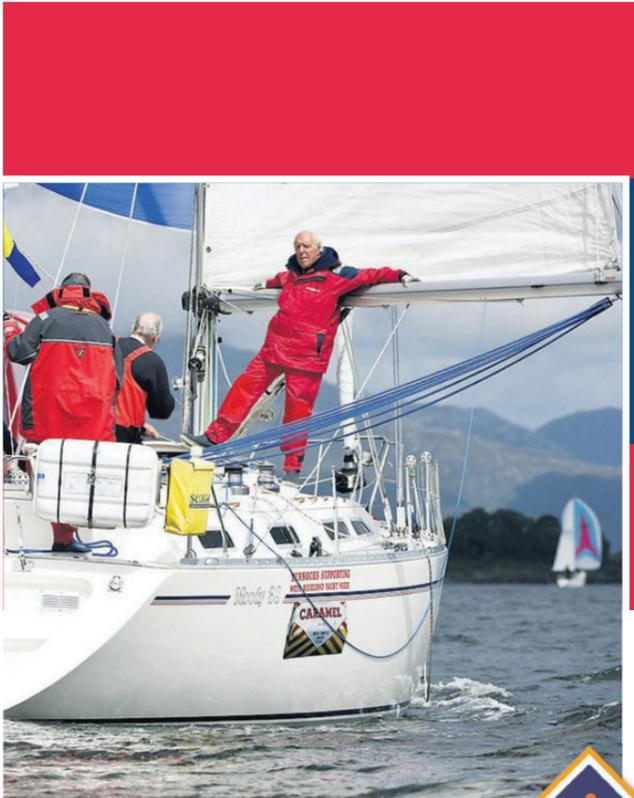
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SOCIAL SCENE | 2013

Friday 26 July

Isle of Gigha

Bar suppers and dinners available at Isle of Gigha Hotel from 1800 to 2130hrs with local fish being the focal point of the menu. Booking advisable.

Saturday 27 July

Craobh Marina and Lord of the Isles Pub & Restaurant - Lord of the Isles Grand Regatta Opening Party

All day and evening entertainment from 1130 hrs. Join the great "LOTI" party and send off for the regatta! All day food, a special dinner (booking recommended) together with a Seafood Bar, BBQ and Hog Roast. There will be a live band in the marquee. There will be a sit down breakfast on Sunday as well as carry-out rolls.

Sunday 28 July

Oban Marina, Isle of Kerrera - Food from the Waypoint Grill and open air entertainment

2030 hrs till late
Enjoy live music while overlooking the marina and Oban Bay. Seafood grill, barbecue and drinks

Monday 29 July

Oban Sailing Club - Early evening Barbecue Party

1800 to 2030 hrs
Enjoy a 'light bite' with a barbecued burger and salad at Oban Sailing Club. Team this with a drink from the bar and catch up with fellow racers. Great views of Oban Bay!

Skipinnish Ceilidh House - Skipinnish Ceilidh Show

2030 hrs till late
Live entertainment followed by ceilidh with dancing till late.

Tuesday 30 July

Atlantis Leisure Centre - free Family Swim Night

1800 to 2000 hrs
The chance to go swimming with all the family at Atlantis. Relax in this excellent pool after a hard day's racing. There is also a gym available at cost.

Oban & Lorne Rugby Club - Inter Yacht Touch Rugby

1900 (prompt) to 2200 hrs
Bring along your team to compete in this fun rugby tournament. All teams to turn up at 1900 prompt! To enter, complete the registration form included in the Sailing Instructions and return to the Race Office. Forms can also be collected from the Race Office at Craobh.

Wide Mouthed Frog, Dunstaffnage

Food served mid-day till 1430 hrs and from 1800 hrs with a creative menu at the Wide Mouthed Frog pub and restaurant. Fantastic atmosphere at this picturesque marina. Ceilidh entertainment on Tuesday night.

Wednesday 31 July

Live music/entertainment/food at various venues in Tobermory

MacGochans - Live music from 2200
Mishnish - Live music with "Shenanigan" and "Raggaeals"

Thursday 1 August

Mid-week prizegiving - MacGochans

2000 to 2100 hrs
Mishnish - another chance to enjoy "Shenanigan" and "Raggaeals"
MacGochans - special guest band playing live

Friday 2 August

Final Prizegiving and Dance - Corran Halls

2030 to 0100 hrs
Celebrate the final night of West Highland Yachting Week and dance to live music from world - renowned ceilidh rock band "Craigendarloch".

WEST COAST MOTORS BUS

West Coast Motors are running their special West Highland Yachting Week bus service for competitors between Dunstaffnage Marina and Oban.

Timetables are available from the race office and within the Sailing Instructions.

Bus Fares: Adult Single = £2.00, Adult Return = £3.00, Child Single = £1.50, Child Return = £2.00, Scottish Concession card holders (age 60+) travel free.

Further north, the Morvern Community Development Company has pontoons within the sheltered Loch Aline and Mallaig Harbour Authority has recently opened a 50-berth marina.

Both sites would be ideal points to rest up and explore some of the west Highlands most rugged landscapes. From these marinas, you can also visit Fort William, the outdoor capital of the UK.

But such is the sparse nature of the west Highland hotspots that you may want to see it all - and quickly.

Hebridean Air Services operates flights between Oban and the islands of Islay, Colonsay, Coll and Tiree, giving you spectacular sights on your journey.

And Isle of Mull-based Island Shuttle operates daily sailings from Tobermory, getting you wherever you need to be, the quickest way by sea.

Or, for those who prefer luxury over speed, why not check out Caprice Yacht Charter, which offers catered cruises in its bespoke luxury catamaran.



AULAY'S BAR

Enjoy a drink at Aulay's!

'The Bar that Cares'

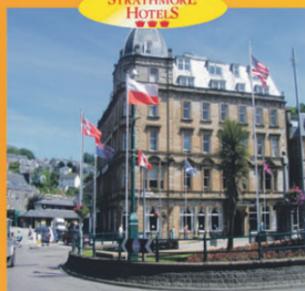
Excellent bar meals, Large selection of traditional ales and lagers and an extensive range of Scottish Malts

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01631 563021

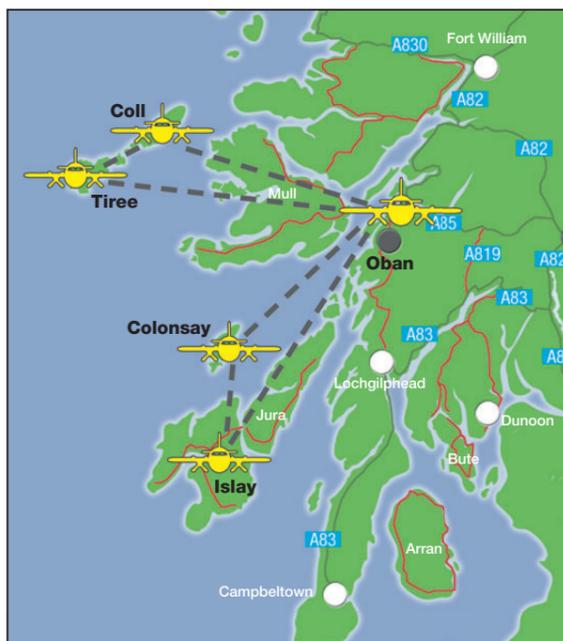


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CRAOBH MARINA

John's promise to his daughter

Player's first major title

A POOL player has claimed his first major title in Oban after promising his little girl that he would win the title in memory of her grandfather.

Fresh from his 2013 World Championships experience, Oban man John 'Telly' Telfer won the fifth tour event of the Scottish Eightball Pool Federation (SEPF) region five after beating Peter MacDougall 6-3 in the final of the recent competition at Oban's Lancaster Hotel.

John had been regional runner-up and semi-finalist on a number of occasions but was in determined mood after promising his 11-year-old daughter, Natalia, that he would win the event in memory of her grandfather Elio Lopez, who died recently.

Having not dropped a single frame until the semi-final, John

had to face four-time winner Geo Adam, who went into a 3-1 lead.

But after taking a short break, John regrouped to win 5-3 and lift the SEPF event five trophy, which will be renamed the Elio Lopez Memorial Trophy. John said he was happy to have won his first event, after a number of near misses, but no-one was more delighted than Natalia.

The Park Primary School pupil is a keen pool player herself and played in Glasgow last weekend for the Oban junior pool team.

SEPF region five organiser Laura Ann Sneddon thanked everyone involved in the tournament, announcing that event six would be on October 5 at the Lancaster Hotel.



John Telfer gets a big hug from daughter Natalia after fulfilling a promise to win the fifth tour event of the SEPF region five. 15_130pool01

Golf News

Isle of Skye

THE ISLE of Skye Golf Club open championship attracted players from far and wide to the Sconser course, with Skeabost's Chris Murchison taking the win in the scratch competition.

Glencruitten

MARTIN Rae won the Ginty Trophy at the weekend with a score of 63-7 = 56.

Alistair MacLean was second with a score of 62-3 = 59.

Dunny Niven won the Wilson Trophy with a score of 76-15 = 61.

In the fundraising scramble on Sunday the team of John Plunkett, Rab Blair, Richard Blair and David Devine won the event with a net score of 48.5.

Over £1000 was raised towards the purchase of a green ironing machine.

On Saturday and Sunday the final two rounds of the Championship and Handicap Championship are to be played.

Tobermory

THE Jackie Tague Trophy, Mens Section: 1 Paul MacKinnon 39 points; 2 Ross Kirsop 37 points; 3 Iain Wilshire 37 points.

Junior Section 1 Oscar Grieve 47 points; 2 Lewis Wilshire 45 points; 3 Scott Paterson. The Ladies prize was won by Olive Brown.

Islay

19TH CHALLENGE played Sunday 21 July: 1 Alexander MacLean 36 Pts; 2 Scott Currie 33 Pts. 3 David Livingstone 31 Pts. C.Ss 74.

Taynuilt

GENTS' Inverlorn Plate second round (stableford) played on July 21: 1 David Laurie, 36 pts (26); 2 Robert MacLarty, 36 pts (13); 3 Richard Bergant, 36 pts (13).

Inverlorn Plate 2013: 1 Mark Cringean, 72 (37 35); 2 David Thomson, 70 (35 35); 3 Ian MacMillan, 68 (37 31).

Ladies' Club Championship (scratch) played on July 16: 1 Mairead Sim, 78; 2 Anne S MacCalman, 84; 3 Fiona McGlynn, 89.

Medal played on July 16: 1 Mairead Sim, 63 (15); 2 Anne S MacCalman, 64 (20); 3 Eileen Hill, 68 (34).

Murchison's round of 67 gave him a two stroke win over local Alan MacLaine, with Stevie MacIntosh from Muir of Ord in third on 70.

Sandy Ross won the category one class with a net score of 63, just one clear of Traigh Golf Club's John MacMillan. Murdo Gordon finished third on 65.

Stuart McColl of Carrick Club won the category two class with a score of 59 from Stuart MacLaren and Donald MacLaren.

The ladies event was won by Lyn McColl of Carrick Club who shot a net 69. June Boden was second with Jill MacKinnon third.

Results: Isle of Skye Open: scratch division - 1, Chris Murchison (Skeabost GC) 67; 2, Alan MacLaine 69; 3, Stevie MacIntosh (Muir of Ord GC) 70.

Category one (handicap 0-12) - 1, Sandy Ross 67-4=63; 2, John MacMillan (Traigh GC) 75-11=64; 3, Murdo Gordon 72-7=65. Category two (handicap 13-28) - 1, Stuart McColl (Carrick Club, Loch Lomond) 72-13=59; 2, Stuart MacLaren 81-18=63 (BIH); 3, Donald MacLaren 84-21=63.

Ladies - 1, Lyn McColl (Carrick Club) 78-9=69 (BIH); 2, June Boden 102-33=69; 3, Jill MacKinnon 88-19=69.

Fort William

FORT William Golf Club's Letterfinlay Four Ball Better Open was won by Frank and Joe Sweeney on Saturday.

The pair shot a net round of 56 which gave them a three shot lead at the end of play. George Band and David Laing took second place ahead of Neil Feggans and Brian Gillespie with a better inward half after both pairs shot net rounds of 59.

The ladies' competition saw Helen Brian and Kim Topping score 66 to edge out Hazel and Iona Cameron by one shot.

The ladies' July medal was played on Sunday, with Helen Brian taking first place with a net 71. Kay Jerram was second with Kathleen Leitch third.

Local golfers win Dalmally Three Man Stableford

DALMALLY Golf Club's Three Man Team Stableford competition was held in baking heat and the again proved a resounding success with 25 teams taking part.

Following some excellent scoring, home golfers Graeme MacKechnie, Steven Turner and James MacMillan, originally named 'Two Pints and a Packet of Crisps', came out top with an aggregate score of 103 points.

In second place on 98 was Glencruitten's 'Team Mackie' (Kevin Mackie, Aiden MacIntyre, David MacCuish) followed one back in third by 'Arrochar Curlers' (Billy McKay, Ronnie Finlay, Billy Ross).

The club's main stableford event of the season, the Leisure-sport Trophy, was won by the in-form Angus MacGillivray, a pair of 37 point rounds helping him to a convincing five point victory over nearest rival John MacKechnie.

Dalmally Golf Club's annual Gents Open will take place this Sunday.

With the course in excellent condition and the greens receiving high praise, a great day of golf is in store, and with a few places still available, local golfers are invited to lodge entries by Saturday evening via the club's website or by phoning 07867 318583.



Dalmally Golf Club's Open Three Man Open Team winners, left to right James MacMillan, Steven Turner and Graeme MacKechnie.

Oban bowlers pick up the silverware at Argyll & Bute Finals Day



Argyll & Bute Ladies Singles Champion Helen MacLean.

BOWLING

SATURDAY 20 July 2013 was Argyll & Bute Finals Day for both gents and ladies.

The gents played in Dunoon, where Oban's Gus MacGillivray and Duncan MacAlpine were Oban's only finalists this year.

They were successful in winning the gents' pairs title.

In Rothesay the ladies had entries in the singles, pairs, triples and fours but only the singles entry of Helen MacLean and the triples team of Donna Forbes, Margaret MacAlpine and Anne MacDougall won their semi final in the morning to go through to the final played in the afternoon.

The afternoon's sweltering conditions had an effect on all players with only Helen MacLean being successful, winning the singles title. The triples team lost out in the last end of their game.



Duncan MacAlpine and Gus MacGillivray won the Gents Pairs Championship.

Fort CC go on tour

CRICKET

FORT William Cricket Club made their way to Nairn and Forres to face three games in two days last weekend.

The mini tour started well, with Fort racking up their best ever total of 321 runs for the loss of only three wickets to shoot up to mid-table.

Colin Jennings carried his bat for 105 not out, while skipper Kevin O'Meara amassed a whopping 173 runs in a record Fort partnership of 267 runs.

In reply, Nairn were restricted to 254 for 6.

On Sunday Fort faced title holders Forres, who chalked up 268 runs. Fort lost early wickets and finished on 83 runs.

Later in the day they travelled back to Nairn for a 20 over semi final. An incredible match saw both sides score exactly 153 runs for three wickets, leading to a 'super over' decider, which Nairn won eight runs to four.

Double up for Oban football teams



Oban Athletic Football Club wore their new strips, courtesy of sponsor D & K Lafferty, as they beat Westerlands 2nd XI 4-1 last Saturday. The club thanked the new sponsor and the Wool and Needlecraft Centre in Oban for stitching the badges on in time for the match.

FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints continue their pre-season programme of fixtures with a tough match against top Caledonian League team Milton Amateurs from Bannockburn on Saturday.

The game will be played at the rugby pitch with a 1.30pm kick-off with referee John Scott in charge.

Saints took on last season's Scottish Amateur Cup semi-finalists Westerlands in a friendly last Saturday and the Oban side turned in an excellent performance winning the game 4-0.

Westerlands had Obanite Liam MacIntyre in their line-up. The game was played on a fiery pitch and the very warm temperatures made it difficult for the players.

The teams played three 30 minute periods instead of the normal 45 minutes each way, to allow the managers to change

personnel and give all their players a good amount of pre-season game time.

Saints got off to a great start scoring three goals in the first period through Donald Campbell, Brian MacKay and Ross Maitland.



Brian MacKay

Paul Kerr put the Oban side 4-0 in front midway through the second period with a clever lob.

No goals were scored in the third period although Saints have keeper Graham Douglas to thank for a couple of excellent saves but at the end of the 90 minutes Saints ran out deserved 4-0 winners.

Before the Saints match, Oban Athletic took on Westerlands' second string and the local lads turned in a top class performance defeating their Glasgow opponents 4-1 thanks to goals from Ian MacInnes (2), Mattie Kelly and a Scott Maitland penalty. Both games were well handled by referee John Scott.

This Saturday Athletic play host to Myre at the bottom rugby pitch with a 2pm kick-off.

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

WIN £800

COMpetition

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

I enclose £1 for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

Name

Address

..... Tel No.

Please tape your £1 coin here

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

A McGleish, Firth Court, Oban

M Cameron, Telford Place, Fort William

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



Fixtures

Saturday 27th July

Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup Final
Lochcarron v Ballachulish
John Angus Gillies - 4.05
At Smith Park Farr

Bullough Cup Semi Final
The SCOTS v Kyles Athletic
Neil MacDonald
At Musselburgh

Orion Group Premiership
Glenurquhart v Inveraray
Deek Cameron
Fort William v Kyles Athletic
Evan MacRae - 3pm
Lovat v Kingussie
Innes Wood
Newtonmore v Oban Caman
Graham Cameron

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Inverness v Strathglass
John MacGregor
Kilmallie v Beaulie
Lachie Wood
Skye v Caberfeidh
John Matheson

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Aberdour v Glasgow MA
Ewan MacDonald
Kilmory v Glenorchy
Alex MacVicar
Lochside Rovers v Strachur
Euan Pearson - 12pm
Oban Celtic v Bute
Colin MacDonald - 3pm

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Aberdeen Uni v Newtonmore
Duncan Freshwater
Beaulie v Glenurquhart
David Stafford
Fort William v Lovat
Dunkie Kerr - 12pm
Kingussie v Glenorchy
Ronnie Campbell - 1.30pm

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Col Glen v Tayforth
Ted McDonald
Aberdour v Inveraray
Jim Innes

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Lewis v Lochaber
Donald MacRae
Strathspey v Kilmallie
John Sloggie - 1.30pm
Strathglass v Lochbroom
John MacLeod - 1.30pm

(Throw ups 2.00 unless stated)

Results

Tuesday 16 July
Marine Harvest North Division 3
Caberfeidh 4 - 0 Strathspey

Saturday 20 July
Balliemore Cup Final
Bute 4 - 2 Beaulie

Artemis Macaulay Cup Semi Finals
Inveraray 2 - 4 Kyles Athletic
After Extra Time
Newtonmore 4 - 0 Lovat

Strathdearn Cup Semi Final
Newtonmore 0 - 4 Lovat

Orion Group Premiership
Fort William 1 - 1 Lochaber
Kingussie 2 - 1 Glenurquhart
Oban Caman 3-1 Kinlochshiel

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Caberfeidh 4 - 3 Inverness

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Glasgow MA 7 - 0 Kilmory
Oban Celtic 0 - 3 Lochside Rvs
Strachur 1 - 5 Glenorchy

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Fort William 2 - 5 Aberdeen U
Kingussie 4 - 0 Glenurquhart
Skye P-P Kinlochshiel
Kinlochshiel unable to field a team fixture to be rescheduled

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Inveraray P - P Glasgow
Rearranged for August 7
Col Glen 2 - 1 Kyles Athletic

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Caberfeidh 0 - 2 Lochaber
Kilmallie 1 - 3 Strathglass

Heb Celt Cup
Lewis 7 - 0 Uist

Womens Camanachd Association
Valerie Fraser Camanachd Cup Semi Finals
Glasgow MA 11 - 0 Skye
Baddeck & Strathspey 4 - 3
Lochaber
Challenge Cup Semi Final
Cowal/Bute 5 - 6 Glenorchy MA

Newtonmore and Kyles progress to Macaulay final

Games don't come any bigger than this, but we're scrapping for our lives'

- Gussie Campbell, Oban Camanachd manager

NEWTONMORE will look to continue their march towards the Orion Group Premiership title with a win at home to Oban Camanachd this Saturday.

Unbeaten 'More already have one hand on the trophy, with a five point lead and a game in hand over nearest rivals Lovat. But manager PJ MacKintosh said he was keen to keep his players focused on the job.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'As the management we take every game as it comes and look at them individually, but we've got to make sure we keep the players focused on getting the win.

'Oban seem to have hit a bit of form at the right time. We beat them 2-0 at Mossfield earlier in the season, but I thought they played very well and they caused us problems up front.'

'More booked their place in the Artemis Macaulay Cup final with a 4-0 win over Lovat last weekend.

Glen MacKintosh scored a hat trick and Danny MacRae was also on target as 'More recorded a comfortable win. PJ MacKintosh said: 'We definitely deserved it. We dominated the first half. We went in 2-0 up but it could have been 4-0 or 6-0. Their keeper made some really good saves.'

OBAN CAMANACHD manager Gussie Campbell says his side will take confidence from their previous two results into this weekend's game at Newtonmore, his team's toughest challenge yet.

A draw at Inveraray, followed up by last Saturday's 3-1 home win against Kinlochshiel have given Camanachd a fighting chance of avoiding relegation.

Campbell said: 'The games don't come any bigger than this, but we are scrapping for our lives.

'If the boys show the same commitment as they have done the previous two games, there is a chance we can get something from it.

'We have had two good results but we now come up against the team to beat at the moment.'

Ian Campbell, Lewis Cameron and Gavin Stobbar scored within the first 12 minutes to give Camanachd the lead last Saturday.

Campbell praised the work ethic of the whole team but was particularly impressed by his young forwards. 'Lewis Cameron demoted them; he caused a lot of problems and Malcolm Clark is starting to establish himself as a first team player.'

GLENURQUHART will be missing key players Eddie Tembo and Ewan Brady for Saturday's clash with Inveraray after they were both sent off last weekend.

The red cards came after a

fight in the second half of Glen's 2-1 loss to Kingussie. The defeat meant Glen slipped behind Lochaber into seventh place and the form of the teams below them means the Drumadrochit side are far from safe.

Co-managers Drew McNeil and Fraser Mackenzie will be well aware of the need to pick up points quickly, and will hope home advantage will see them through against an out-of-form Inveraray side.

'Aray took both points when the sides met at Winterton Park in April, running out 2-0 winners.

KYLES ATHLETIC inflicted a third heart-breaking defeat on INVERARAY this season after knocking the Royal Burgh out of the Artemis Macaulay Cup at the semi-final stage.

Although Inveraray won the first meeting of the season - a league match at Winterton Park - Kyles have now won three important match-ups on the trot, including the Celtic Cup final and a Camanachd Cup tie.

Another closely-fought match between the two best teams in the south ended 2-2 after 90 minutes last Saturday but the fitter Kyles side took a stranglehold in extra time when Roddy MacDonald and Thomas Whyte hit the killer goals.

Inveraray had twice taken the lead through Peter MacIntyre and Russell McKinlay but Kyles responded through Robbie MacLeod and Duncan Kerr.

The Tighnabraich men now go on to meet Newtonmore in the final of the Macaulay Cup on August 17.

This weekend Inveraray travel to Glenurquhart, while Kyles are away at Fort William.

FORT WILLIAM dropped to bottom in the Orion Group Premiership after they could only draw with Lochaber while Oban beat Kinlochshiel - now they must find a way to take points off Artemis MacAulay Cup finalists Kyles to boost their relegation escape bid.

The Fort do hold games in hand over teams above them with the exception of Kyles, who themselves lie only one place above the drop zone.

But although the An Aird men still have it within their gift to remain in the top flight, they are currently averaging just one goal per game - and that record will have to improve if safety is to be secured.

Co-manager Victor Smith told *The Oban Times*: 'We can't buy a goal just now. These past four or five games we have had the right attitude but we just can't get the goals.

'We need a natural goalscorer - and we don't have one right now.'

'We are not creating enough

clear cut chances and breaking defences down the way we can and we have to start beating the teams around us. We have not managed that yet - but there is still time.'

LOVAT will look to bounce back from their 0-4 loss to Newtonmore in the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-final when they take on Kingussie at Balgate Park.

A win would consolidate second spot for the Kiltarlity men whereas defeat would bring Kings level with them on points - an outcome Lovat manager Allan MacRae is keen to avoid.

He said: 'Kingussie seem to be coming together a bit - they are still involved in the Camanachd Cup and are creeping up the league as well.

'They are just a couple of points behind us so what we have to look at is trying to maintain second place if we can.'

Lovat will be boosted by the return of Martin Mainland from suspension although twin brother Craig remains sidelined

SHINTY

said: 'We'd like to finish as high up the league as we can. It won't be the end of our aspirations to finish second if we lose on Saturday, I'm sure there'll still be plenty of ups and downs before the end of the season.

'We've got competition for places now and everyone is playing for their place in the Camanachd semi final.'

Kings defeated Glenurquhart 2-1 last weekend with Lee Bain and Bob MacGregor getting the goals.

Fraser Munro and two Glen players were sent off after a melee in the second half, meaning Munro will be suspended for the Lovat game and the following weekend's Camanachd Cup semi final against Kyles.

Jones said: 'It just blew up out of nothing. I thought the referee handled it really well.

'We were happy to get the points. That's us onto 14 points now and probably safe.'



Kyles Athletic's Roddy MacDonald and Inveraray's Douglas Dando in action during the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi final held at Mossfield Stadium last Saturday. The Tighnabraich men won 4-2 after extra time. Photo: Kevin McGlynn

thought the Fort William keeper was quite outstanding. 'We've played a few games in difficult conditions so the boys will probably be glad of a rest this weekend.'

The point moved Lochaber into sixth place, five points ahead of Fort William.

KINLOCHSHIEL have no game this weekend - and that

be firm favourites to win the league. If we beat them we would only need two points from our remaining two games because our goal difference is so superior.'

He added: 'Winning the Joe Toal Sixes on Sunday has given us a real boost.'

SKYE CAMANACHD can take a huge step to securing third spot in Marine Harvest North Division 1 and promotion to the new National League Division 1 next season if they can account for Caberfeidh at Pàirc nan Laoch.

The islanders drew 2-2 in their last meeting with Saturday's opponents, who still harbour hopes of pipping Skye in the run in.

Manager Willie Macrae will be missing wing centre Kenny Campbell - who will be on a stag weekend - and reckons two points are a must.

He said: 'It is very important to get a result to consolidate our position in the top three. Hopefully everyone will be up for it.

'We really need to finish it on Saturday because if the result does not go our way it puts Caberfeidh back in the melting pot again.

'We drew with them the week before they played Newtonmore, where they performed well. Caberfeidh are playing well and I'm sure it will be a good game up here.'

GLENORCHY'S strike force responded to last week's criticism by coach John Smith by banging in five goals on Saturday in a convincing away win over Strachur.

Smith said his strikers' lack of goals was as a result of failing to do the basics right but the coach was pleased to see a change in the team on Saturday.

Kieran Gallagher opened the scoring after three minutes, before Finlay Ross Duncan Smith (2) and Alex MacPherson completed the rout.

Smith said: 'I got a good response from the whole team and, after the first few goals went in, the confidence rose.

'Strachur are not a bad side but we played really well. John Sartain is in great form after recovering from a groin injury and James Livingstone was excellent at half back.

This weekend Glenorchy travel to Lochgilphead to play Kilmory and will be expected to bring the two points back to Dalmailly.

BALLACHULISH is buzzing ahead of this weekend's Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup final against Lochcarron.

The match, scheduled to be played at Smith Park, Farr, is the biggest game for Balla for a number of years and their first Sutherland Cup final since 1971.

Allan Clark, the hat-trick hero of the semi-final, is the only doubt after coming through an operation on his broken shoulder.

However, he could yet feature in the final, as it was his extra-time winner in the semi final against Lovat that booked Balla's place in this Saturday's final.

The club will be running a couple of buses up to Farr and plenty of others are going by car.

The Orion Group Premiership	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	11	10	1	0	40	10	21
Lovat	12	5	5	1	25	10	16
Kingussie	12	7	0	5	24	20	14
Inveraray	11	5	3	3	18	16	13
Kinlochshiel	13	5	2	6	25	35	12
Lochaber	14	3	5	6	19	29	11
Glenurquhart	13	4	2	7	17	23	10
Kyles Athletic	9	4	0	5	17	14	8
Oban Camanachd	13	3	1	9	18	32	7
Fort William	10	1	4	5	11	25	6



Fort William's Cameron Grant tries to block this effort from Lochaber's Ben Delaney. 20. F30shinty01

through injury. Meanwhile, forward Jamie Matheson, who sustained a bad knee injury in the first game of the season against Lochaber, is now playing regularly for the second team as his recovery continues.

MacRae said: 'He scored on Saturday, he's not yet fully fit but he's getting there.'

KINGUSSIE travel to Lovat this Saturday for a game which could have big implications for which team finishes second in the Orion Group Premiership this season.

Kings are just two points behind Lovat, with both teams having six games left to play.

Kings manager Russell Jones

LOCHABER players will have the weekend off to recharge their batteries as they look to continue to their remarkable run of form.

The Spean Bridge side's unbeaten record under interim manager Robert Johnstone stretched to five games with a 1-1 draw with Fort William last weekend.

After falling behind early on, Lochaber equalised on half time through Ben Delaney. They had plenty of chances to win the game in the second half but were denied by an in-form Paul MacKay.

Lochaber manager Robert Johnstone told *The Oban Times* he was happy with how his side had performed.

He said: 'It was a good game, I

may be no bad thing given a recent run of indifferent form that has taken the Lochalsh men down to the fringes of the relegation battle.

Successive defeats at the hands of Lochaber and then Oban Camanachd on Saturday may not constitute a crisis - but such is the dogfight developing in the lower reaches of the table no team outside the top three can yet consider themselves safe.

Throw up in 'Shiel's 3-1 loss at a sweltering Mossfield was delayed until 5pm after the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-final between Inveraray and Kyles Athletic went into extra time - but manager Johnston Gill is making no excuses.

He said: 'We have not really played well since we beat Fort William. Oban are a very good side and I can't take anything away from them.

'We had a good second half and when their goalkeeper was called on to perform he did so - but to come back from losing three goals in the first 12 minutes was a big ask for us.'

Gill singled out youngsters Oliver and Duncan 'Ach' MacRae, together with 16-year-old wing forward Alastair Nixon for posting fine performances in an otherwise disappointing day. Keith MacRae scored 'Shiel's counter on 54 minutes.

KILMALLIE face their biggest test of the season when they take on Marine Harvest North Division One title rivals Beaulie at Canal Parks.

The Caol side go into the match keen to avenge the June 29 4-1 semi-final Balliemore Cup defeat by Saturday's opponents.

Manager Duncan Kelly will be without Sebby MacMillan, who is on holiday, and the suspended Peter Carmichael.

He said: 'This is without doubt the most important game of our season so far.

'All our wins, all our good results, all the goals we have scored will go for nothing if we don't win on Saturday.

'Whoever wins this will



Bute captain Iain MacDonald with the Balliemore Cup

Bute lift the Balliemore Cup

ROTHESAY reverberated to the sounds of partying Bute shinty fans on Saturday night after the local team lifted the Balliemore Cup in an epic struggle with Beaulie.

Going into the match as underdogs, Bute's never-say-die attitude saw them grind down their more fancied opponents to win the tie 4-2 after extra time.

The win sees them equal Caberfeidh's record of five triumphs since the cup was introduced in 1985.

Ballachulish's Jubilee Park looked a picture as the teams were introduced to Lord Smith of Kelvin by Camanachd Association President Archie Robertson.

Under a clear blue sky it was Beaulie who set a pace to match the blistering conditions with striker Marc MacLachlan lifting the ball over Kevin Queen and into the net with just 43 seconds on the clock.

Bute rode their luck after that and breathed a sigh of relief when Ross Forbes's effort in the 14th minute was ruled offside.

Leighton Reid appeared to have equalised in the 32nd minute but his fine strike came after the ball had gone out of play in the build-up.

Bute were now edging possession and in the 36th minute Gordon MacMillan levelled after Beaulie had failed to clear their lines.

Minutes after the restart Beaulie were back in the lead when Sean Stewart steered home a rebound from a James Cameron shot which had come back off the post.

Faded
Bute's effort faded after that but they rallied to force the match into extra time with Robert Walker digging out the equaliser in the 78th minute.

Extra time belonged to Bute and they took the lead for the first time when Iain MacDonald struck home a penalty and sealed the tie with a long range David Whitelet effort.

Jock Turner, Chieftain of the Association, presented the cup to Iain MacDonald to wild cheering from the Bute supporters.



Jura 10k winner Lindsay Cunningham.

Photo: Konrad Borowski

Sun shines on Jura 10k and half marathon

THE TEMPERATURE was around 24°C but that didn't put off the runners in Jura's 10k and half marathon event.

Held last Saturday, the races had a good turnout but it took a group of Glasgow women, who had travelled to compete by RIB from Loch Sween, to convince concerned organisers to continue with plans to run the half marathon.

Maureen McVey and her four friends all came in with superb times.

Organisers thanked the 'great' group of volunteers who manned extra water stations, set up to deal with dehydrated runners.

There was even a hose going at one stop, which the runners loved.

Thanks

Thanks went to everyone who helped, Jura Distillery for the prizes, and the Jura Hall Committee for excellent teamwork.

Results: Half Marathon: 1st male Jim Hicks 1hr30, 2nd male Donald James McPhee 2hr07; 1st female Mary McCutcheon, 1hr33, 2nd Maureen McVey 1hr40.

10k: 1st male Lindsay Cunningham 44.30, 2nd James Clark 48.54; 1st female Myfanwy Taylor 56.55, 2nd Yvonne Cunningham 59.41

Saints' youths back in training

YOUTH FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints youth teams will be holding come and try training sessions for the next three Sundays starting on Sunday 28 July on the 3G pitch at Oban High School from 2 till 4pm.

The sessions are free and are open to all boys of high school age. The club are looking to recruit new players for all their teams next season, so if you are interested in playing for Oban Saints Youths please come along on Sunday. All existing players already with the club should attend these sessions as well.

Oban fighters do well in Inverness

MARTIAL ARTS

OBAN Mixed Martial Arts had two fighters on the card of Caledonian Combat at Eden Court in Inverness and both came away undefeated.

Dawid Loukil drew with his opponent after being deducted a point for an illegal up-kick but was universally praised after receiving the Fight of the Night award.

Mateusz Grabiec won his fight against a tough opponent by rear naked choke in the first round.

A small army of supporters travelled up from Oban and some even travelled from Poland to give their backing.

Good performance from Janice

HORSE RIDING

ARGYLL rider Janice Burnip continued her good form with a second place at a British Eventing competition.

The competition, was held on Sunday at Auchinleck, Ayrshire.

Janice, who lives in Taynuilt, was runner-up in the BE80(T) - Section H on Ali Dante, with Connell woman Louise Smellie, on Benny II, in 19th place.

Fellow Taynuilt rider Emma Smith was 29th in the BE100 - Section E.

Athletic to hold tournament

FOOTBALL

OBAN Athletic will be holding a round robin football tournament on Saturday 3 August.

Games will take place on the Glen 1 and Glen 3 (rugby pitches)

Teams taking part along with Athletic are Lochgilphead Red Star, Tarbert, Carradale and Lochfyndeside.

The round robin nature of the competition will ensure all players get plenty of game time before the amateur leagues start up again in August.

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Hole-in-one for Oban golfer

GOLF

A GOLFER from Oban has received a limited-edition BOSS watch after scoring a hole-in-one during a recent competition at his club in Blairgowrie.

Graeme Hunter, 65, scored his ace on the 130-yard, par-three 15th and the nine-handicapper was rewarded with membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches HI Club and a specially-commissioned, commemorative timepiece.

The luxury German brand has pledged to reward club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition between April 15 and October 31 this year.

In addition to the limited-edition watch, Graeme is also awarded membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches HI Club, which offers its members access to exclusive benefits and merchandise.



Graeme Hunter

Susie steals the show at young driver test

'She was pretty quick and that's really fantastic to see a lady driving Formula One' - Felipe Massa

WORLD champion Sebastian Vettel may have recorded the fastest time at the Formula One (F1) Young Driver Test at Silverstone last Friday but it was Oban's Susie Wolff who caught the eye in a successful test debut.

Susie, who became the first female to take part in a timed F1 session since 1992 when she drove for Williams last week, finished just over two seconds behind Vettel in the timesheets.

The 30 year old had set out to prove she could cut it at the highest level and her performance went some way to doing that.

'Ultimately a race team is going to put the best driver they can in the race car because they want performance and for me it was important for me to show I had the performance, she said.

'It was important to show that

given the limited number of laps I had I can be on the pace and I was only four tenths off the Formula 3 European champion [Daniel Juncadella], the guy who's rated as an up-and-coming young star.'

Susie's 89 trouble-free laps were greeted with acclaim by the more established drivers in the paddock.

'I think she was pretty good,' said Ferrari driver Felipe Massa. 'She was pretty quick and that's really fantastic to see a lady driving Formula One.'

'I was really happy when I saw the lap times and pretty happy for her. It would be nice maybe to see a team pushing Susie's driving and for Formula One it would be very interesting for everybody.'

The test was used to introduce the new Pirelli tyres, developed

MOTOR RACING

following problems at the recent British Grand Prix, and the day passed without incident.

Susie added: 'It was fantastic today. The team did a great job getting me through the day, talking me through everything step by step.'

'In hindsight it would have been good to run the new tyres later in the day after I'd had more time in the car, as I don't think I got the best out of the medium tyres. Physically it wasn't easy, but it was what I was expecting.'

On day three of testing, the day Susie drove, Vettel recorded a fastest lap of 1.32.894, followed by names such as Sutil, Prost and Massa. Susie finished 9th fastest, just one-and-a-half seconds slower than the experienced Brazilian.



Susie Wolff

From swimming pool to rugby field

A SWIMMER from Oban who has set her sights on representing her country has achieved her aim - in a different sport.

Abigail Evans is currently on a swimming scholarship at Strathallan School in Perthshire but, after playing a few games of rugby 'for fun', has been selected for the Scottish girls' squad at the Sainsbury's 2013 School Games.

After attending trials throughout June and July, Abigail was told on Monday that she had made the final squad to compete in the games between September 12 - 15.

'She told The Oban Times: 'I first played rugby when I was at Oban High School but I only started playing regularly two years ago to keep me fit when I wasn't swimming and for something fun to do.'

'I started doing well at tournaments and people from the Scottish Rugby Union would ask what I was doing.'

'But I am on a swimming scholarship, training eight times a week in the pool, plus gym work and competitions most weekends. So, I had to be committed to that.'



Abigail Evans

However, after hearing of her success on the rugby pitch, Abigail's school has told its pupil it will support her in whichever sport brings her most success.

Asked what her favourite sport was, the 17 year old replied: 'It is edging towards rugby, although swimming has given me good stamina and general strength and power that I can bring to rugby.'

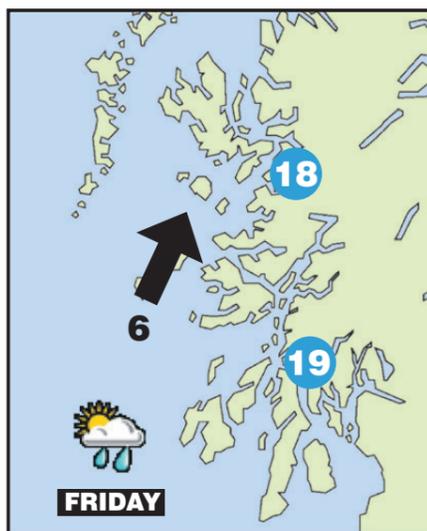
Weather

Thursday Thundery showers
Winds light east south easterly
Temperatures 15°C to 20°C

Friday Light rain showers
Winds light south south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 19°C.

Weekend Light rain showers
Outlook Winds light south south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 20°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, July 25, 2013** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	01.23 0.5 07.15 3.9 13.39 0.3 19.39 4.2	
Fri	02.07 0.6 07.54 3.7 14.22 0.5 20.19 4.0	
Sat	02.49 0.8 08.31 3.6 15.05 0.7 20.58 3.7	
Sun	03.32 1.0 09.09 3.3 15.48 1.0 21.39 3.4	
Mon	04.17 1.3 09.49 3.1 16.33 1.3 22.25 3.1	
Tues	05.06 1.5 10.38 2.9 17.26 1.6 23.28 2.9	
Wed	06.03 1.7 12.00 3.9 18.29 1.8 *** **	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrisaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

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Games round-up

Page 8



Top sports coverage

Pages 24, 25 & 26

NTS trapped by own rules in Glencoe

Anonymous email sparks memorial row as grieving family mourn lost daughter

THE NATIONAL Trust for Scotland in Glencoe has come under fire for putting up a memorial bench for a bereaved family - then ripping it out weeks later.

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

Simon Meldrum told the meeting: 'We are upset at the distress it has caused the family and the reflection it has put on Glencoe's reputation for hospitality.'

NTS Glencoe offered to re-site the bench at its visitor centre, and offer the couple declined as 'not particularly fitting' because it was too close where Emily's body was found.

In an email to NTS Glencoe, Mr and Mrs Parker said: 'As you can imagine we are deeply upset by the development regarding Emily's bench.'

'It is extremely distressing that a bench which has been placed following such tragic circumstances has evoked complaints when our hope was that it would benefit not just ourselves but the local community and the visiting tourists.'

'We support the local community whenever we visit by using local services and continue to do whatever we can to support the work of the Glencoe Mountain Rescue Team. The situation is very hurtful.'

How can someone send an anonymous email and cause such heartache
Victoria Sutherland, Glencoe

The Parkers have become close friends with Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council chairman Alister Sutherland and wife Victoria. Each time the Parkers make

a pilgrimage north, the Sutherlands offer free accommodation at their Glencoe Cottages holiday business.

Mrs Sutherland told The Oban Times: 'We lost our own son Erik at 18 when he was killed by a drink driver in Minorca 15 years ago, and that partly explains why we have so much sympathy for them.'

'Losing a child is a life-changing moment and it does not take much to knock you back.'

'The trust put the bench up for them and did all the digging. It is just bizarre. My biggest concern is how somebody can send in an anonymous email and cause such heartache.'

'It is such a shame they removed it just because of correspondence from 'aconcernedlocal@gmail.com'. That could be anybody.'

'If someone named has genuine concerns you discuss things with them. You just should not take an anonymous call at face value. That is no basis for doing something that is upsetting to people.'

An NTS spokesperson said: 'This is a very unfortunate situation and we are really sorry for any upset caused.'

'The original decision was made with the best of intentions, however, on further reflection, it was decided that this was in breach of the principles under which we try to manage Glencoe.'

'These are intended to try to maintain the area's wild character as far as we can. We have offered an alternative location for the bench, but regrettably this is not suitable for the family.'



Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council chairman Alister Sutherland next the River Coe where Emily's bench once stood. 20_f30bench01

Drumnadrochit woman killed in A831 cycle crash

A FORT William-based cycling club has issued a road safety plea after a female cyclist was killed in a collision with a car near Drumnadrochit on Monday morning.

West Highland Wheelers spoke out as police investigations continue into the fatal accident on the A831 near the A833 junction at Milton.

Chairman Andy Rogers told The Oban Times: 'West Highland Wheelers is very sorry to hear of the tragic cycling accident at Drumnadrochit.'

'Without knowing the details of the incident, it is however another salutary reminder for all road users to be particularly vigilant at this busy time of year.'

'Any fatality on the roads is one too many for all those who

are closely involved.'

The woman, named locally as Mary Brook of Balnain, Drumnadrochit, was around three miles from her home when the accident occurred. The 59-year-old died at the scene.

Anyone who may have witnessed the incident or may have information is urged to contact Police Scotland on 101.

A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

The accident happened days after cycle safety campaigners placed two white 'ghost bikes' outside the Scottish Parliament.

The bikes were in memory of two cyclists killed on Scottish roads last week.

Ms Brook was the ninth cyclist to die this year. Nine cyclists were killed in the whole of 2012.

Fort events in doubt as centre hits cash flow woes

ONE OF Lochaber's premier event venues could be facing closure after running into serious financial difficulties.

The 28 members of staff at the Nevis Centre in Fort William have been told the hub has been suffering cash flow problems since investing in a new nursery and a soft play area.

The centre is run by charitable organisation Linnhe Leisure, who receive an annual grant towards running costs from Highland Council.

Linnhe Leisure chairman Norman Clark stood down this week over his frustration with the council on the issue. He told The Oban Times the centre could run at a profit within 18 months if the next grant instalment was brought forward from October.

He said: 'It's just a cash flow problem, our cash reserves have dwindled. But the wood burning boiler has saved us around £10,000 a year, the play area is probably going to make a profit of £50,000 this year and the

nursery has moved into profit. 'The simple solution would be to bring the grant forward by three months. If not, the cash flow problem will make it difficult for the centre to continue.'

Mr Clark added: 'The centre has been under-funded for years. We used to get £200,000 a year, but that was cut by £20,000 three years ago.'

A council spokesman said more than £1.4 million had been given to Linnhe Leisure since 2006. He said: 'The current agreement was that the council would provide a grant of £180,000 towards annual running costs, with payments scheduled in April and October of this year.'

'To assist the company with cashflow issues, the council had agreed to pre-pay the April payment of £90,000, in two instalments. These were fully paid by April of this year.'

The Nevis Centre is due to host events including the Blas Festival, Singing Kettle and Lochaber Phoenix Boxing Club show.

Closed hotel in Duror is robbed

AN EMPTY country hotel has been broken into with a large number of electrical items stolen.

Police said entry was forced into the Stewart Hotel near Duror - which has been closed for more than a year - at some point during the past week. Televisions were among the items taken, but no value was given for the stolen goods.

Inspector David Campbell told The Oban Times: 'A vehicle would have been needed to remove the items. We are asking for anyone with any information to come forward.'

Hotel owners Shamsul and Salma Arefin had their licence to run the premises revoked by Highland Council's licensing board in February due to a failure to pay fees.



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Rescue team to receive award

LOCHABER Mountain Rescue Team will be presented with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services at its Fort William team base on Saturday.

Donald Cameron of Lochiel, the Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-shire, will bestow the honour shortly after 12 noon.

The award is in recognition of the team's selfless work over the years in responding to mountain emergencies, often in extreme conditions.



Krzysztof and Brian Kowalski of Claggan try their hand at milking a cow 20_f30farm02

Farm fun day success in Lochaber

THE SUN came out for the first 'Family Farm Fun Friday' at Lochaber Rural Education Trust last week.

Large crowds from Fort William and further afield gathered at the trust's base near Nevis Range for the day to enjoy pony rides, a bouncy castle, food tasting, cake icing, butter and felt making and many other stalls.

Youngsters of all ages also watched sheep shearing and sheep dog demonstrations. A novelty pet show proved popular, with dogs, chickens and a guinea pig entering for prizes such as best six legs and the waggiest tail. Crown Vets' Mark Leggett was the judge for the competition, while his colleague Lindsay Evans had a queue of youngsters waiting to get their faces painted.

Organiser Isabel Campbell told The Oban Times she hoped the fun day would now become an annual event. She said: 'It's been an outstanding success, it's been absolutely fantastic. And we got lucky with the weather as well.'

Motorcyclist dies on A82

A MOTORCYCLIST has died after a crash which closed the A82 south of Fort William for more than eight hours on Tuesday.

The accident occurred between Onich filling station and Onich Hotel at 3.30pm.

Police are appealing for witnesses, with officers particularly keen to speak to the driver of a white Transit type van which was towing a trailer. The road was closed in both directions until midnight, with southbound traffic being turned back at the west end roundabout in Fort William.

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Fort William park to close for month before shinty final

FORT William's An Aird park is to close for more than a month ahead of the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup final for pitch maintenance - just over a year after the last major works were carried out on the surface.

The cup final is set to be played on September 14, with the ground closing on August 5 for the improvements to be carried out. Camanachd Association's Torquil Macleod told The Oban

Times grounds were regularly closed before cup finals for pitch repairs.

He said: 'The ground around the goal mouths is getting a bit worn. It needs a bit of watering, a bit of seeding and a bit of

resurfacing.' Kyles Athletic and Kingussie will contest the Camanachd Cup semi final on Saturday August 3 before Fort William host Glenurquhart later the same day, the last games played

at An Aird before the final.

Fort William will be homeless for five weeks, but with five away games still to play their last home game against Newtonmore may be played at An Aird after the final.

Fort chairman Richard Gall said he did not think the closure would affect his team's relegation fight. He said: 'It's always closes before the Camanachd Cup final. It's just one of those things.'

'We've got other games to play so we might actually be back at An Aird by the time we play Newtonmore.' Previous work at An Aird was carried out between June 2011 and August last year.

Walking route brings Skye tourism boom

ELGOL on Skye appears to be enjoying something of a tourism boom thanks to a new 128km walking route from Rubha Hunish, the island's northernmost headland, to Broadford in the south.

Elgol village shop manager Hermione Lamond said: 'We had a few people using the route last year but obviously the word has got out and there are a lot of people using it now. I don't know who's behind it or promoting it but it seems to be working.'

She added: 'We are very busy and there are a lot of people about, especially Europeans - Germans, Dutch and a lot of French.'

Foragers seek food in Ardnamurchan

FORAGERS will be combing the oakwoods and seashore around Salen in Ardnamurchan next Saturday in search of wild foods.

Galloway expert Mark Williams will be leading the expedition to find fungi, edible plants, berries and shellfish. More information at www.katherskitchen.co.uk.

SSPCA calling for Loch Ness runners

THE SCOTTISH SPCA is calling on animal lovers in the Highlands and Islands to enter the Loch Ness Marathon to raise vital funds. Scotland's animal welfare charity still has a handful of spaces available for the popular event on September 29.

Elaine Floyd, manager of the charity's rescue and rehoming Centre in Inverness, said: 'Anyone who participates in the marathon will be helping save lives.'

More information on 03000 999 999 (option 4) or email fundraising@scottishspca.org.

Windows smashed

TWO WINDOWS were broken at houses in Greater Fort William last week.

A window in Wallace Place was broken around 1.30am on Thursday July 18, while a second was smashed in Mackay Crescent, Caol at around 1am on Monday July 15. Contact local police on 01397 702000.

Rain welcome as water runs low

Private water supplies and hydropower come under threat

THUNDERY showers over the West Highlands on Tuesday brought localised relief to some as the prolonged dry hot spell threatens hydropower output and private water supplies.

In Knoydart, the small hydro scheme supplying electricity to local homes continues to operate - for the moment. Knoydart Foundation development manager Angela Williams told *The Oban Times*: 'At the moment it's so far so good. The loch level has dropped but we have a meter in the turbine house which we are keeping an eye on.'

REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

'We are pretty lucky with the hydro and private water supplies because when it rains the ground holds it and releases it slowly.'

'But give it a few more days and it could be a different story. The weather is beautiful but we would be grateful for some rain.'

Across on Eigg, burns are beginning to run dry and Small Isles Community Council secretary Camille Dressler is already

taking steps to save water.

She said: 'We are probably going to struggle if the good weather carries on, our water supplies are quite limited.'

'We have not quite reached the problem stage yet, but we have had to move an intake pipe further down the burn and we are trying to limit the amount of water used. We are using water from the bath to water the plants in the garden in the morning.'

She added: 'In a couple of weeks we will be feeling it and it could get quite tricky.'

Eigg's hydro plants, which supply the island's renewable

energy grid are still running. Eigg Electric engineer Eddie Scott said.

Glenborrodale in Ardnamurchan, which relies on private water supplies, is experiencing few difficulties, according to local resident Sian Morrison.

She said: 'A couple of days ago we had low pressure but when my husband Alan went to check it was just an obstruction at the pipe filter.'

As *The Oban Times* went to press, further heavy showers were forecast for the week along with somewhat lower temperatures.

'International' cricket comes to Fort William

IT MAY not quite be a match for the Ashes - but Fort William Cricket Club players will have the chance to try their hand at 'international' cricket next week.

The National University of Singapore's cricket team is embarking on a tour of Scotland during July and August, and their coach Grant Stanley emailed the Lochaber club to challenge them to a 20/20 game.

Fort William chairman Derek Spencer told *The Oban Times* the invite came 'totally out of the blue'.

He said: 'Of all the Scottish clubs they chose us - no doubt for the geography of Lochaber, not for our cricket talents! But we'll give them a warm welcome and I expect there'll be a few drinks afterwards.'

The game starts at 4pm on Wednesday July 31 at the BA Club.

Visitor numbers rise at West Highland Museum

VISITOR numbers at West Highland Museum in Fort William this week are 26 per cent up compared with the same time last year.

Figures compiled by curator Colleen Foggo also show shop sales ahead by 22 per cent and donations from visitors up 27 per cent. Ms Foggo said: 'We could not have done this without the help of our volunteers who are wonderful at welcoming our visitors and helping in the shop. We have nearly 40 volunteers

at the moment but would like to increase it to 50 to help cover holidays and to enable us to do extra things in the museum other than helping at reception and in the shop.'

However, the average donation per person is still only 53p - the same as 2012. Ms Foggo said: 'We would like to get average donation up to £1 per person.'

'This would help us meet the deficit we shall have from next year with our grant funding reducing.'



Lochaline celebrates the opening of the new shore facilities at Cala Loch Alann.

Sailors' Ahoy at Lochaline

MORVERN Games and Gala Week had even more to celebrate last Wednesday - the official opening of new £215,000 shore facilities at Lochaline Harbour.

Former Morvern Community Development Company (MCDC) chairman Robin Smart, who played a key role in redeveloping the harbour as a west coast yachting destination, cut the ribbon.

The attractive wooden building, featuring a harbour office, showers, toilets, laundry and wi-fi, will serve the 24-pontoon Cala Loch Alann marina, which opened in July 2011.

The pontoons recorded over

1,100 boat nights in the first 12 months, helping to boost to boost visitor numbers to the remote community.

Morvern Community Trading Company chairman Hector MacKechnie said: 'We are extremely proud of our new shore facilities at the Harbour and are looking forward to welcoming even more visitors to Lochaline.'

'The pontoons are already well used as an overnight stop for yachts on the popular routes up and down the Sound of Mull and between Oban and Tobermory.'

'Lochaline itself is described in many yachting magazines

as offering some of the best all weather anchorages of any harbour in this part of the west coast.'

'Our new facilities will really improve the experience for visitors to this spectacular part of the world.'

MCDC led a local bid to secure £150,000 from LEADER, £55,000 from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and contributed £10,000 themselves to develop the shore facilities.

Cala Loch Alann is part of Sail West, an EU-backed project led by Donegal County Council to boost sailing along the northern Irish and western Scottish coasts.

Raft race raises £5,000 for mountain rescuers



THE SUN shone down on the annual Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team (LMRT) fundraising Glen Nevis raft race on Saturday.

Crowds gathered on the banks of the River Nevis in baking conditions to see competitors from across the country plunge into the icy water on blow-up rafts at Lower Falls and race two miles down waterfalls and rapids. The recent spell of good weather in Lochaber meant the water levels in the river were lower than usual.

Around 60 people, including SNP MEP Alyn Smith, took part in the race, with Craig McMahon from Northumberland recording the fastest time of 36 minutes and 43 seconds.

Faser Coupland, of event organisers No Fuss Events, told *The Oban Times* more than £5,000 had been raised for LMRT.

He said: 'There wasn't very much water, but it went really well, everybody seemed to enjoy it and there was loads of spectators.'

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Sailing Olympic silver medallist Luke Patience age 26 (middle) returned to his family home on Tiree last weekend for the sold-out Tiree Music Festival and took time out to give cousins Sarah Whiteside, age two of Glasgow and Jack McCaskill, age seven, of Tiree some tips on Crossapol beach along with Sarah's dad Mark. Festival highlights included Capercaillie, Skerryvore, Manran, Roddy Hart and Lonesome Fire, Washington Irving and Blazin' Fiddles. Tiree Music Festival 2014 will take place from July 18 to 20 and interest is already building, check www.tireemusicfestival.co.uk for details. Picture - Iain McDonagh.

Online anger at Vodafone service faults

Mobile phone company says it is working to fix problems

ONGOING disruption to the Vodafone signal in many parts of Argyll and the west Highlands has caused outrage among *Oban Times* readers who have flocked to Facebook to vent their anger. Vodafone has this week admitted its coverage in parts of the area was 'intermittent' because of a fault, which the company is in the process of resolving.

"No signal isn't much good for first responders."
Julie Williamson, Craobh Haven

were cancelling their contracts or moving to another network once their current deals had finished.

Ross Stewart said: 'There is absolutely no point calling Vodafone to complain.

'All that will happen is they will tell you there are no problems with the signal within our area. Vodaboneidle never, ever take responsibility for anything! Absolutely farcical.'

A spokeswoman for Vodafone said: 'We are always working towards improvements on the Vodafone network.

'Not much good for those of us on First Responder Teams,' she added. 'We've increased investment in our UK network by around 50 per cent this year, to more than £900m. We've also joined forces with Telefonica to share our networks across the country, which will improve overall network performance for both companies.

'Inevitably, areas where there is a greater population density and more infrastructure are likely to have more robust coverage. Our aim is that 98 per cent of the UK population will have good 2G, 3G and 4G coverage both

signal had been dropping in and out for more than a week, while Julie Williamson said last Monday there had been no signal at all that day, and three days the previous week at Craobh Haven.

'But for many customers the problems have gone on too long and, at the time of going to press, 69 comments had been placed regarding the loss of service in the past week.

Morven Cook said last Tuesday: 'Phoned Vodafone again today (third time) and they have finally agreed that the problem is in our area and it's with the mast at Glenshellach [Oban] which they know about and it will be fixed but they don't know when!'

Lorna Wylie and Kerry McClymont identified the Vodafone member and Tiree native Daniel Gillespie said: 'TMF 2013 has been terrific. The weather has been on our side and the crowd have had a blast.

Tiree Music Festival goes 'traditionally tropical'

TRADITIONAL tunes alongside tropical weather made Tiree Music Festival (TMF) 2013 an event to remember, as organisers announced next year's event would last for an extra day. The island's population trebled as a record 1,500 festival-goers flocked to Crossapol beach, with the party atmosphere and scorching sunshine earning the island the adopted title of 'Hawaii of the North'. The third annual festival took

place last Saturday and Sunday and featured the best in Scottish traditional and folk music, with bands including Capercaillie, Skerryvore, Manran, Roddy Hart and Lonesome Fire, Washington Irving and Blazin' Fiddles. Organisers had increased the festival capacity to cope with demand, as tickets holders came

from nine countries worldwide, including America, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Germany, France and Canada.

This week organisers have announced 2014 will be even bigger with a three-day event set to take place on July 18, 19 and 20. Festival director, Skerryvore

member and Tiree native Daniel Gillespie said: 'TMF 2013 has been terrific. The weather has been on our side and the crowd have had a blast.

'It's great to see people from all over Scotland and the world experience Tiree and hear some of the best bands on the traditional scene.'

Full ferries leave revellers in Tiree

AROUND 50 revellers were left stranded after Tiree Music Festival (TMF) last weekend when the extra ferry sailings couldn't cope.

Those stuck included TMF performers Manran who got off the island on Monday evening thanks to the efforts of festival organisers.

Manran's Gary Innes said: 'We all had our ferry tickets booked and paid for but still never got on the boat. We got off the island on Monday night, TMF organisers sorted it all out and hired RIBs for those who couldn't get off. They stumped up even although it was CalMac's problem and we can't thank them highly enough.'

A CalMac spokesman said: 'Anticipating the number of foot passengers who are planning to travel by ferry when big events are on is a challenge and we regret any inconvenience caused.'

'We will be working with organisers to see how we can address these issues in future.'

Iona and Mull coop group gains funding

A NEW marketing body for two islands off the west coast of Scotland has already attracted funding - despite only recently launching.

Cooperative model
The Isles of Mull and Iona Ltd, incorporated as a cooperative consortium on July 19, aims to promote the islands worldwide.

The inaugural directors of the group represent a cross section of island life, including food producers, farming, traders,

tourism, construction and transport.

Mike Story, chief executive of Argyll and the Isles Tourism, and a director of the new Mull and Iona company said: 'The cooperative model will work well for Mull and Iona.'

'It has been used with great success at Heart of Argyll, Visit Kintyre and Argyll and the Isles, and it is a very inclusive model, which encourages collaboration between members.'

'The Isles of Mull and Iona Ltd does not seek to replace or supersede any existing bodies, but instead will create a strong umbrella brand which will create a better road to market, and under which many other organisations and businesses can collaborate and flourish.'

'The company encourages everyone to become members so together we can all promote Scotland's most fantastic islands to the rest of the world.'

Cyclist crashes through rear windscreen of car on Tiree

A TEENAGE cyclist who injured himself by crashing into the back of a car and flying through the rear windscreen is the subject of an unusual criminal charge.

The 16 year old, who sustained minor facial injuries as a result of the incident near Scarnish on Tiree, has been charged with dangerous cycling, section 28 of the Road Traffic Act. It is understood the young cyclist crashed into the car at

around 3.30pm on Sunday after the vehicle had stopped to let traffic pass.

The youngster, who is from the Fort William area, was taken to hospital by helicopter to be treated for facial injuries.

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Driver of 75 tonne crashed crane had no licence or insurance

A HGV driver who crashed a 75 tonne crane on the Ford to Dalavich road had no licence or insurance.

Mark Hughes of 84 Dale Avenue, East Kilbride, was fined £900 and had six penalty points

placed on his licence after he pleaded guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday to driving on the road on February 2 this year without a licence and without insurance. He also failed to report the accident which occurred when the brakes and gearbox failed on the crane.

Procurator fiscal John Service told the court that Hughes, 28, was driving the crane from Carraig Gheal Wind farm near Loch Awe, when it experienced

problems with the gear box and brakes. He explained: 'I jumped out of gear while descending a steep hill. The crane then left the road and collided with the grass verge.'

Hughes left the scene of the accident and police enquiries led to his arrest.

Defence agent Heather Shaw said: 'The problem is when he lost his licence it wasn't surrendered. When it came to the date when he could drive

again he thought he could drive because he had a licence. He didn't realise he had to reapply for it.'

She added he did not inform police of the incident as he was told by his employer they would deal with it.

As well as the fine and penalty points, Sheriff Douglas Small endorsed his licence. He said: 'If you are convicted of anything else you will be disqualified automatically.'

ACHA gains Lottery cash for tenant advice service

ALMOST £300,000 has been awarded to an Argyll housing association to provide financial advice to its tenants.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) will use the £296,994 Big Lottery Fund money to support financial and welfare rights advice services, including assistance at tribunals and appeals.

ACHA said the funding would play a significant role in sustaining its welfare rights service until March 2015. The service advises tenants on benefits and debt.

ACHA chief executive Alastair MacGregor said: 'As an association we are delighted at securing this substantial resource which will assist us in helping our poorest and most vulnerable tenants.'

'With the introduction of the 'bedroom tax' and universal credit implementation on the horizon this resource will allow us to do all we can to help those in greatest need.'

Argyll and Bute planners have high approval rating

ARGYLL and Bute Council has a 96 per cent planning approval rate, according to a new report.

The Scottish Government's Planning Performance Framework report also established that the council approves 78 per cent of all applications within two months.

More than 100 business planning applications were approved by the council, which has a team dealing with economically important applications, in the last two years, with only one rejected.

'While we are very pleased with the positive feedback, our planning service is not complacent and appreciates that continuous improvement is vital,' said Sandy Taylor, lead councillor for planning.

Apology to MacLeods of Mishnish Hotel

Wyvex Media Ltd would like to take this opportunity to sincerely and wholeheartedly apologise to the MacLeods of the Mishnish Hotel, Tobermory after a failure in our production process resulted in wording that was insensitive and inappropriate appearing in print within one of our publications.

We apologise for any embarrassment, concern or distress that this may have caused.



Fiona Hyslop welcomed Irish President Michael D Higgins to Iona.

Irish president visits sacred isle

THE PRESIDENT of Ireland has paid a visit to Iona to mark the passing of 1,450 years since St Columba, or Colmcille, arrived on the island.

Michael D Higgins and his wife Sabina were welcomed to Iona by Fiona Hyslop, Scotland's culture and external affairs secretary.

Links

The day-long event also celebrated Ireland and Scotland's shared history and language. It was organised by Peadar O'Riada, leader of Irish choir, Cór Cúil Aodhathe, and the members of the Iona Community.

Ms Hyslop said: 'It's my privilege to welcome President Higgins to this beautiful island today, not least because it is a fitting way to celebrate Scotland's excellent links with our Irish neighbours - something which the Scottish Government wishes to continue and strengthen. 'St Columba's journey to Iona is just one of the many events which have created our strong bond with Ireland and it's important that we recognise and celebrate the continuing significance of this remarkable man and the community he founded.'

While on the island Ms Hyslop and Mr Higgins attended an ecumenical service at Iona Abbey, including a performance from the long psalm singers from The Isle of Lewis.

President Higgins said: 'I am so very pleased that cabinet secretary for external affairs and culture, Fiona Hyslop has

travelled to join us.

'I have known Mike Russell, now the cabinet secretary for education and lifelong learning here in Scotland, for almost 30 years. It is a pleasure and an honour to share a platform with him also today.

'Those of you here who know me, know that those two words: education and culture encompass

much of what is very close to my heart.

'Sabina and I are happy to be on this sacred island - a place of learning and of cultural richness, which has always retained its own very special local identity.'

"Education and culture is very close to my heart."

Irish president Michael D Higgins

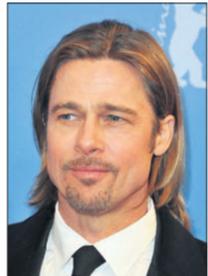
Brad and Angelina may come west to wed on 'Princess'

ONE OF the most famous couples in the world could be planning to tie the knot in style on a luxury cruise ship off the coast of Scotland.

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have been making enquiries about getting married aboard the Hebridean Princess, according to reports in the national press.

The couple had apparently planned to marry at their French chateau but had a change of plans thanks to a suggestion by son Maddox, brought on after looking at photos from when the family were in Scotland during the filming of World War Z.

A source claimed: 'It was Maddox who came up with the idea of the ship. He came across it after looking back at photos of the Carnell Estate in Ayrshire, where they stayed and all loved. So now they've made enquiries into booking the whole vessel. 'It's just what they're after. It



Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie may get married aboard the Hebridean Princess



can hold up to 50 of their friends and family and serve as a traditional, romantic setting - all totally private.'

The ship has been chartered by the Queen twice and would cost the couple an estimated £300,000.

The convenience of Scots law may appeal to Brad and Angelina though, with a minister allowed to conduct a wedding ceremony anywhere in the country - even on open water.

According to a British magazine Angelina is also planning

on honouring her late mother Marcheline Bertrand, who died in 2007, by wearing her wedding dress.

The 37-year-old actress had a cancer scare recently and underwent a double mastectomy over fears of developing breast cancer. Tests revealed Angelina had an 87 per cent chance of having breast cancer and 50 per cent risk of ovarian cancer.

She decided to go for treatment after her children asked her if she would meet with the same fate as Marcheline, who died of ovarian cancer at 57.

Brad Pitt, 49, and Angelina got engaged in April 2012 after meeting on the set of Mr and Mrs Smith in 2004. They have six children together.

Ken Charleson, chief operating officer of the Hebridean Princess' owners, Hebridean Island Cruises, refused to confirm or deny the rumours.

He said: 'We have a very confidential relationship with a number of high-profile guests. I can't confirm whether they have been making enquiries or not. But of course, they are more than welcome.'

Islay music festival goes in sea drama

WHILE some revellers from Tisee Music Festival were stranded on the island others made a less than successful attempt to go home to Iona on a Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB).

The volunteer crew of Tobermory lifeboat raced to the aid of 15 people on board the RIB off Iona which was taking on water late on Sunday afternoon.

The RIB was damaged when it hit floating debris and the crew were forced to use onboard

pumps to flush out the water.

Before the lifeboat arrived passengers on the stricken boat had been transferred onto a charter vessel from Iona and the RIB was under tow to the island. The lifeboat escorted both vessels until safely moored at Iona.

Tobermory RNLI coxswain Andrew McHaffie said: 'This was an incident which could have been very serious indeed had it not been for the prompt

action of the charter vessel which went to the aid of the RIB.

'We're very grateful to the skipper, his crew and the passengers for their assistance.'

It is understood the RIB had been taking festival goers home to Iona when the incident occurred. Those onboard were picked up from Iona by Oban-based Coastal Connection and safely delivered to Iona on Monday evening.

Some others who had remained on Tisee, planning to leave on Monday, had their stay extended after additional CalMac sailings proved fuller than anticipated, leaving 50 people stuck on the island.

Although several were happy to party the extra day away those who had other commitments were taken off the island by private boats or air transport, arranged by TMF organisers on Monday evening.

Voices needed for community councils throughout Argyll

PEOPLE are needed to speak up for their communities across Argyll as community council elections are due later this year.

Argyll and Bute Council are holding elections for the voluntary bodies in October. Anyone wishing to stand as a community councillor must be on the electoral role and live in the area.

Community councils are voluntary organisations which have the right to be consulted about certain local government decisions which affect their areas. Members are elected by their communities and hold regular public meetings.

The purpose of a community council is to understand and recognise the views of people living in its area and actively represent local issues, needs and wishes to Argyll and Bute Council.

Elections will take place on October 31. Prospective candidates should be nominated, with a proposer and a seconder who should also be registered voters living in the area.

Nomination packs will be available from September 11. The nomination period starts on September 12, closing at 4pm on September 27.



Daniel MacDonald, who will run from Glasgow to Taynuilt this September for Macmillan Cancer Support and Yorkhill Children's Hospital. t6_t30daniel1

Taynuilt lad to run home from Glasgow for charity

Keen to show support for Macmillan Cancer and Yorkhill Children's Hospital

A TAYNUILT shinty player will run from Glasgow back to his home village this September to raise money for two charities which provided vital care to his family.

Daniel MacDonald has never run a marathon in his life, but decided in the spring to run 80 miles in just three days - running more than a marathon on each day - to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer and Yorkhill Children's Hospital.

While he has managed to run one marathon in training, thanks to trainer Stephanie Dunstaffnage at Boost PT, he knows he's got a long way to go before his body can recover quickly enough to allow him to run 27 miles on day one, followed by two runs of 28 and 25 miles.

However, the joiner with Gilles Brothers will be motivated by his gratitude to the charities and says he's so determined to complete the challenge he's even given up his sport, albeit temporarily.

'My inspiration for doing this is my uncle Norrie,' said 22 year old Daniel. 'In September last year he left his home on Eriskay to have an x-ray to see if he could find out why his neck was sore. The x-ray showed part of his fifth vertebra was missing.

'The discovered he had a tumour in his neck destroying his spine. He had three major operations to try and rebuild it but after new year the doctors said there was nothing more they could do; the tumour was too aggressive and he also had an infection.'

SHOPPERS at Tesco Oban have been doing their bit to help people in need by donating shopping items to the food charity Trussells.

Led by the store's newly-formed Retired Staff Association (RSA), the FareShare initiative encouraged shoppers to buy from a list of goods and donate the items to the charity. The charity then made up food parcels to be distributed through Oban charities Lord's Larder, Mary's Meals, The Salvation Army and Hope Kitchen. The store undertook a similar initiative in December in the lead up to Christmas, collecting the equivalent of 2,061 food parcels, but expected to beat that total this time round. The RSA is led by Teresa Russell and meets at the store for a coffee and chat, as well as services like pension advice, on the first Monday of every month.

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RICS

Tesco shoppers donate to food charity

Current and former employees of Tesco in Oban gathered to support the FareShare initiative. 15_1299tesco01

Points shared in local derby between Fort and Lochaber

'It was a good game, I thought the Fort William keeper was outstanding'

FORT William and Lochaber had to settle for a share of the spoils after a hard fought 1-1 draw at An Aird on Saturday.

A large crowd basked in the warm sunshine and the players had to battle through the heat to put on a spirited display in the derby match.

Both sides are desperate to pick up points in their fight against relegation, and it was the home fans who were celebrating when Fort opened the scoring in the 18th minute.

Obliged
With Gary Innes likely to miss the rest of the season the onus is on Fort's other forwards to provide the goals, and Daniel Stewart duly obliged by grabbing his fifth goal of the season.

Fort had more of the play in the opening 45 and looked set to go into the break with the lead, but Lochaber top scorer Ben

Delaney struck with the last hit of the half to equalise.

Taking confidence from their timely equaliser, Lochaber looked the more dangerous side in the second half, and Fort keeper Paul MacKay was forced into a string of saves by shots from Delaney and Zands Ferguson.

With only seconds to play Shaun Nicolson hit a stinging shot past MacKay which appeared to go into the top corner, but the shot was adjudged to have gone wide.

Lochaber players claimed the ball had gone through a hole in the net, but their protests fell on deaf ears as referee Colin MacDonald blew his whistle shortly afterwards to confirm the draw.

Fort co-manager Victor Smith said it was now 'win or bust' for his side in their fight to avoid relegation.

SHINTY

He said: 'We'd have liked a bit more out of the game, but we'll have to settle for a point.'

'Fort William had the better of the first half, and Lochaber had the better of the second half. There was missed opportunities for both sides.'

Good game

Lochaber interim manager Robert Johnstone told The Oban Times: 'It was a good game, I thought the Fort William keeper was quite outstanding. But the goal not being given at the end took the gloss off it a bit.'

'It's another point for us, hopefully we can keep it going to the end of the season now.'

'We're all in the mix now. There's no easy games but it's going to be even more difficult for the teams at the bottom now.'



Lachie Campbell gets some unwanted attention from Gordie MacKinnon 20_f30shinty03

Fort William take on Muir of Ord

FOOTBALL

FORT William FC kick off the new season with a North of Scotland Cup tie against North Caledonian League side Muir of Ord Rovers at Claggan Park this Saturday.

Manager Danny Conlon is still on the lookout for more signings to bolster his squad, with particular attention on signing a new keeper.

Two strikers from the Skye and Lochalsh Amateur Football League have joined the books - teenager Jack Robson has signed from Portree Juniors, and Gordon McCarroll from Sleat and Strath AFC.

McCarroll has scored 201 league goals in the past four seasons, while Robson was named Portree's player of the year and young player of the year last season.

Fort's Highland League campaign kicks off with a home tie against Turrit United next weekend.

Mallaig play Balla in Uisdean MacDonald final

WELFARE FOOTBALL

MALLIAG will face Ballachulish in the Uisdean MacDonald Cup final tomorrow night (Friday) after knocking out Lochaber with a 3-1 win.

William Wilson Welfare League title contenders Mallaig will be firm favourites going into the match against bottom side Balla, which kicks off at 7pm at Canal Parks in Caol.

Mallaig's title rivals Lochaber and Caol Cosmos went joint top of the league with wins last week. Lochaber defeated Balla 5-0, with Caol defeating the same opponents 3-0.

The pair sit a point ahead of Mallaig, but the north Lochaber side have games in hand.

In the week's other game Lundavra beat Real Sosobad 2-1 in an ill-tempered tie which saw both sides finish with 10 men after Michael Rodger and Jamie Maclean were red carded.

Spean bowler takes on big guns

BOWLS

A SPEAN Bridge bowler will take on some of the top players from across the country in the national championships in Ayr this weekend.

Lochaber Bowling Club member Alan Robinson won all his qualifying games and will represent Northern Counties in the competition, which also features world champions Paul Foster and Alex Marshall.

Camanachd Cup semi finals venues

SHINTY

FORT William's An Aird park will host the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi final between Kyles Athletic and Kingussie on Saturday August 3.

The second semi, between Fort William and Newtonmore, will be staged at Bught Park in Inverness on Saturday August 10, and will also be shown live on BBC Alba.

The final will be played at An Aird on Saturday September 14.

New skipper believes his side can win the league

REPORT BY RICHARD HADDOCK
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RUGBY

LOCHABER'S new captain says he believes his side can win this season's RBS Caledonia Regional League division two north.

Mike McLeish, 23, takes over the role from Kenny Turnbull, who was captain for the previous two years.

He told The Oban Times he was bullish about Lochaber's chances as he prepares to lead the team out for their first game of the new season away to Stornoway on August 24.

He said: 'If we can maintain the start we had last year - I think we won our first five games - I've no doubt we can win the league. I don't think there's any team that's better than us when we've got a strong squad. We're aiming for top half at least.'

Lochaber will be hoping the new league structure - featuring 11 sides who play each other home and away - will suit them better than last year, when they faded after a strong start to finish seventh.

Lochaber have three preseason friendlies lined up, starting with

a game against Isle of Mull RFC at Banavie on Saturday August 3.

McLeish, who plays second row, will be assisted by Jack Baxter in his new role and said he was 'excited' about the new season.

'We started well last year but we struggled in the winter when games were postponed. I think we went for about two months without a game.'

'Hopefully we can get a strong enough squad to get some competition for places, and maybe be a bit more lucky with postponements.'

Originally from Melrose, McLeish joined Lochaber last season after moving to the area to start work with Marine Harvest and encouraged anyone interested in the sport to come along to training to give it a go.

He said: 'If you're up for trying out just come along, that's what I did last year. You don't have to have played before. We're a friendly bunch, and if you don't enjoy it at least you've tried.'

Training is held at Banavie on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9pm.



Joe Toal Sixes champions Kilmallie.

Kilmallie win Joe Toal Sixes

KILMALLIE were crowned Joe Toal Sixes champions at Spean Bridge on Sunday after going through the tournament unbeaten.

The event, celebrating its 30th anniversary, drew in 10 teams from Fort William, Lovat, Newtonmore, Inverness, Kilmallie and the home club Lochaber.

Kilmallie breezed through their group, winning three out of their four games.

In the semi final they faced Lovat, and went through with a 3-0 win. The other semi saw

SHINTY

'More knock out defending champs Lochaber A'.

Liam MacDonald and Mark Graham were the heroes in the final as the Caol side won 2-0.

Kilmallie's Donald Lamont told The Oban Times: 'It was a really good tournament. It was such a hot day but the boys played really well.'

The tournament has been held every year since 1983 in memory of Lochaber player Joe Toal, who died during a game aged 22.

Phoenix boxers back in training

TRAINING FOR the new season has gotten underway for Lochaber Phoenix Boxing Club fighters.

The club has produced a number of regional and national champions in recent years, and will be hoping to continue that success in the new season.

Sessions run Mondays-Thursday, with juniors in from 5.15-6.45pm, and seniors from 6.30-8pm.

Club official Steve Docherty

said: 'We want the boys to hit the ground running as we have our next home show on October 5.'

'We managed to claim two national titles and two district titles last season so are hopefully going to build on that success this coming season. We have some really promising youngsters coming through at the club and together with our existing seniors we are expecting some old faces to return and mount a comeback.'

BOXING

Meanwhile, Docherty has been selected to officiate at this weekend's international match between Scotland and Ireland in Motherwell.

Club coach Niall Clark said: 'This is another great honour bestowed upon Steve and one that is thoroughly deserved. Not only is he a gifted referee and judge but a boxing fanatic.'

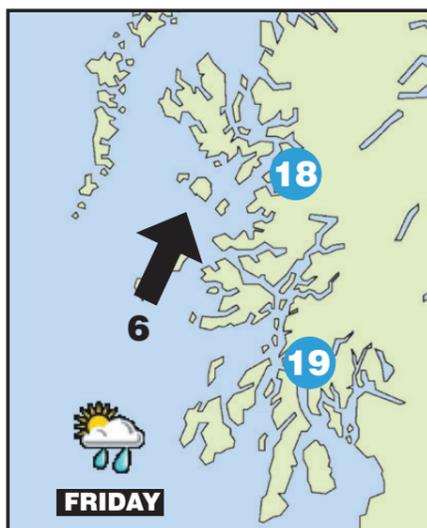
Weather

Thursday Thundery showers
Winds light east south easterly
Temperatures 15°C to 20°C

Friday Light rain showers
Winds light south south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 19°C.

Weekend Light rain showers
Outlook Winds light south south westerly
Temperatures 14°C to 20°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, July 25, 2013** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	07.15	09.30	12.00	pm	19.30	21.45
Thur	01.23	0.5	07.15	3.9	13.39	0.3	19.39
Fri	02.07	0.6	07.54	3.7	14.22	0.5	20.19
Sat	02.49	0.8	08.31	3.6	15.05	0.7	20.58
Sun	03.32	1.0	09.09	3.3	15.48	1.0	21.39
Mon	04.17	1.3	09.49	3.1	16.33	1.3	22.25
Tues	05.06	1.5	10.38	2.9	17.26	1.6	23.28
Wed	06.03	1.7	12.00	3.9	18.29	1.8	*** **

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrisaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

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